

Ecology Day – World Environment Day – June 5th

Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Read the text.

World Environment Day (WED) is the biggest, most globally celebrated day for positive environmental action.

The celebration of WED began in 1972 and has grown to become one of the main vehicles through which the United Nations encourages positive action for the environment. Through WED, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) enables everyone to realize not only the responsibility to care for the Earth, but also reminds one and all of their individual power to become agents of change. Every action counts, and when multiplied by a global chorus, becomes exponential in its impact.

WED is a big celebration, engaging millions across the globe through events on the ground in over 70 countries. Every year, participants, young and old, organize clean up campaigns, art exhibits, tree-planting drives, concerts, dance recitals, recycling drives, social media campaigns and different contests themed around caring for the planet.

The WED theme this year is **“Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care.”** Living within planetary boundaries is the most promising strategy for ensuring a healthy future. Human prosperity need not cost the Earth. Living sustainably is about doing more and better with less. It is about knowing that rising rates of natural resource use and the environmental impacts that occur are not a necessary by-product of economic growth.

(Adapted from http://www.unep.org/wed/2015_slogan/. Accessed on April 25th, 2015)



1. According to the text, why is it important to have a special day to celebrate the environment?

2. What does the extract “...reminds one and all of their individual power to become agents of change” mean?

- () Everybody can change the way the planet is treated.
- () The individuals should be powerful.
- () The governments can change the power of the individuals.

3. What does the extract “Every action counts, and when multiplied by a global chorus, becomes exponential in its impact” mean? Choose the best option.

- () The governments have to expand their action through the globe.
- () If each person does something to help the planet it has a huge impact, considering all the population in the world.
- () The impact of the destruction of the environment is felt all over the world.

4. How is the Environment Day celebrated in your community? What other actions and events would you suggest?

5. In your opinion, why the WED theme this year is “Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care.”?

6. Get together with a partner and create a new theme for the WED. Explain it.

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Target audience (age): Ensino Médio

Aim: get more information about Ecology and Environment Day and how each one can have a more sustainable lifestyle

Duration: 50 min

Organization: individual work

Material: worksheet

Preparation: make copies of the worksheet

Information for the teacher:

When: June 5th

Celebration: *The first Environment Day was created by the UN in 1972.*

What do people do? *There are several ways of celebrating Environment Day, like organizing clean up campaigns, art exhibits, tree-planting drives, concerts, dance recitals, recycling drives, social media campaigns and different contests themed around caring for the planet.*

Procedure:

- Warm up students by having a discussion on ecology. Ask them if they know of any ecological campaigns that take place in their communities.
- Tell students they're going to read a text published by the UN to disclose 2015 theme.
- Hand out the worksheets.
- Ask students to answer the questions about the text.
- Pair students up to do activity 6.

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1. According to the text, why is it important to have a special day to celebrate the environment?

It's one of the vehicles through which the United Nations encourages positive action for the environment.

2. What does the extract “...reminds one and all of their individual power to become agents of change” mean?

- (x) Everybody can change the way the planet is treated.
- () The individuals should be powerful.
- () The governments can change the power of the individuals.

3. What does the extract “Every action counts, and when multiplied by a global chorus, becomes exponential in its impact” mean? Choose the best option.

() The governments have to expand their action through the globe.

(x) If each person does something to help the planet it has a huge impact, considering all the population in the world.

() The impact of the destruction of the environment is felt all over the world.

4. How is the Environment Day celebrated in your community? What other actions and events would you suggest? *(Answers will vary.)*

5. In your opinion, why the WED theme this year is “Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care.”? *(Answers will vary.)*

6. Get together with a partner and create a new theme for the WED. Explain it. *(Answers will vary.)*
