

Name _____

Date _____



Earth Day

Earth Day is coming up.

"It is?"

And I think for this Earth Day, I want to show you guys how it started.

"That sounds cool!"

So let's hop in my time machine and go back.

"Let's go!"

Travel back in time to 1970,

Nobody cares about the Earth, crazily.

We haven't ever cared, 'cause we don't understand it,

We don't even know that humans can hurt the planet.

We don't have rules to prevent pollution,

When factories make waste, what's the solution?

Dump it in the water, release it in the air,

Pay no mind to that oil spill over there.

Recycling? That's not something we do,

Because we don't know that there's any reason to.

But all last year, Mr. Nelson was scheming,

He's a senator from the state of Wisconsin.

He's frustrated, 'cause people don't seem to care

What happens to the oceans, soil and air.

So the senator finds students who are passionate

About making change, they are activists.

And they help organize the first Earth Day,

They chose April 22nd as the date.

So that it's nice out—warm, spring weather,

For people to appreciate the Earth together.

Earth Day, hey!

We're celebrating the Earth today.

Earth Day, hey!

We want to protect the planet each and every day.

(x2)

Yep, Earth Day was a great success,

Earth Day had a lasting effect.

After Earth Day, the Clean Air Act was born,

So when you inhale and exhale, the air won't harm.

The Endangered Species Act was also born,

If there's a threat to animals, sound the alarm.

And the Water Quality Improvement Act

Reduced water pollution, that's a fact.

Plus Earth Day inspired, unmistakably,

The Environmental Protection Agency.

Senator Nelson didn't stop there,

He worked to have Earth Day every year, everywhere,

To educate people about the Earth's well-being,

'Cause environmentalism was a cause he believed in.

And now, thanks to Senator Nelson's labor,

Earth Day's still popping decades later.

Over a billion people participate every year,

Across the globe and all the way back here.

We show our support for planet Earth,

And protecting it, because we know its worth.

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(x2)