



Earth Day to Arbor Day: An Opportunity for Stewardship



IN A NUTSHELL

The National Arbor Day
Foundation
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Cost: \$16.45 +s&h

SUBJECTS

Fine Arts
Language Arts
Science
Social Studies

This kit provides information and resources for those interested in developing an Arbor Day celebration built upon the concept of stewardship. The first section of the guide provides lessons and activities dealing with food chains, the importance of trees, personal beliefs and values, and paper consumption. Lesson plans include community tree surveys, paper making, collages and billboards, and service projects. Instructions are provided for planting trees, choosing proper trees for planting, and identifying planting sites. The guide's second section contains ideas for developing an Arbor Day celebration. It contains suggestions for organizers, such as sample schedules and information about fund-raising, as well as songs, plays and poems about trees. Some of the text comes in both English and Spanish versions. An audiotape contains a reading of Giono's *The Man Who Planted Trees* and fictional interview with Herodotus, Theodore Roosevelt, and the founder of Arbor Day. The kit also includes sample proclamations, brochures, and two color posters.

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| Grade Level 5-6 |
| Length 74 pages & audiotape |
| Date Published 1996 |

THE **BOTTOM**
L I N E

"A very nice way to introduce students to making a commitment to stewardship."

| What the REVIEWERS Said ! | Key Characteristics | Strengths Noted | Other Considerations |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| | Fairness and Accuracy | Information is accurate. Many activities reflect openness to inquiry. | Biased against treeless ecosystems (e.g., prairie, desert). |
| | Depth | Explains interdependence. Encourages students to build awareness of their own neighborhood. | |
| | Emphasis on Skills Building | Applies skills to issues. Emphasizes citizenship skills. Makes use of math and data collecting skills as well as creative expression. | Weak on critical thinking skills. |
| | Action Orientation | Encourages student action and cooperation with other individuals/organizations. Teaches personal responsibility. | |
| | Instructional Soundness | Utilizes different ways of learning. Incorporates activities from different subject areas. | Does not provide goals and objectives. Does not specify grade level. |
| | Usability | Information is long-lived. Materials are easy to use and are adaptable. | |

"More helpful for a non-formal educator, since it has good basic ideas but not sound educational structure."

"Very useful in terms of planning an Arbor Day celebration."