



Earthcycles

Environmental Education with Preschool Children



IN A NUTSHELL

Written by: Mavis Lewis-Webber

Earthcycles
729 Clifton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G 2X7
CANADA

phone: (204) 586-8587
e-mail:
maverand@mb.sympatico.ca

Cost: Free/ Download from
website

SUBJECTS

Science

This book is designed for early childhood educators and specifically addresses those employed in child-care centers, kindergartens, and nursery schools. The fourteen activities provide opportunities to directly involve young children in activities with nature and expose them to the notion that all living and non-living things go through cycles of change. Types of activities include discussions, demonstrations, experiments, explorations and crafts. Developing appreciation for the natural world and fostering respect for animals, plants, and inanimate objects are among the goals of the program. Specific activities include searching for earthworms, identifying wildflowers, constructing and maintaining a simple aquarium, and exploring ways to reduce one's production of garbage. Each activity includes brief background information, suggestions for preparation, ideas for additional activities, and a list of resources. A selected bibliography is also provided.

Grade Level
preschool
Length
19 pages
Date Published
1993

THE BOTTOM
L I N E

"Very broad, contains numerous activities which are fairly simple. Includes a wide range of topics."

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Promotes openness to inquiry. Information is factually accurate.	
	Depth	Stresses awareness of the natural world, including observation over time.	
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Encourages creative thinking and observation skills.	
	Action Orientation	Issues and possible activities are introduced at an appropriate age level.	
	Instructional Soundness	Uses expanded learning environment. Material is relevant to students' everyday lives.	Does not define important vocabulary words.
	Usability	User friendly. Instructions are simple. Minimal preparation time required.	Provides too little basic information for teachers without a strong science background.

"This is a convenient, easy-to-use module, well designed for preschool."

"Well done. Just the right amount for a preschool unit."