

Planning Your Earth Camp

Welcome!

We hope these resources will assist you in planning your Earth Camp.

Many of these activities were used at an Earth Camp sponsored by Camp Abeqweit, PEI and the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada. The camp was intended to be a model to share with others. It grew out of a sense that our camps are a logical and attractive place to explore the growing environmental awareness in our culture.

The Earth Camp was designed to invite participants of all ages to:

- Reconnect with nature through earth-based activities which awaken wonder and awe;
- Experience the wonder of the old, old (we mean 14 billion year old!) story of the universe;
- Learn about the earth around us through wonder walks and experiences with knowledgeable guides;
- Join as a faith community in a rhythm of creation-centred worship and music.

Emphasizing “Groups” rather than “Families” resulted in a more diverse registration.

The Planning Team emphasized registering in “groups” rather than families. We had several adult only groups. One group registered eight members indicating all were over 80 years of age! There were only two “traditional” family units. There were a few three generational units and several groups

comprised on more than one adult with children and friends of children. We believe the emphasis on “groups” lead to a more diverse registration.

Sample Rates: Individual: \$70
 Groups of two or three persons: \$130
 Groups of four or five: \$200
 Groups of six or seven: \$280
 Groups of eight: \$300

Our Learning:

The wide age and ability diversity of the group was a gift and a challenge. It is important to think about the physical distance between one activity and another. We offered some activities designed for all ages: group building, bird watching, beach sculpture, the wood walk, art in nature activity, Morning Prayer, Vespers, campfire and the closing worship. We also offered age and interest specific choices.

The programme was greatly enhanced by the presence of several invited guests:

- Shirley Hunt taught the group common bird sounds and visual identifiers and led an early morning bird watching walk.
- Maurice Bernard, a beach sand artist, built castles with the children as part of the Saturday morning Wonder Activities. Evaluations from small children indicate this activity was great fun!
- Brenda Pennack did a PowerPoint presentation on the Bedeque Bay Watershed. This offered a local picture to the “big picture” of the Universe Story the group had just explored.
- Jesse Francis led a Woods Walk and pointed out to the group the wonders of local flowers and shared forest history.
- Former Chief Charlie Sark joined the group at campfire Saturday evening and shared an Aboriginal creation story.

We would encourage congregations to seek out people in the area who can share their knowledge and environmental expertise.

We were fortunate for as much good weather as we had. In retrospect, we did not have many alternative plans for activities if the weather had been wholly inclement. Think about rain!

The Camp Abby Camp Staff were available to support the programming. They also played with the children during breaks and supported programming lead by invited guests. The evaluations show staff presence was deeply appreciated by both children and parents. It might be helpful for congregations to plan for this leadership. We would add one caution: It is helpful to establish a norm at the beginning to achieve clarity of when children were under the care of leaders and when they were the responsibility of their parents. One could easily see how a child could go missing because of a lack of clarity of who was responsible.

Our camps are valuable resources. They are sitting on acres of green space. They offer a place to engage nature and respect God in creation. The camps need our support. The numbers show that United Church camps are becoming a key place of faith formation with children (as numbers in Sunday School continue to fall.) Many of our camps are reaching out to children with little or no church experience. Check out a United Church camp near you. Please consider supporting one financially!

Many congregations are seeking ways to be more “green.” We hope this guide will encourage you to consider renting a camp near you for a day or weekend to offer your own EARTH CAMP!

Yours in Camping Ministry,

Matthew & Lorna Fillier, Chairs of the Outdoor Recreational Ministry Unit
Janice MacLean, Conference Minister for Christian Nurture & Enrichment

Suggested Weekend Outline

Friday Evening

Group Building Activities – See Resource #1

Stardust Vespers – See Resource #2

Camp fire

Snack

Star –Gazing

Is there someone who can point out some constellations or you can bring along some books! Or just lie on your back and look at the stars! See Psalm 8

Saturday Morning

Listening to the Dawn Chorus

Get up early! Invite a bird watcher to identify birds by their song. Or go for a walk and listen to the early morning earth sounds.

Morning Watch – See <http://www.marconf.ca/cia-ewg.htm> for worship resources

Breakfast & Chores

Morning Wonder Activities

a. Exploring the Universe Story

- i. There are many ways to tell the Universe Story. We told the universe story with fabric circles. See <http://www.thegreatstory.org/> for other suggestions or consider a DVD. See Resource Sheet #3 for more ideas.*

We would encourage congregations to seek out people in their area who can share their knowledge and environmental expertise.

b. Geocaching

- i. We gathered several GPS units and hide small objects around the camp site and offered clues to help locate them.*

c. Star kids

- i. See <http://www.thegreatstory.org/awesome-stuff-star.pdf> for a reproducible resource called “You are a Part of the Wonderful Web of Life”. This free chapter offers stories, crafts and activities exploring stars and stardust.*

Snack

Ocean Wonder Activities

- a. Sand sculpture
 - i. *Go to the beach. Make sand castles!*

- b. Environmental Speaker
 - i. *Invite a guest from your community to share information about your bioregion. We invited a speaker who shared information about a local watershed area.*

Lunch

Saturday Afternoon

Woods Wonder Activities

- a. Woods Wonder Walk
 - i. *Take a hike with a local person who can identify flora, fauna and perhaps share the history of the local area.*

- b. Art in Nature
 - i. *Go online and download this resource which offers a wealth of craft ideas made from nature. <http://www.eagle-bluff.org/Art%20In%20Nature.pdf>*

- c. Preparation for Vespers
 - i. *Gather some volunteers and together plan Vespers for this evening!*

Organized Recreational Activity for all ages

Play outside together!

Evening Meal

Saturday Evening

All Ages Environmental Activity

1. *We adapted a simulation game called Quagmire available from <http://www.clean.ns.ca/>*

2. *There are other web sites you can check out to find an all ages activity on an environmental theme. See <http://www.ducks.ca> <http://www.green-street.ca> See also the Environmental Working Group "Activities Mail out" for other ideas: <http://www.marconf.ca/cia-ewg.htm>*

3. *You might also consider showing a video. See Resource #3 For suggestions available from AVEL, the Maritime Conference Audio Visual Educational Library*

Vespers – led by Group

Campfire – Aboriginal Creation Stories

We invited a local First Nations Chief who shared stories.

Snack & Singing

Sunday Morning

Morning Watch – See <http://www.marconf.ca/cia-ewg.htm> for worship resources

Breakfast and chores

More Wonder Activities

- a. Sharing Nature Activities – See www.sharingnature.com to download a free Sharing Nature Newsletter (pdf), which includes several activities to engage and inspire our youth in the wonders of nature. See also Janet Barlow's website <http://www.senseofwonderee.ca> she is a Halifax based Environmental educator who offers workshops for groups.

- b. Discover the Wonder of Nature Treasure Hunt - See Resource #4

All Ages Pilgrimage – See Resource #5

Lunch & Clean up

Evaluation (see Resource #6)

Closing Circle – a time to say good bye

Resource #1 - Group Building Activities

Wink

Pick a number between 1-5. Don't say it out loud! Now move around and find each other in silence by winking the number you choose.

Once you have found your group ... then share name and what you look forward to this weekend

Learning Names

- Arrange participants in a circle, not too close, not too far from one another. Include yourself in the circle
- Explain that you are going to throw a ball to someone - pick someone out & ask their name, then say
- "Hi Pat, my name is Chris ...here you go!" [Underarm throw a ball to Chris]
- Pat then says: "Thank you Chris", picks someone else in the circle and says "Hi X, my name is Pat ...here you go!" [throw]
- They say "Thank you, Pat" and on we go... faster and faster!

Find Your Group

Get the group in a circle. Tell everyone they may not speak. Give each person a card with an animal on it. (Make your own set of cards!) Tell them to find their group by doing something the animal would do. Once in animal groups, share names and find three things you have in common. These groups could be chore groups for the weekend!

Flock Dance

How it Works: This is a physical warm-up. The group forms a pyramid: one player becomes the top, 2 players behind her, 3 players on a third line, and so on.

The top player starts moving about the room (perhaps use music to guide the players). The second line follows the first player, and mimics her movements, and the third line follows the second line. The top player can alternate however she wants (and can be guided with e.g. a change in the music).

Earth Ball or Beach Ball

The group is told to keep the "Earth" in the air and moving for 30 seconds – They get 3 tries. Ask: Did everyone get a chance to touch the ball? In most groups not everyone will. Think of three strategies so that everyone can touch the ball and we keep it in the air and moving for 30 seconds. Most groups will think of creative ways to work together. This is also an opportunity to name other norms for the weekend that helps everyone live together.

Resource #2 - Stardust Ritual for Vespers

You will need several readers, a candle, a pitcher of water and bowl, a shell filled with sparkles!

Welcome

Song: Like A Rock (Linnea Good)

READER #1: LIGHT *[Reader will light a candle]*

In the beginning there was only darkness, emptiness.

Then God said, "Let there be Light."

And the Universe was born in a Great Radiance of brilliant light and boundless energy!

READER # 2: HYDROGEN/WATER

[Reader silently pours water into a bowl, standing so that everyone can see the trickle of water, and pouring from a height that will enhance the sound of the falling water.]

Hydrogen is the elder of all.

Each atom of hydrogen that swirls in water and within us is 13 billion years old. [pause] Let us silently hold in gratitude the elders in our own lives who taught us, guided us, and brought out the best in us.

And let us open to the ways in which we too can be a friend for others.

READER # 3: AIR/BREATH

[Reader will come forward, pause, breathe, and then invite everyone to take a deep breath. and reads]

In that breath, we each inhaled recycled stardust, the gifts of Red Giant stars, ancestors who lived and died before our Sun was born. [pause]

Through the creativity of ancient stars, God brought forth all the NITROGEN that now colors the sky blue.

God brought forth all the OXYGEN that now burns in our cells and powers our awareness.

God brought forth all the CARBON that we, in turn, offer as a gift to the plant realm, in the carbon dioxide that we exhale. [pause]

Let us breathe together once more as we remember these grandparent stars, as we give thanks to the ongoing creativity of God.

READER # 4: CALCIUM/BONES

In the bellies of hot blue-white stars, God brought forth all the silicon that now binds the rocks of Earth. And God brought forth all the calcium that now binds the bones of our bodies.

I invite us all to close our eyes and sit up tall [slight pause], resting on our bones [pause], feet fully on the ground.

Let us take this moment to remember, in gratitude, the grandparent stars who bequeathed us these sturdy gifts: the calcium in our bones, the silicon in stones deep within Earth.

READER #5: PRECIOUS METALS

Let us now reflect on, marvel at, any metals we may be wearing: any copper, silver, gold, platinum. Even the iron in a belt buckle, or metal filling in a tooth!

Let us remember that these very atoms of metal were created by God in the awesome explosion of a supernova that signaled the death of an ancient star.

Surely there is beauty and new life that emerges from every death.

READER #6: CONCLUSION

We humans have always been drawn to the stars. We have always yearned for relationship. And so, in 1943, a French author had his Little Prince speak these words:
“In one of the stars I shall be living. In one of them I shall be laughing.
And so it will be as if all the stars were laughing, when you look at the sky at night.”

[READER #1]

The Native American poet Joy Harjo writes of another kind of relationship with the stars:

I can hear the sizzle of a newborn star,
and know that anything of meaning,
of fierce magic, is emerging here.
I am witness to flexible eternity, the evolving past.
And I know I shall live forever,
as dust or breath in the face of stars,
in the shifting pattern of winds..

[READER #2]

We hear these words when we watch the Lion King speak these words to his adventurous little son:

Simba, let me tell you something that my father told me. Look at the stars. The great kings of the past look down on us from those stars. So whenever you feel alone, just remember that those kings will always be there to guide you . And so will I.

[LEADER]

We are made of stardust! This is the wonder of our being.

Action

Here is a shell full of stardust (well, it could be stardust!). We invite you to anoint one another on the back of the hands and say these words to one another:

“Remember you are made of stardust!”

Song

Adapted from: <http://www.thegreatstory.org/stardust-ritual-God.pdf>

Suggestions from AVEL – Resource Sheet #3

For Children:

Bed Bugs Bible Gang - Creation Celebration: (VHS; 30 mins; ages 3-5)

You'll love to hear the bedbugs share the stories of Creation, Dancing Clay, and The Garden of Eden. Along the way there are songs to sing and games to play.

Special Places (VHS; ages 6-12) is a two-part video resource to help children, youth and teachers expand their understanding of stewardship to include concern for all of God's creation. Part I (11 minutes) is a visual story which provides a backdrop for three native American storytellers. Part II (14 minutes) features a workshop in which Christian educators handle the issues raised in Part I.

TIPI TALES is a series of 7 Videos with 26 stories, 13 minutes each. Ages 4-6.

Tipi Tales are adventures in story and song. Elizabeth, Junior, Russell and Sam play, laugh and grow together in the forest surrounding the home of their great-grandparents. Each story centres around the daily challenges faced by the cousins as they seek to understand each other and the world around them. The children learn the tools of life from enchanting forest animals who embody the seven ancient aboriginal laws. Each episode is 30 mins in duration.

Three Microbes - Or How I learned to Stop Worrying and Love Problems (DVD; 8 mins)

A DVD animation inspired by the works of William McDonough and Michael Braungart (The Next Industrial Revolution). A trio of Earth's liveliest creatures -- Phyllis, Aaron, and Cooper --share their journey through three great turning points in the history of life on Earth. This lively animation gives us a microbe's view of how ecological problems can become opportunities for creativity if we simply follow Nature's design principles. 8.26 minutes. Suitable for all ages. Produced by the Foundation for Global Community © 2004.

Paradise Lost (VHS; 4 mins; ages 6-12)

A plea for the right of everyone to an unpolluted environment. Birds, butterflies and other creatures cannot survive the air pollution caused by people's interventions. Animated. No narration.

Great Bible Discovery Series: Discovering the Beginning (Creation) (VHS; 30 mins; ages 6-12)

Learning Bible stories becomes a lively adventure with this wonderful interactive learning tool that combines live action with storybook style animation and provides simple and direct explanations of Scripture and a final quiz that serves as a learning summary. In this episode, the Story of Creation recounts the miraculous creation narrative.

Don't Sit on Your Stuff - with Ted & Lee and Tangled Blue (VHS or DVD; 21 mins; Jr. High)

Help youth discuss and begin to live out Christian stewardship principles. Ted and Lee, as disciples Peter and Andrew, explore Jesus' parable of the master and his three servants and figure out that they shouldn't "sit on their stuff." Tangled Blue perform their original song, "Gift of Grace", bringing fresh twists of interpretation to two stories of giving and grace - Mary washing Jesus' feet with expensive perfume, and the parable of the widow who gave all of her money at the temple. Also features a youth group's discussion of what happens when giving means reaching out to a member of the group who has cancer.

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For Adults:

Greening Sacred Spaces DVD 20 minutes

There are thousands of religious buildings in Canada, each a valuable centre for individual and community spiritual interaction. These sacred spaces represent a hopeful frontier in our effort to address the growing ecological crisis before us all. Greening Sacred Spaces begins by developing a framework of faith-based environmental consciousness that seeks to understand the sacredness of the Earth and our role in renewing that sacred balance one church, gurdwara, mosque, synagogue, temple and individual at a time. Accompanying this DVD is a booklet entitled "Practical Guide to improving the Energy Efficiency of your Religious Building" published in 2007 by Faith & the Common Good.

Simple Way (The), Part 4 - Environmental Simplicity VHS 25 minutes

This is a program illustrating the fact that people's everyday efforts to change can preserve what we have, rather than expanding and consuming indefinitely.

Water: Sacred and Profaned VHS or DVD 27 minutes

Explore the sacred nature of this precious gift along with author Linda Hogan, Poet Laureate Robert Hass, authors Susan Zwinger and Colin Fletcher, scientist Jennifer Greene, and poet David Whyte. Peter Coyote narrates this beautiful program about the most abundant and fundamental part of nature. Music by David Foster.

The Living Land VHS 27 minutes

Over many years, our methods of growing food have become ever more mechanized and complex. At the same time, we've lost millions of acres of good soil to pollution, erosion, and an ever-growing population. But there is a new awareness of the need to change our perceptions about how we grow our food and how we treat the land. Four individuals on the frontier of this effort John Jeavons, Wes Jackson, restaurateur Alice Waters, and organic farmer Mas Masumoto share their insights in this moving video narrated by Peter Coyote.. Closed captioned.

Children and Nature 27 minutes. Closed captioned

Dr. Jane Goodall believes it is essential that parents and other mentors of children guide them to make meaningful connections with the natural world. In this video Dr. Goodall shares some of the ways this is happening. Joining her are world-renowned marine biologist Dr. Sylvia Earle; naturalist and children's guide Lee Cole; and Jeff Rutherford, director of the Marine Research Institute. Narrated by Peter Coyote, with music by Paul Lloyd Warner.

If the World Were a Village [DVD ; 24 minutes long]

Based on the award-winning book by David J. Smith, If the World Were a Village is a wonderful introduction to the realities of our global situation. It delivers an important metaphor; imagine the whole world as a village of just 100 people...

If the World Were a Village tells us who we are, where we live, what languages we speak, what religions we practice and more. So come and learn about our global village. What you find may surprise you!

Narrated by popular Canadian jazz singer, Jackie Richardson.

Teachers guide included.

Renewal (DVD) presents 9 separate stories or can be shown as a full length 90-minute documentary.

Crime Against Creation (11:20 mins)

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In the mountains of Kentucky and West Virginia today's mining practices are literally removing the tops of mountains to extract coal to feed American power plants. The natural environment is being decimated, while burning the coal fuels global warming. Evangelical Christians have participated in an interfaith tour to bear witness to this devastation and to begin organizing against the practices that are destroying the land and polluting the waters of Appalachia.

Going Green (14:30 mins)

In New Jersey, GreenFaith, an interfaith coalition helps houses of worship make their buildings more environmentally sound and the members of their congregations more spiritually in tune with becoming better stewards of Creation. From workshops that invite people to explore their personal impact on the environment, to implementing recycling and composting, on up to the installation of solar panels, congregations in New Jersey are making remarkable strides. As GreenFaith's Executive Director says, "The hardest thing about taking action is sometimes just taking the first step."

Food for Faith.(15 mins)

In Chicago, which has a growing and diverse Muslim community, the interfaith organization Faith in Place has supported the development of Taqwa. Taqwa supplies organic meat to the Muslim community and everyone else who wants to support sustainable farming. This chicken, beef, and lamb is "Eco-Halal." The animals are humanely raised, fed an organic diet, and slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law. During the holy month of Ramadan, Taqwa members extend their tradition of charity to insure that poor communities can also eat this healthy and environmentally friendly meat

Ancient Roots (17:30 mins)

In rural Connecticut, two programs offer unique opportunities for Jewish environmental education. At the Teva Learning Center, elementary school children encounter the natural world as they explore the woods, learn where their food comes from, and take responsibility for waste. At Adamah, a three-month environmental leadership training program, a small community of twenty-somethings engage in organic farming, sustainable living, and contemplative spiritual practice. These future leaders of the Jewish community offer an inspiring model to the Teva students. Together they are renewing the ecological wisdom inherent in Judaism and building a genuine commitment to *tikkun olam*, healing the world.(17:30 mins)

Compassion in Action (11mins)

Buddhists in the San Francisco Bay area are working to save trees by encouraging greater use of recycled paper, especially by major magazine publishers. Their organization, Green Sangha, combines meditation and environmental education to promote non-confrontational forms of action emphasizing the interconnectedness of everyone and everything on the planet.

Eco-Justice (11:30 mins)

In coastal Mississippi, pollution from the chemical and petroleum industries has for decades caused elevated levels of disease - nervous disorders, asthma and cancer - in African American and other poor communities. Then, the flooding caused by Hurricane Katrina made these medical problems even worse. Now, through their churches, citizens are finding inspiration to conduct their own health surveys, to demand accountability from industry and to insist on action by government officials.

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Sacred Celebration (9:30 mins)

The remaining historic farmland in the South Valley of Albuquerque, New Mexico is being rapidly devoured by commercial and residential development. Under the leadership of Franciscan Sister Joan Brown, this community of Hispanics, Native Americans, and Anglos is fighting back. During the festival of San Ysidro, patron saint of agriculture, they gather to consecrate the land that nourishes them and bless the waters that help the crops grow. Religious ritual and sacred celebration become a seedbed for their effective environmental action.

Interfaith Power and Light (9:30 mins)

While much of the religious-environmental movement is local, Interfaith Power and Light (IPL), with over 20 state affiliates, has grown to national proportions. The affiliates help people of faith reduce their use of fossil fuels and increase their reliance on renewable energy in all aspects of their lives. At their annual gathering in Washington, DC, IPL leaders lobby Congress for legislative reforms to bring America into line with energy policies to reduce pollution and reverse climate change.

Nature Meditations (6 mins) Seven visual poems of the natural world

One (VHS, 10 mins)

Music, images, and a few brief words blend harmoniously to inspire a profound sense of the interdependence and interconnectedness of all life.

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ORDER ONLINE AT www.marconf.ca/avel/avelpage.htm



Discover the Wonder of Nature Resource #4 A Treasure Hunt

Resources needed:

Paper for making maps (scorching paper so it looks old is fun!)

Slips of paper for clues

Pencils/markers

Treasure Chests – with treats inside. We used Dollar Store boxes with cookies that were shared as the camp snack.

- Divide into teams.
- Assign each team a specific area. Ocean Front. Woods. Driveway. Etc.
- Hide your team's treasure chest somewhere in your area. Bury it in the beach. Hide it in leaf litter etc.
- Now look around you at landmarks. Make a map to lead to clues. Write clues on slips of paper. Leave clues under rocks and tied to tree branches.
- Swap maps with another team and go on a treasure hunt to find the hidden treasure.
- When you find a Treasure Chest (don't open it!) Bring it to the circle for some wondering:
 - I wonder ... what the best part of the treasure hunt was.*
 - I wonder ... what part of Earth you noticed when looking for your treasure.*
 - I wonder ... what other treasures God wants us to notice.*
 - I wonder ... what could be in these treasure chests!*
- Take the treasures to snack time & share the treasure with the whole camp!

Adapted from an activity on www.greenhour.org

Earth Pilgrimage – Resource # 5

Using our Senses to Celebrate Creation

Song: Like a Rock (Linnea Good)

Prayer

Look at all that beautiful sky!
It tells us a story of God.
In the daytime, it tells the story in blue;
At night, in the sparkling of stars;
Even though there isn't any sound.
We don't hear anyone speak
But the voice of the sky tells a story;
The stars sing a song about God.

God made us that wonderful sky
And the sun that shines every day.
The sun rides across from the east to the west;
Like a bright golden bird it flies.
The sun helps the plants grow strong and tall;
The sun warms our hands and face. *(based on Psalm 19:1-6 Ralph Milton)*

We Walk

Along the way try to find a musical instrument. It should make a characteristic sound and it has to be made only from natural substances. Use only materials lying on the ground or that regenerates easily (grass).

Stand in circle. Everyone introduces their musical instrument and the sound it makes. Arrange instruments on to a platform. Is there a conductor?

Let us praise God! We sing and play. (Choose a familiar song or chant and sing and play nature instruments)

We Continue Walking

On the way we stop to notice by playing the Camera Game

Have the children pair off. One partner is the photographer and the other is the camera. The photographer guides the camera, who keeps his/her eyes closed. The photographer searches for beautiful and interesting photos. The photographer points the camera's shutters (eyes) at the object or scene he wants to "shoot" and then presses the shutter button to take the photo. You "press the shutter button" by tapping the camera's shoulder once to open the camera's shutters. Two taps tells the camera to close his/her shutters. The photographer should close the shutters after 3 to 5 seconds. Try creative shots: different angles, close ups, panorama shots, etc. While taking photos, it's best to talk as little as

possible. Give photographers time to take at least three photos. Then the pairs switch places. Have younger children be partnered with an adult or older child.

We Walk to the Beach in silence/listening (or to a place where there are stones)

Choose a stone and come to sit in a circle. Close your eyes (if comfortable) and hold your stone in your hand.

Reading – The Stones God Made

What I hold in my hand
Is as old as me,
And older;

As old as my name,
My language, my culture,
And older.

As old as my race,
As old as the human race,
And older.

As old as the soil,
As old as the sea,
And older.

As old as the earth,
As old as the sun, moon and stars ...
But younger than God.

For God made this stone,
Made it and meant its colour, its contours,
Its journey from below to above.
And had earth never revealed it,
And had I never admired it,
It would still bear witness

To God's deep intention to make the world, mean the world, want the world

And one day walk the world.

(John Bell, He Was in the World, The Iona Community, 1995)

Blessing

We build a gratitude cairn as we leave the beach. A cairn is a pile of stones marking a significant place or moment. Each one leaves their stone offering it and a word of gratitude for something we have heard, seen, felt or touched on our pilgrimage.

We return to our starting place singing as we go

Earth Camp Evaluation – Resource #6

What I Liked Best



If I was in charge of the next Earth Camp I would

Is there anything else you would like to say to the Earth Camp planners? *(Use other side if you wish!)*

Here is what I didn't like....

Earth Camp Programme Resources

Some Helpful Web Sites

- AVEL – Many videos/DVDs on environmental/nature themes for all ages. See the web site <http://www.marconf.ca/avel/avelpage.htm>
- Maritime Conference Environmental Working Group – see resources at <http://www.marconf.ca/cia-ewg.htm>
- Maritime Conference www.marconf.ca
- Maritime Conference Church Camps <http://www.marconf.ca/muccamps.htm>
- Art in Nature resource. Nature as inspiration for art. PDF includes a variety of directions for art in nature activities and crafts. <http://www.eagle-bluff.org/Art%20In%20Nature.pdf>
- Awakening God's Call to Earthkeeping – small group study, includes worship resources <http://archive.elca.org/stewardship/EarthKeeping/earthkeeping2.pdf>
- Earth Charter <http://www.earthcharter.org/>
- Green Hour – blog and suggestions for activities with children <http://www.greenhour.org/>
- Sharing Nature Foundation <http://www.sharingnature.com/>
 - Trail of Beauty <http://www.sharingnature.com/pdf/trailofbeauty.pdf>
 - Activities for Families & youth Group <http://www.sharingnature.com/activities.pdf>
- Sense of Wonder Environmental Education – Excellent local (Halifax) resource person using resources based on A Sense of Wonder. <http://www.senseofwonderee.ca/>
- The Kids' book of Awesome Stuff by Charlene Brotman
 - Free online chapter "You're Made of Star-Stuff" <http://www.thegreatstory.org/awesome-stuff-star.pdf>
- The Great Story: "**THE GREAT STORY** (also known as the Universe Story, Epic of Evolution, or Evolutionary Epic) is **humanity's common creation story**. It is the 14 billion year science-based sacred story of cosmic genesis, from the formation of the galaxies and the origin of Earth life, to the development of self-reflective consciousness and human technology, to the emergence of comprehensive compassion and tools to assist humanity in being a blessing the larger body of life."
- For many rituals, ideas, crafts see <http://www.thegreatstory.org/>
- Web of Creation – Ecology resources to transform faith and society <http://webofcreation.org/>
- Christian Aid – resources for global citizenship <http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/>
- Schools for a Living Planet Enroll Free for access to curriculum <http://wwf.ca/schools/>

Please feel free to contact Janice MacLean for additional ideas and resources used at EARTH CAMP. jmaclean@marconf.ca 506 536 4180