

## Earth Day Webquest

**Directions:** Use the websites provided by your teacher to answer the questions below. For multiple choice questions be sure to clearly circle your answer choice. You do not have to write in complete sentences for short answer questions. Use the websites to help you answer the questions.

### Source 1: The History of Earth Day

Use "The History of Earth Day" from EarthDay.org to answer questions 1-6.

<https://www.earthday.org/history/>

1. In what year did the first Earth Day take place? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What makes the 2020 Earth Day so special?
  - a. It is going to be the biggest celebration so far.
  - b. It is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.
  - c. More countries are going to be celebrating Earth Day this year.
  - d. Earth Day is always special.
3. What book raised awareness about the harmful actions of humans on the environment and raised concern about living things and pollution?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which of the following were true about Denver on the first Earth Day in 1970? *Select all that apply. Use video to answer question.*
  - a. Denver was filled with smog.
  - b. Denver was the 17th most polluted city.
  - c. The crowds in Denver were made up of people of all ages.
  - d. Celebrating Earth Day was not supported by schools.
5. Which of the following answer choices **best** describes what happened on 1990's earth day?
  - a. Many more people participated.
  - b. Earth Day was celebrated world wide.
  - c. Dennis Hayes organized a major campaign for the planet.
  - d. Recycling efforts increased.
6. What was the focus for Earth Day 2000? (Select all that apply)
  - a. Global warming
  - b. Deforestation
  - c. Coral reef preservation
  - d. Saving endangered species
  - e. Finding clean energy options

### Sources 2 and 3: Air Pollution and Children

Use the article titled "Air pollution killing thousands of children globally" to answer questions 7 and 8.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/health/health-alert/news/air-pollution-killing-thousands-children-globally-1658674>

7. Children are more likely to breathe in toxins through the air because \_\_\_\_\_.
- Reason 1: \_\_\_\_\_
- Reason 2: \_\_\_\_\_
- Reason 3: \_\_\_\_\_
8. What percentage of children under age 15 breathe air each day that could damage their growth and health? \_\_\_\_\_

Use the infographic titled, "Air Pollution--The Silent Killer," to answer questions 9-12.

<https://www.who.int/airpollution/infographics/en/>

9. Air pollution can cause a) \_\_\_\_\_ b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_ d) \_\_\_\_\_
10. The deaths linked to air pollution are related to only outside air quality.
- Circle one: True False
11. In what region(s) is air pollution the worst? \_\_\_\_\_
12. How many people die per year due to air pollution? \_\_\_\_\_

### Sources 4 and 5: The Reality of Plastics

Answer questions 12-13 after watching the video from National Geographic, "The Reality of Plastics."

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/reality-plastics/#the-reality-of-plastics>

13. Based on what you have learned about Earth Day, why might advocates for Earth Day want to raise awareness on the use of plastics?
- a. because plastic is not natural
  - b. because plastic does not break down easily
  - c. because plastic affects the environment and animal habitats
  - d. because plastic is expensive
14. There are alternatives to plastic that can be used. Circle one: True False

Answer the following questions after reading the infographic, "Plastic Bag Bans: A world survey."

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<https://www.reusethisbag.com/articles/plastic-bag-bans-worldwide/>

15. How many plastic bags are used in the U.S. per year? \_\_\_\_\_
16. How many states have bag bans or taxes in place? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Coincidentally, what year(s) did stores start using plastic bags? \_\_\_\_\_
18. What animals are affected by plastic bags? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. What country has made great strides in plastic bag usage? \_\_\_\_\_
20. What was the first U.S. city to ban plastic bags? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Earth Day Webquest- Teacher KEY

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### Source 1: The History of Earth Day

Use "The History of Earth Day" from EarthDay.org to answer questions 1-6.

1. In what year did the first Earth Day take place? 1970
2. What makes the 2020 Earth Day so special?
  - a. It is going to be the biggest celebration so far.
  - b. It is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.**
  - c. More countries are going to be celebrating Earth Day this year.
  - d. Earth Day is always special.
3. What book raised awareness about the harmful actions of humans on the environment and raised concern about living things and pollution?  
Silent Spring by Rachel Carson
4. Which of the following were true about Denver on the first Earth Day in 1970? *Select all that apply. Use video to answer question.*
  - a. Denver was filled with smog.**
  - b. Denver was the 17th most polluted city.**
  - c. The crowds in Denver were made up of people of all ages.
  - d. Celebrating Earth Day was not supported by schools.
5. Which of the following answer choices best describes what happened on 1990's earth day?
  - a. Many more people participated.
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6. What was the focus for Earth Day 2000? (Select all that apply)
  - a. Global warming**
  - b. Deforestation
  - c. Coral reef preservation
  - d. Saving endangered species
  - e. Finding clean energy options**

### Source 2 and 3: Air Pollution and Children

Use the article titled "Air pollution killing thousands of children globally" to answer questions 7 and 8.

7. Children are more likely to breathe in toxins through the air because \_\_\_\_\_.
- Reason 1: Children breathe more quickly than adults
- Reason 2: Children live closer to the ground
- Reason 3: Small children are more harmed by household pollution
8. What percentage of children under age 15 breathe air each day that could damage their growth and health? 93%

Use the infographic titled, "Air Pollution--The Silent Killer," to answer questions 9-12.

9. Air pollution can cause a) Strokes b) Lung cancer/lung diseases c) Heart disease d) death
10. The deaths linked to air pollution are related to only outside air quality.
- Circle one: True **False**
11. In what region(s) is air pollution the worst? South East Asia and Western Pacific
12. How many people die per year due to air pollution? 7 million

### Sources 4 and 5: The Reality of Plastics

Answer questions 12-13 after watching the video from National Geographic, "The Reality of Plastics."

13. Based on what you have learned about Earth Day, why might advocates for Earth Day want to raise awareness on the use of plastics?
- a. because plastic is not natural
  - b. because plastic does not break down easily
  - c. **because plastic affects the environment and animal habitats**
  - d. because plastic is expensive
14. There are alternatives to plastic that can be used. Circle one: **True** False

Answer the following questions after reading the infographic, "Plastic Bag Bans: A world survey."

15. How many plastic bags are used in the U.S. per year? 380 Billion per year
16. How many states have bag bans or taxes in place? 10 states
17. Coincidentally, what year(s) did stores start using plastic bags? 1970/1970's
18. What animals are affected by plastic bags? sea birds, whales, seals, dolphins, sea turtles, and sharks
19. What country has made great strides in plastic bag usage? Ireland
20. What was the first U.S. city to ban plastic bags? San Francisco

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Teacher Answer Key