Learn about Natural Resources

- View the *Everything Comes from the Environment* color poster. Review the poster with children, following each resource—shown in the boxes—from where it begins to how we use it in our homes. You can print out the *poster in black and white* so that children can color it themselves.

- Play “name that resource.” Identify an item in your home and ask children to name the resource it comes from—for example, a cotton t-shirt is made from a plant. Or name a natural resource (such as a tree) and ask children to find items in your home made from it (such as a book, a paper towel, a pencil, a cardboard box, a wooden table).

- Play a resource card game. Print out and cut apart the *Natural Resource Cards* and *Product Cards*. Lay out the natural resource cards and have children match the product cards to the resources used to make them. Have children make additional product cards showing items you have at home. You can also print out the page “What is it Made From?” for more practice.

- Make a resources/products book. Either on paper or on a computer, create a page for each natural resource: plants, trees, water, animals, metal ore, sand, fossil fuels. On each page, have children draw or copy and paste pictures of products that come from that natural resource.
Learn How to Think Earth

- View the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle color poster. With children, look for how people are reducing waste (including conserving water and energy), reusing products, and recycling. For example, a man is washing windows with a sponge instead of paper towels, which reduces waste, and people are carpooling, which saves gas. You can also print out a black and white version of the poster for children to color.

- Review this page which lists helpful Ways to Think Earth. On the back of the page, ask children to draw and write or dictate about ways they can Think Earth. We would love to see your children’s ideas! Post a photo on social media and use the hashtag #ThinkEarthAtHome.

Learn the Think Earth Song

Listen to the Think Earth song and sing along either to the vocal or, once the song is learned, to the instrumental version. Encourage children to make up hand gestures to go along with the song and make a video to share with friends and family. If you post a video on social media, use the hashtag #ThinkEarthAtHome so we can share it!
Color Think Earth Badges

Print out the Think Earth Badges and give them to children to color and cut out. Hang from string or yarn to make a necklace.

Upcycle Waste into Projects

Set up a Project Materials bin and fill it with items like cardboard tubes and boxes, cleaned plastic food containers, all kinds of paper, packing materials, etc. Children can use basic supplies like scissors, tape, glue, and markers to turn these materials into art, toys, games, or anything they can imagine!

- Robot or space ship
- Bird feeder
- Musical instruments
- Vehicles and tracks and ramps to run them on
- Marble maze or marble run
- Miniature buildings and towns

Upcycle Old Paper into New Paper

1. Explain to children that old paper can be used to make new paper, which is why we should recycle paper and paper products. Gather the following materials:
   - newspaper or scrap paper (not glossy or coated)
   - bucket or large bowl
   - water
   - electric or hand beater
   - piece of screen or felt
   - rolling pin or bottle

2. Tear the paper into small pieces and put into a bucket or bowl with one-part paper pieces and two-parts water (e.g., 1 cup of paper pieces and 2 cups of water). Allow to sit overnight.

3. The next day, use an electric or hand beater to pulp the paper, beating the mixture until it looks like mush.

4. Place a handful or two of paper mush on a piece of screen or felt and press out the excess water by hand; use the rolling pin or bottle to press out more water.

5. Let the paper dry one or two days. When it feels dry, remove it from the screen or felt. It is ready to use!