

Meeting Plan

for Ages 7-8 year olds

Planet Protection

GOAL: To encourage everyone to try and make a positive impact on the environment through their daily actions and activities.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

INDOOR ACTIVITY:

- Plant containers for each person
- Paint and paint brushes to decorate plant container
- Seeds
- Dirt
- Container for watering

CRAFT:

- 2 (two) metal bottle caps per child (the kind that come on a glass beverage bottle)
- 1 (one) 6 to 8 inch piece of 1/2 inch wide ribbon per child
- 1 (one) tiny paper circle (to fit inside 1 cap) per child
- Red stamp pad and/or markers/crayons/pencil crayons/paint
- White spray paint
- Clear spray paint
- Tiny photo child wishes to put in locket - best to gather these a week ahead of time.
- Thin ribbon about 1/16 inch wide --about a yard for each child
- Beads with large holes
- Glue gun



PREPARATION TIME:

20 - 45 minutes

Opening

Enjoy your usual Opening.

Explain the importance of looking after our planet and introduce the idea of the 3R's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Reduce the number of things you buy or use and make it so you have less to throw away. Reuse things as many times as you can before you throw them away. Recycle, which is to find new ways to use old things. Clothes you've outgrown can become rags for cleaning. Toys you don't use anymore can be donated to give other children the opportunity to use them.





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Challenge everyone to make small changes in their daily routines - turning the water off when they brush their teeth, making sure to always turn off electronics when done with them, taking the time to recycle cans/boxes/paper/etc instead of throwing them away, and so on.

ONE BAG CHALLENGE

Challenge group to get their families involved and try and reduce their trash down to one bag a week.

Activity

Outdoor Activities (weather permitting)

PLANT A TREE

Take the group out to a park or someone's garden and have them help plant a tree (or other similar plant), explaining how trees help keep the environment fresh and provide us with oxygen.



OUTDOOR ALPHABET SCAVENGER HUNT

Take the group out to a backyard or park and challenge them to find the letters of the alphabet in nature. The purpose of this is to encourage the kids to determine what things belong in nature (ie. leaves and sticks) and what things are harmful to nature (ie. trash).

Indoor Activities

PLANT A SEED

Have enough planter containers on hand for each person, as well as a bag of dirt, enough seeds (any seed will do) for each person, and help them plant their own seed/s in their containers, again while explaining how important living plants are to the Earth's continuing ecosystem. The kids can also decorate their pots/containers.

NATURE COLLAGE

Have some old magazines, greeting cards, newspaper, and other similar items on hand. Let the girls look through them all for items from nature such as flowers, plants, or animals and work together (or separately) to make a nature collage(s).

GROCERY BAG PROJECT

Get in touch with a local grocery store and ask if they're willing to partner with you by donating some brown bags. If they are willing, have the girls decorate the bags with environmentally friendly messages and return bags to the grocery store for the store to give out to customers. This is also a great community service project.



Craft

Bottle Cap Locket

Before the meeting, leaders will need to take or collect photos of each child (or have them bring a photo they want to use) and collect bottle caps - enough for 2 per child - and spray paint them white. Leaders should also cut out paper circles and 6 to 8 inch long 1/2 inch wide ribbon for each person.

Each child will be able to decorate the outside of their bottle cap using the red stamp pad or markers. When they are done, leaders should spray the cap with clear spray paint to seal the decoration onto the bottle cap.

Using the glue gun, leaders and kids can glue the ends of the ribbon (about an inch and a half of the ribbon) to the inside of the two bottle caps, making them fit together like a clam shell.

The photos will need to be trimmed to fit inside the bottle cap and then glued in place. Kids can write or draw on the paper circle and then glue it onto the inside of the other bottle cap.

To complete the locket, string length of thin 1/16 inch ribbon through the ribbon connecting the two bottle caps and glue in place. Allow each person to add some beads for further decoration. Tie the ribbon and voila, they have their very own bottle cap locket!

Closing

Congratulate them on learning how they can do their part to protect our planet!

Enjoy your regular Closing.



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