# Earth Day 2020

Earth Day is an important worldwide event that happens every year on the 22nd April. People are encouraged to support activities which help to protect the environment.

## When Did Earth Day Begin?

In 1970, Senator Nelson founded Earth Day after seeing oil spillages in California. He wanted to educate people about how pollution was affecting the environment.
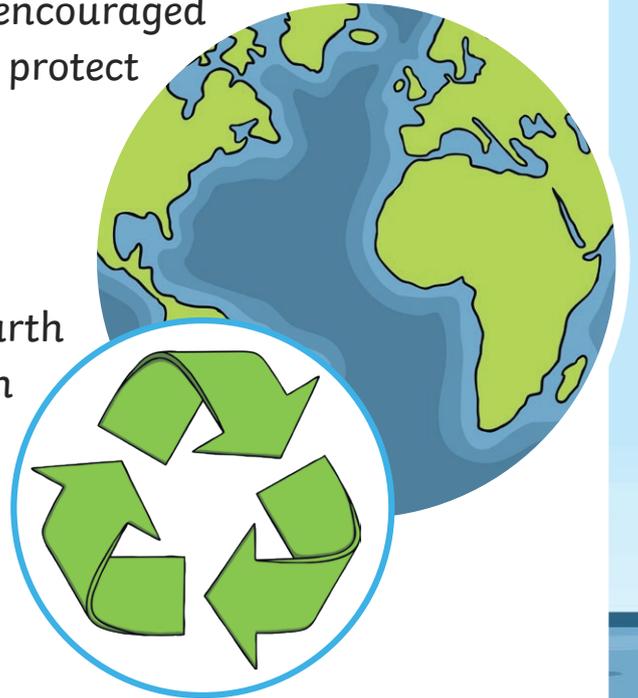
## Earth Day 2020

This year people will be taking part in the 50th Earth Day and the theme will focus on 'Climate Action'. The mission is to educate people to understand how climate change is affecting our planet and help stop climate change in the future.

## Why Is Climate Change Harmful?

Our climate is changing as the number of people on the earth grows. This larger number of people causes more harmful gases to be made. These harmful gases make changes to the climate. The gases are made by cars, trucks, aeroplanes and even factories. Burning fuel to make electricity also produces these gases.

When these harmful gases go up into the air, they get trapped in the layer protecting the Earth from the Sun. When the Sun shines onto the Earth, the heat is kept in by the gases. This causes the Earth to heat up and this is called **global warming.** Global warming isn't good for our planet because it has many damaging effects.

**Did You Know?**

- Cows also produce a harmful gas called methane which damages the atmosphere.
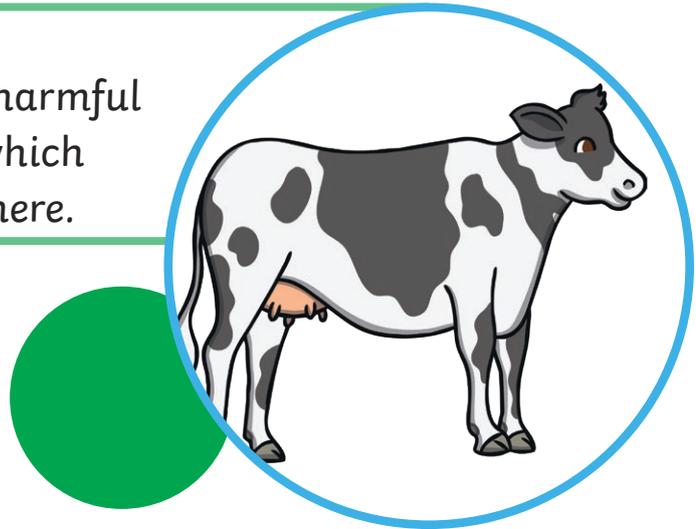
**What Can You Do to Help?**

- Reduce, recycle and reuse as many objects as possible to help reduce waste.

- Use our cars less and find more environmentally friendly ways of travelling.

- Use less electricity by switching electrical items off when you are not using them.

- Eating less meat and dairy. You could try at least one plant-based meal a week.

- Helping to plant new trees can be great for the environment.

- Use less water by having a quick shower instead of a bath each day.

# Questions

1. When does Earth Day take place each year? Tick **one.**

○   20th April

○   22nd April

○   22nd August

2. Fill in the missing words:

**People are encouraged to support activities which help to**

_____ **the** _____.

3. What is the theme for Earth Day in 2020?

_____

4. What are the harmful gases causing climate change made by? Tick **three.**

○   cars

○   trucks

○   shops

○   factories

5.   What is the name given to the heating up of the Earth through climate change?

_____

6. Name two things you could do to help stop climate change?

_____

_____