

FACT SHEET



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Environmental Education Resources Office of Compliance Support

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www.idem.IN.gov

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Introduction:

- The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) offers educational resources to help children learn about the environment.
- Educators, scout leaders and parents can request free lesson plans.
- IDEM staff are available upon request to give free classroom presentations.
- A wide range of information is available to help instill environmental stewardship. Activities and materials can be downloaded from IDEM's website.

Environmental impacts/benefits:

- IDEM's educational resources are designed to help children build a better understanding about how they can make a difference in the environment.
- IDEM's lesson plans are designed to help students recognize how our choices can impact the quality of our environment.

Educator's role:

- Adults who are involved in educating children, such as *teachers, parents and scout leaders*, can download the following materials from IDEM's website for free:
 - *Written lesson plans that meet Indiana State Science Standards* on topics including air, water, land quality, recycling, and composting. Most lesson plans, presentations and activities are designed for grades K through 6.
 - *Educational coloring booklets, activity sheets, videos, posters, bookmarks and trading cards* for children in grades K-2 and 3-5.
- *Schools* may request *free classroom presentations* from IDEM staff for grades K through 6 on topics including air quality, water quality, land quality, and recycling. Presentations include interactive activities such as "Environmental Jeopardy" and building an edible landfill. The presentations are about 30 to 50 minutes long. Special *Earth Day* presentations are available each year during April.
- *Scout leaders* can utilize IDEM Conservation and Reducing-Reusing-Recycling materials to help boy scouts earn the *Tiger Scout badge* and the *Your Living World* activities to help with the *Wolf Scout badge*. IDEM materials can also be used for the *Cub Scouts Geology and Academics Pin and Belt Loop*.

IDEM's Role:

- IDEM designs lesson plans for K through 6 and offers the materials free of charge to educators.
- IDEM's Environmental Educator is available to provide assistance and/or arrange classroom presentations for schools and youth organizations around the state.

More Information:

- Visit's IDEM's website at www.in.gov/idem/iee/ or contact Jennifer Woolson-Helrigel, Environmental Education Coordinator with IDEM's Office of Planning and Assessment, at (800) 451-6027, ext. 3-5433 (toll free), (317) 233-5433 (direct), or education@idem.IN.gov (by e-mail).