



## Green Corner NWPASynod Green Team

### CREATION CARE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

One of the best creation-care actions that adults can perform is stimulating children to care for creation. The following activities can stimulate interest and be educational. Three are taken from **ELCA's 2024 "Our Kairos Moment – A Study Guide on Earth's Climate Crisis"**. The Study Guide is a tremendous learning resource for adults and children.

[https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Earths Climate Crisis Study Guide FINAL.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Earths%20Climate%20Crisis%20Study%20Guide%20FINAL.pdf) "The Earth as an Apple" is from "A Rocha Canada". <https://arocha.ca>

**GREENHOUSE EFFECT EXPERIMENT:** You will need a sunny day and warm location. Place two outdoor thermometers outside to come up to temperature. Then, place one thermometer inside a clear glass or plastic jar and cover it with a lid or plastic wrap. For one hour, measure the differences in temperature between the thermometers. The difference helps explain the greenhouse effect of gases trapping heat inside our atmosphere.

Learn more at <https://kidminds.org/how-to-explain-the-greenhouse-effect-to-kids-with-printables/>

**EARTH TOAST:** Higher temperatures can have wide-ranging impacts on land, water, soil and human health. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/2b87m62z> to learn how to make "Earth Toast" with children. This activity from Left Brain, Craft Brain is a fun, creative way to start a conversation about the effects of heat.

**THE EARTH AS AN APPLE:** Imagine the earth as an apple. Cut the apple into quarters. One quarter is land and the rest is water. Cut the land quarter in half again to produce two one-eighth pieces of the apple. One of those eighth pieces is land covered with mountains, desert or ice. The other eighth is flat livable land. Cut the livable land into four pieces. Three of those are either wet, hot, rocky, infertile or covered with roads and buildings for cities. The other piece (one thirty-second) *when peeled* represents the topsoil of the earth that is suitable for growing the food that we eat. Source: [https://arocha.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/cp\\_kids-in-creation-curriculum.pdf](https://arocha.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/cp_kids-in-creation-curriculum.pdf)

**PAPER EGG CARTON GARDEN STARTER:** This can be a great activity to do with children. Gather a paper egg carton, some soil and seeds from a local store. Fill the carton with soil and plant one seed in each cup. Place the tray on a water-resistant tray in a sunny location and water the seeds a bit each day. As your seeds start to sprout, talk together about all the resources that are needed for plants to grow: organic matter in soil, water and sunlight. After the seeds have grown and gotten two sets of leaves the egg carton can be separated into 12 sections and planted in your home garden, raised beds or pots. Try starting flower seeds or vegetable seeds. Enjoy! How does God's creation work together to create new life? Adapted from Our Kairos Moment "Planting in an Ice Cube Tray".

The Green Team's purpose is to "raise awareness of and advocate for the care of creation." Our mission is to support and encourage creation care ministries, raise awareness, model creation care advocacy consistent with ELCA teachings in our faith communities and public life.

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