

Earth Rounds Teacher Directions



This activity demonstrates the fact only a small part of our planet is actually inhabitable and our resources are limited. It makes an engaging introduction to environmental studies.

Materials for Each Student

- 1 half of a round sandwich thin or English muffin
- 1 paper plate
- 1 plain wooden craft stick for spreading and cutting
- 1 tablespoon peanut butter
- 2 tablespoons grape jelly
- 3 or 4 raisins
- 3 or 4 mini marshmallows
- 3 or 4 small pieces of celery
- a wet wipe or damp paper towel
- crayons or colored pencils
- 1 copy of the Earth Rounds handout



Advanced Preparation

1. You will need the materials listed above for each student. If you have students with peanut allergies, substitute cream cheese for peanut butter. Since these materials can be expensive when purchased for an entire class, you'll want to ask for help. You can send home the letter on the next page, being sure to set the due date one day before your activity. Before you duplicate the letter, add the number of each item needed. Remember that you only need half as many sandwich thins as students since they only use the top or bottom. After duplicating, highlight a different item for each student so you get exactly what you need.
2. Read through the student directions on page 3 so you'll be familiar with them. If possible, practice by making an Earth Round yourself. Duplicate a copy of the directions for each student and one to display for the class. If you don't want to duplicate the worksheet, have students use a compass to draw a large circle on a plain sheet of paper.
3. Prior to the activity, wash the celery stalks and slice them into 1/4 inch wide half-moon sections. Prepare one plate for each student with all the materials needed. Pass out the plates, but don't pass out the worksheet yet.
4. Talk students through each part of the directions, one step at a time. As you discuss each step, have the students follow your directions. Finish by discussing the implications for our planet. Students should realize that since our Earth has limited space and resources, we should conserve resources whenever possible.
5. After the Earth Rounds are complete, ask students to wash their hands. Then distribute the handouts and ask students to draw and label their Earth Rounds. Remind them to complete the bottom section by writing what they learned from the activity.
6. When students are finished, they may eat their Earth Round. It's easier to handle the Sandwich thins if they fold them in half before eating them.

Earth Rounds Science Activity



Next week we will be creating edible Earth Rounds to learn about the importance of natural resources on our planet. After we complete the activity, students will be able to eat their Earth Rounds for a snack. We need your help with the materials for this activity. Would you be able to contribute the highlighted material by the date below? If not, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can make other arrangements. Thanks!

Name _____ Parent Signature _____

Due Date _____

Will you be able to send in the item(s) highlighted below? Yes No

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ___ paper plates | 1 jar creamy peanut butter |
| ___ round Sandwich thins | 1 bag mini-marshmallows |
| ___ plain, clean, wooden craft sticks | 1 jar grape jelly |
| ___ washed whole celery stalks | 1 box raisins |

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Earth Rounds

Name _____

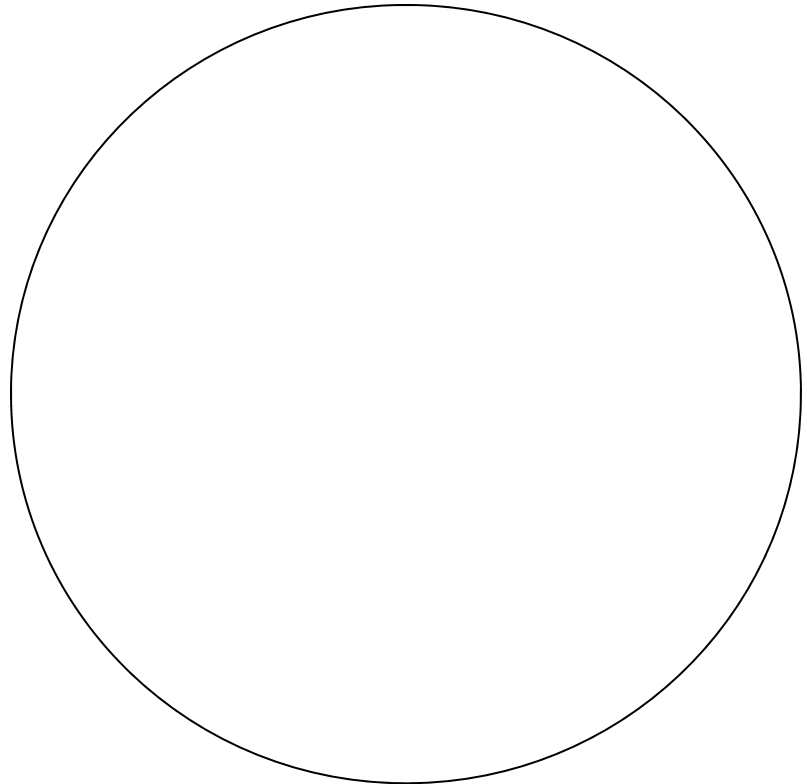


Investigation Focus

How much of the Earth is available for living and obtaining natural resources? Use the top or bottom of a round sandwich thin or English muffin to help you find out!

Ingredients

- Sandwich round or English muffin
- Craft stick for spreading
- Peanut butter
- Grape jelly
- Raisins
- Marshmallows
- Celery pieces

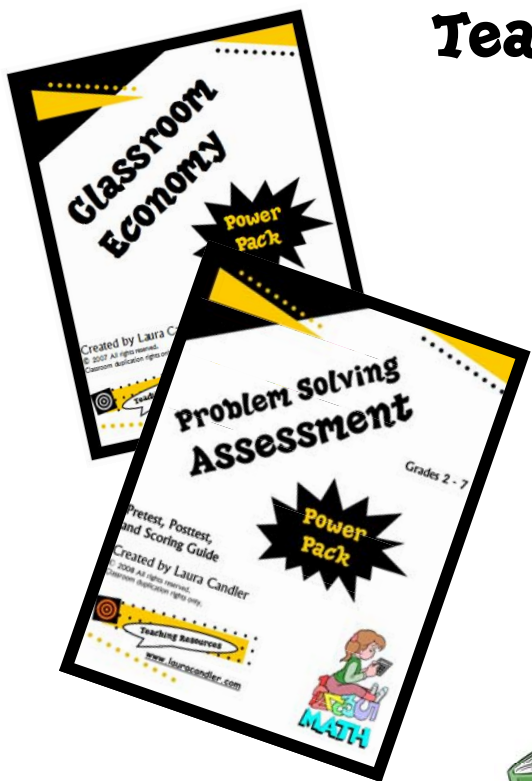


Directions

1. Mark your Earth Round into fourths without cutting through it completely.
2. Spread grape jelly on 3 sections to represent the part of our Earth covered with water. What fraction of the Earth is this? _____ Did you know that most of this water is saltwater, and only 1% of the water on Earth is available for drinking?
3. Spread peanut butter on the remaining section of your Earth Round to represent the amount of land on Earth. What fraction of the Earth is this? _____
4. Divide the peanut butter section into 2 equal parts.
5. Place mini marshmallows and raisins on 1/2 of the peanut butter area to represent the “uninhabitable” rocky and icy areas of the Earth where people can’t live. What fraction of the Earth is uninhabitable land? _____
6. Place celery pieces on the remaining 1/2 of the peanut butter area to represent the “inhabitable” land that humans, plants, and animals must all share. What fraction of the Earth is inhabitable land? _____
7. Draw and color a picture of your Earth Round above. Label each fractional part with the area of the Earth it represents and the size of each fractional piece. After you finish, enjoy your Earth Round snack!
8. What did you learn about our Earth from this activity?

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Contact Laura for more information: lauracandler@att.net