

# INTRODUCTION

EarthX is dedicated to discovering, researching and innovating practices that impact and reshape our world through environmental education and awareness. To create a sustainable future, we must educate our students on the impact that our actions have on our world today. The goal of this curriculum is to create projects that guide students to understand our Earth, human impact and their role in creating a sustainable future.

The lessons are divided into four main areas of focus: Earth, Energy, Cities and Climate. Within each lesson, you will find the following components. Note that film, art and social studies activities may be integrated into the main content; therefore, not all lessons will include every section listed below.

- Grade Level/Focus Area/Discipline/Title of Lesson
- Objective/TEKS/Driving Question
- Materials Needed
- Spinning the Cocoon (knowledge building)
- Metamorphosis (hands-on learning)
- Upcycle (an additional, more challenging component to the lesson)
- Kaleidoscope (social studies extension)
- eARTh (connected art project)
- Through the Lens (related film application)
- Kernel of Knowledge (on-topic fact to build real-world awareness)
- Community Garden (service-learning opportunity)
- Career Highlight (spotlight on an outstanding individual in a related career)
- Career Connections (related careers and their educational pathways)

The lessons are written with a specific focus but are also versatile in their makeup so that a teacher can easily adapt them to their teaching and learning outcomes. Lessons can be implemented in the classroom throughout the year, or to help observe and bring awareness in celebration of Earth Day. Educating students about the power they have to make a positive impact is vital, and it is our hope you can do that with these lessons.

In addition to the curriculum, EarthX has an educational division dedicated to showcasing films and emerging media that explore science, conservation, climate change and the environment while honoring the heroes working to protect our planet. With a mission to turn awareness into action through education, art and media, EarthXFilm provides learners with tools to understand, shape and drive a sustainable future.

Because film is a powerful resource in today's technology-driven world, links to relevant, insightful and impactful film resources are included in many of the lessons. In addition, EarthXFilm will periodically provide additional links to new and upcoming films with suggested lesson connections. To view the many film and film-related resources offered through EarthX, including competitions, panels, discussions and more, visit <https://www.earthxfilm.org/>.

*Note to Teachers: Please check your school district's policies on screening films in the classroom; contact your campus administrator if you have questions about a specific resource. Also, we suggest checking any links prior to screening them for students. While the links contain recommended supplemental information, some feature advertising content that may or may not be suitable for classroom viewing. Many of the links and videos are not controlled by EarthX, so we are not responsible for any ads that pop up.*