



Kindergarten: When I Walk

Course Description: Building on what we learned in our last module we will talk about how humans impact the environment and what the students can do to make a difference and protect the planet.

Day 1: One of the ways that humans shape the environment is through pollution. Pollution is when something bad or harmful gets into the environment and plastics are one of the main sources of pollution. Discuss what everyone does with plastic when they are done – does it end up in the recycling bin, on the ground, in the garbage. If it goes in the garbage, it likely ends up in a landfill. We want to stress how important it is to try and reduce how much plastic we use and to make sure that we recycle it if we do use it.

Demonstration: *In the last module students had the opportunity to build their own mini environments out of playdoh. We are going to use those environments again by showing where the plastic would go if it were released into the environment. We use colored gravel and colored sand to represent large and small pieces of plastic, respectively. Students should observe where the plastic goes and whether it ends up in the water. Then we will have a discussion about what it means for plastic to end up in their environment.*

Day 2: We will have a discussion about the difference a person can make for the planet if they make small changes. Building on the discussion about conservation we had in the last class, we will ask the students if they can think of other types of pollution and other ways that they could be negatively impacting the planet. We will not only talk about some of the ways that humans negatively affect the planet but also some of the things that we do to try to make a difference. We will give the students some concrete action tasks for their own life so that they can make a positive difference.

Demonstration: *Each student will have to consider one thing that they can do to help protect the planet and do a drawing showing how they will follow through with their plan. The plans and drawings will then be presented to the entire class so that other students can agree that they will also try to pledge to make that difference. They will make a pledge to do their best to protect the earth and will receive buttons to commemorate their goal of making a difference.*