

World Environment Day

Do you know World Environment Day also known as the Environment Day or Eco Day or WED? This day is celebrated every year worldwide to inspire the people to become active about the environment and learn the ways to protect the Nature. It is celebrated on every 5th June a day to promote caring for our planet Earth.



A Little History

The year 1972 was marked as a turning point in the development of international environment issues. The first major conference was convened with the help and support of the United Nations (UN). It was held from June 5-16 in Stockholm (Sweden). It is known as the “Conference on the Human Environment.”



Two years later, in 1974 the first WED was held on 5th June. Thereafter, it has been started as an annual event on this **Day** with an aim to raise the global awareness about the importance of the healthy and green environment in the human lives.



Why do we celebrate?

5th June was chosen because it was the opening day of the United Nations conference on the human environment that led to the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).



The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution and urge “Governments and the organisations in the United Nations system to undertake on that day every year world-wide activities reaffirming their concern for the preservation and enhancement of the environment, with a view to deepening environmental awareness and to pursuing the determination expressed at the Conference.”

The Day has developed into a global platform for taking action on urgent environmental issues. Millions of people have taken part over the years, helping drive change in the consumption habits, as well as in national and international environmental policies. Each year a different country hosts the event, which aims to create awareness of the environment and encourage the public and world governments to take action to create positive environmental change.



How can you celebrate?

Variety of activities can be planned to celebrate the event to encourage more people to take part in the celebration. You can take part through many activities such as clean-up campaigns, art exhibitions, motivating people for tree planting, dance activities, recycling garbage, film festivals, community events, essays writing, poster competitions, social media campaigns and lot more. Many awareness campaigns are also running at schools, colleges and other educational institutions to motivate students towards their environmental safety.





What is the theme?

Each year the UN picks a theme and a host city where environmental topics can be discussed, followed by different kinds of exhibits and displays to promote environmental awareness. 'Connecting People to Nature' is the theme for 2017 and host country is Canada. The first WED was celebrated with the slogan "Only One Earth" in 1974 and host city was Spokane, United States.



How can you connect yourself to nature?

1. Have an outdoor picnic with friends and family to know nature
2. Walk through a Nature Park/ Garden on your way to work
3. Clean a local area and appreciate its beauty
4. Click Picture and Video which shows connections with Nature
5. Take forward the call to protect the Earth
6. Make collection of natural and unique items like- dry leaves, flowers, bird's feathers, different stones of different colour and shape
7. Learn about the life cycle of plants, animals, insect and birds
8. Take a stand against environmental pollution
9. Visit the farm and buy products from farmer's market
10. Go on a road trip
11. Plant new trees
12. Read books at the park
13. Petting zoo and feed the baby animals
14. Sleep with the open window
15. Have breakfast in open space with bird watching
16. Watch the sunrise and sunset over water
17. Be creative with dry leaves and rocks
18. Get inspired to "Go Green"
19. Water the plants at home and neighbourhoods
20. Ride bicycle and breathe fresh air in the morning
21. Climb a tree



Young champs share your ideas to celebrate world Environment Day and how will you connect with nature? Write to us at cerc-env@nic.in

Sources:

1. <http://www.un.org/en/events/environmentday/background.shtml>
2. <http://www.greeningtheblue.org/event/world-environment-day>
3. <http://www.wikihow.com/Celebrate-World-Environment-Day>