

PRE-K-1st grade children

FAMILY TAKE-IT-HOME for APRIL 22, 2018

(by Mary Collins, Children's Coordinator, Unitarian Church in Westport, CT)

Topic: Emergent EARTH DAY Activities on Sunday morning: Mindfulness practice, play with sand and animal figures, guest with worm compost bin

BOOK: Earth Day Birthday by Pattie Schnetzler illustrated by Chad Wallace – about the animals of the earth

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **Were the animals in the book pets?** (*No, these are animal families that mostly live in the wild which means they find their food around where they live..*)
- **What other creatures might we see in our world when we look outside?** (also note that even small creatures have a place. Like worms who dig in the soil and make good things happen so plants can grow).
- **What did the children at the end do?** (pick up trash and hopefully recycle the things that could be recycled. We can do this too so animals won't mistake trash for food and eat it. Which is bad for their health, can we plant food and flowers that help us and animals around us?)



Message: Unitarian Universalist Principle # 7 We care for the Earth, the home we share with all living things.

FAMILY TAKE-IT-HOME -Faith Formation continues...

- **Take a book out and read together:**
 - *The Earth and I* by Frank Asch, 2008. This story celebrates friendship that one child has with the Earth. They play together, listen to each other, and nourish each other. But when the Earth is sad, the child is sad, so he finds a way to make his friend, the Earth, happy.
 - *The Earth Book* by Todd Parr, 2010. With his signature blend of playfulness and sensitivity, Todd Parr explores the important, timely subject of environmental protection and conservation in this eco-friendly picture book.
 - *The Curious Garden* by Peter Brown, 2009. One boy's quest for a greener world... one garden at a time. As time passes, the garden spreads throughout the dark, gray city, transforming it into a lush, green world.
 - *I Can Save the Earth: One little monster learns to reduce, reuse and recycle* (Little Green Books) by Alison Inches and Viviana Garofoli, 2008. Little Green Books educate children on ways they can be eco-friendly.



- Make a simple bucket Worm Bin As suggested by Leah Purcell, Albany, NY
<https://www.thespruce.com/inexpensive-worm-bin-from-plastic-buckets-2540077>