

Rachel Carson and Her Book That Changed the World



RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

STEAM-THEMED: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH

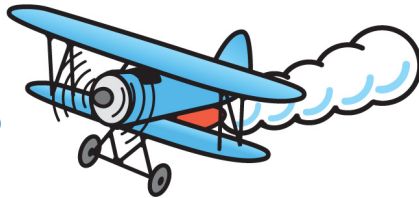
SCIENCE

NATURAL OBSERVATIONS

Filled with curiosity about the world around her, Rachel Carson loved nature. Take students outside to observe nature. Have them use their senses to draw or write about what they hear, see, smell, and touch.

TECHNOLOGY

THE BOOK THAT CHANGED THE WORLD



Give students an in-depth look historically at how Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring* changed the world. Visit www.cbsnews.com/news/the-legacy-of-silent-spring/.

ENGINEERING

POLLUTANT PICKER-UPPER!

Materials: scrap materials like sticks, paper towel tubes, rubber bands, string, pipe cleaners

Have students work together in groups to design a device to pick up trash. Encourage them to think about what kind of objects might need to be picked up.

Once the designs have been drawn out, have students construct their devices. Students should experiment and then make adjustments in the design until they have a workable pollutant picker-upper!



ART

ENVIRONMENTAL LOGO

The ecology flag is used to promote awareness and show concern for the health of planet Earth. What type of flag or logo would you design to encourage people to conserve, reduce the use of energy and resources, and save more species of plant and animals from extinction?

Explain your design: pictures, colors, and shape.



MATH, SCIENCE

GO, WORM, GO!

Materials: 1 piece of 11"x20" construction paper, 2 worms, stopwatch

Rachel made careful observations of nature. Have students test their worm schema with a worm race! To begin, draw a start and finish line on the construction paper. Have students predict how long it takes a worm to cross the finish line. Place both worms at the start line. Record the time it takes for each worm to reach the finish line. Run multiple trials and record. What is the average time for each worm to reach the finish line? Do the math: how many inches does each worm travel per second? (Be sure to set the worms free safely outside when you're done!)

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ART, MATH

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT PROJECT

Have students work in groups of 3 to research an environmental concern in your area. Students should identify the problem, the effect it is having in your area, and brainstorm possible solutions to encourage change. Present findings to the class using posters, computer programs, or dramatic interpretation.

