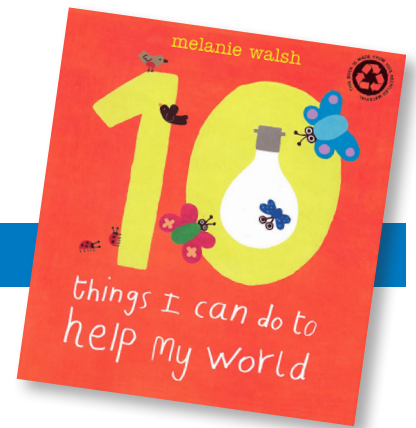


10 Things I Can Do to Help My World

RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

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



SCIENCE

ROT POTS

Materials: five clear jars with screw-on lids, soil, marker

Discover what happens to garbage after you throw it away. Fill five jars halfway with soil. Add a different kind of “trash” to each jar (e.g., food scraps in one jar, newspaper scraps in another, etc.). Cover with more soil. Sprinkle with water. Close lids and label each jar based on the type of trash inside. Observe changes over a couple of weeks. Discuss your observations.



TECHNOLOGY

THE ELECTRIC COMPANY

Go on an electricity scavenger hunt to find how many items in your room use electricity. Count up the total number of items you find. How many can be turned off? How many need to stay on? Why is electricity important to us? How can we use it more wisely?

ENGINEERING

FOR THE BIRDS

Materials: large pretzels, peanut butter, sunflower kernels, twist ties, string, paper plate, plastic knife

Let students use twist ties to create a bird feeder design by connecting pretzels. You can determine the maximum number of pretzels used. Tie string to the top of the structure. Spread peanut butter over the outside of the pretzels. Place sunflower kernels on paper plate. Lightly press the peanut-buttered side of the pretzels onto kernels. Let students hang their feeders outside for the birds to enjoy.

ART

PERFECTLY USED PRINTS

Materials: cardboard, glue, scissors, bulletin board or butcher’s paper, materials for texture (yarn, sponges, etc.)

Make printing blocks by cutting squares of cardboard. Glue recycled materials like cut sponges or yarn to each square. Use paint to cover each item and then press onto paper to create an interesting design. When the paper is covered and dry, use for wrapping paper.

MATH

SORTING RINGS

Reuse the plastic rings from six- or eight-packs to sort items into sets. Provide a container of small objects for sorting (e.g., pom poms, lids, rubber bands, paper scraps, buttons, etc.). Have kids use a 6- or an 8-section ring to sort by one attribute. Ask them to explain why the items belong in each set.



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