



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: March 13, 2024
To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Nonpublic School Administrators
Route To: Assistant Superintendents, Principals, Curriculum Supervisors, Teachers
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services

Action for Earth in Recognition of Earth Day 2024

This April the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) invites New Jersey local educational agencies (LEAs) to participate in Action for Earth in recognition of Earth Day 2024.

Earth Day is an annual event held on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First held on April 22, 1970, it now includes a wide range of events coordinated globally by Earthday.org and engages 1 billion people in more than 193 countries. The official theme for 2024 is "Planet vs. Plastics."

In recognition of Earth Day 2024, the NJDOE is inviting LEAs to participate in a month-long Action for Earth in April 2024. This celebration challenges LEAs to plan and share activities related to four themed weeks that engage students to be better stewards of their bodies, their communities, and their planet as they explore climate-related challenges and solutions. The four themed weeks will be:

- Energy - April 1-5
- Food - April 8-12
- Waste - April 15-19
- Nature and Wellness - April 22-26

Key Steps/Actions

- Visit the [Climate Change Education webpage](#) to learn more about each weekly theme and gather resources to prepare for action-based learning;
- Plan an Action for Earth lesson, activity, and/or event, to explore the weekly theme;
- Share your Action for Earth activities on social media utilizing the hashtags #ClimateEd #ClimateChangeEducation #ActionforEarthNJ; and,
- Invite NJDOE staff from the Climate Change Education Unit to your district to celebrate your action!

Contact Information

For questions about Action for Earth, Earth Day 2024, or Climate Change Education, please contact: climateeducation@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group