

Bridge



"I think electric cars are more about status than the environment."

"I think these people care, too, but they don't have the resources."

"We can all help to keep our local environment clean."

"These people are doing something about the problems."

"I don't know if this is our rubbish, or theirs."

"It's easy to be green when you're rich."

Imagine you are members of a local sports club, and you want to do something for Earth Day. Discuss what you could do. Think of different ideas and discuss the pros and cons of each.

Example Dialogue

Blake: I think we should do a local litter collection.

Avery: Yes, that's a good idea. It'll help the local community.

Blake: We have a lot of members, too, so we can really make a difference.

Avery: We'll need a lot of adult supervisors with the smaller kids, though. Some rubbish is dangerous.

Blake: Maybe we can make smaller, mixed-age groups.

Avery: We'll need good gloves, too. But it's a good idea. What else could we do?

Blake: We could not use any electricity that day.

Avery: Well, that's a nice idea but I don't think we can.

Blake: Why not?

Avery: We always have food in the freezer, so we can't switch that off. We have security lighting, too.

Blake: OK, it's too complicated. Maybe we could organize a festival, with some local bands. To raise money for an environmental charity.

Avery: I don't know. That would be a lot of work.

Blake: Yes, but it would be good fun. It could make money for charity, and make local people happy.

Avery: Not all of them. It would be noisy. And I bet people would drop litter. I'm not sure that's a good Earth Day idea. How about a paper collection day for recycling?

Blake: No. Everyone recycles paper already. It's just extra work for nothing. We could collect food and drinks cans, though.

Avery: That's a brilliant idea. You can even get money for them. So it's recycling and fundraising at the same time.

Discuss

Do you worry about the environment? Why or why not? What do you think are the biggest dangers to the natural world? What can we do to protect the environment? Have you ever seen any bad examples of how humans interact with the environment? Any positive examples?

What parts of the world are most affected by different environmental problems? Give some examples and talk about them. What do you know about climate change?

Imagine you could pass one environmental law (e.g. make everyone vegetarian, ban plastic packaging, ban cars, etc.). Talk about what you would do and about the advantages and disadvantages of doing that.

Some Useful Phrases

- green
- eco-friendly,
- environmentally friendly (products and activities)
- environmentally conscious (people)
- reduce, reuse, recycle
- alternative energy (sources)
- pollution
- biodiversity
- deforestation / cutting down forests
- environmentalist
- environmental organization / charity
- climate change
- single-use plastic
- littering
- dumping / fly-tipping