Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Youth Resources

The following resources created by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) help educate youth on the topic of Environmental Health.

What You Can Do to Protect Children from Environmental Risks
This is a site that offers links to tips on how to protect children from environmental risks. Some of the risks included are pesticides, radon, too much sun, carbon monoxide poisoning, ticks, and more. There are many resources to help children live healthier, safer lives in the outdoors.

Protecting Children’s Health During and After Natural Disasters
This site provides links to helpful information to protect children’s health after natural disasters such as floods, extreme heat, and volcanic ash. It includes tips on limiting mold, contaminated water, insect repellent, and recommended ways to help children return to areas impacted by floods and hurricanes.

Children’s Environmental Health Facts
This site provides facts on asthma, lead, exposure, childhood cancer, and developmental disabilities. It not only gives statistics on the issues that accompany these matters, but it also discusses the disparities surrounding them, and their economic impacts.

History of Children’s Environmental Health Protection at EPA
This page provides a background on the Children’s Environmental Health Agenda. It gives the general goal of the national agenda, the President’s role, international involvement, and action items.

Healthy Schools, Healthy Kids
The EPA’s comprehensive schools website offers resources to establish, maintain, and enhance a school’s environmental health program. It offers resources on air and water quality, managing chemicals, healthy buildings, and more.

Managing Environmental Asthma Triggers
This site gives resources to help communities and healthcare providers improve asthma. It provides insight on triggers, publications, awareness, and general education.

Regulations
This site is dedicated to the EPA Regulations that aim to protect children. It shows the guidance of rulemaking, transparency in regulatory development, and the development of rules and actions pertaining to air regulations, water regulations, and chemical and safety regulations.

America’s Children and the Environment
America’s Children and the environment is an EPA report that presents key information on children’s environmental health. It has indicators, education on contaminants, biomonitoring, and more.
**Student Curriculum**
This is a 9-lesson program designed to excite kids about environmental health and empower them to take steps in their everyday lives to improve the environment for their community and reduce their environmental risk. The curriculum is geared toward children ages 9-13.

**Office of Children’s Health Protection (OCHP)**
The OCHP has the fundamental goal to ensure that all EPA actions and programs address the unique vulnerabilities of children. The major goals are to reduce negative environmental impacts on children through involvement in EPA rulemaking, policy, enforcement actions, research and applications of science that focuses on prenatal and childhood vulnerabilities.

**President’s Environmental Youth Award**
The President’s Environmental Youth Award (PEYA) recognizes outstanding environmental projects by K-12 youth. The PEYA program promotes awareness of our nation’s natural resources and encourages positive community involvement. Since 1971, the President of the United States has joined with EPA to recognize young people for protecting our nation’s air, water, land, and ecology. It is one of the most important ways EPA and the Administration demonstrate commitment to environmental stewardship efforts created and conducted by our nation's youth. The application for the program is due in March.

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**National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Youth Resources**
The following resources created by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) help educate youth on the topic of Environmental Health.

**Kids Environment Kids Health**
Kids Environment Kids Health is a resource for kids, parents, and teachers to find fun and educational materials related to health, science, and the environment we live in today.

**Environment & Health**
The environment and health page has resources on the importance of the environment that surrounds youth for their health. It has information on Environmental Justice, Gulf Oil Spill, and quotations on the environment.

**Healthy Living**
The healthy living site has information on how to be healthier by eating right and being active. It has links to information about the food we eat, how to eat smart, personal steps for teens, how to keep active, and more.

**Pollution**
The pollution site has information on how the negative effects that pollution can have on people and the environment. The site has information on the gulf oil spill, asthma, allergies, and all kinds of different areas that can be harmed by pollution such as rivers and streams.

**Lessons**
The NIEHS has a series of lesson materials for teachers looking to teach youth about environmental health. The site provides lesson plans, activities, educational materials, and more. It covers areas like alcohol, bacteria, cancer, community, disease, nicotine, microorganisms, and more.
Additional Youth Resources on Environmental Science

The following resources created by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences help educate youth on the topic of general Environmental Science.

**The Natural World**
The natural world helps educate youth about the earth that is not man-made. It has information on earthquakes, colors, climate history, hurricanes, greenhouse gases, and more.

**Science - How it works**
Science - how it works is a page for educating youth on how science affects their everyday lives. It has information on epidemiology, the scientific method, the metric system, experimentation, and more.

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**
Reduce, reuse, recycle helps youth recognize the different ways they can work to eliminate waste in their environments. It teaches what waste is and how youth can help through fun things like “worm wigwams welcome wiggly waste watchers.”

**Games**
The games site is a part of NIEHS that helps youth learn about the environment through brainteasers, puzzles, riddles, and songs. Games cover environmental health, history, climate change, the natural environment, and more through a variety of different games aimed at youth of all ages.

**Activities**
The activities page of the NIEHS site has a number of different ways for youth to get involved and learn about their environment. It has coloring sheets, science experiments, stories, and more to help engage youth.

The 4-H Youth Development Program is the youth outreach program from the land-grant institutions’ Cooperative Extension Services, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). 4-H serves as a model program for the practice of positive youth development. 4-H National Headquarters is housed within the Division of Youth and 4-H at USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture. For more information email 4Hhq@nifa.usda.gov. USDA-NIFA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. June 2017