

Bulletin

Issue 4 • Fall 2020

for Educators

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM) mission is to protect the environment and human health. IDEM ensures Indiana's land is safe to live on, air is safe to breathe, and water is safe to drink. IDEM's environmental educator is a resource for you!

Featured Program

Where Trash Goes e-Learning Lesson Plan

Ready to get students excited about [Where Trash Goes](#)? The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has developed an eLearning lesson plan to assist in teaching students about trash, where it goes, and how they can create less trash.

The eLearning lesson has both a teacher page and a student page. The teacher page includes:

- **Background information about landfills**
- **List of terms**
- **Photos of layers and barriers landfills use to keep trash in its place**
- **Worksheets and answer keys**
 - Where Trash Goes Student Page
 - Where Trash Goes Crossword Puzzle
 - Where Trash Goes Word Search
 - Landfill Diagram
- **Home or school activities**
 - Trash Journal Activity
 - Writing activity
 - Home scavenger hunt
- **Landfill video**



If you have any questions or would like to schedule a virtual presentation please contact IDEM's [Environmental Team](#). IDEM's education team is here as a resource for you!

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Upcoming Events You Can Find Us At:

Statehood Day:
December 11, 2020

2020 Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.:
February 8-9, 2021

Earth Day Indiana Festival:
April, 2021

Topics to Share

Recycling Lesson Plan

Looking for a way to show your students how recycling works? Look no further than Republic Services [lessons and activities for educators](#). Republic is a solid waste and disposal service provider, and experts in recycling. They have free, step-by-step lesson plans and supporting material focused on household recycling. Supporting materials include videos, virtual field trips, flashcards, handouts, and student certificates.

The curriculum is available for PreK-12th grade and meets specific grade-level standards. The lessons can be in units or individual sessions. The flexibility within the lesson gives educators many options.



Republic also developed content designed for learning at home. Their [At-Home Learning](#) program includes videos and fun activities for the entire family.

Classroom Presentations



Virtual Presentations

IDEM staff is available to present to your classrooms virtually using Microsoft Teams or Zoom. Our environmental education presentations cover a variety of topics to meet your needs. Available topics include:

- **Air Quality:** *Indiana's Environment and You*
- **Land Quality:** *How Long Does Trash Last; Edible Landfill*
- **Water Quality:** *Nonpoint and Point Source Pollution; Water Cycle*
- **Recycling:** *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Your Trash*
- **Composting:** *Wonderful World of Worms*

For program descriptions check out our [classroom presentation topics page!](#) To request a presentation contact IDEM's [Environmental Educator](#).

Craft Corner

Recycled Hanging Garden

Gardening is a great way for students to connect with nature. This hands-on craft gives students a chance to experiment with their environment. What happens if the plant gets too much water or not enough water? Too much sunlight or not enough?

How do you find the perfect environment for your plant? To get started, you will need the following supplies and adult supervision.

Directions:

- Step 1:** Turn bottle horizontal and cut a 2" x 4" opening from the top of the bottle. Size of opening may vary.
- Step 2:** Poke a hole on each side of opening.
- Step 3:** Cut length of string 12".
- Step 4:** Using pencil push one end of string into hole and tie a knot. Take other end of string and repeat process.
- Step 5:** Add dirt and plants to garden.
- Step 6:** Water soil until it's damp. Avoid any standing water in garden.
- Step 7:** Hang in a sunny spot and water as needed.



Supplies:

- 2-liter plastic bottle, empty and clean
- Scissors or craft knife
- String
- Pencil
- Soil
- Seedlings

Resources

Indiana eLearning Lab

The [Indiana eLearning Lab](#) is a free digital hub for educators. The following is a list of services available for educators:



- Lesson Plans
- Professional Development
- A virtual digital reading platform
- Share information and form communities

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Indiana Department of
Environmental Management