

Earth Day Essay Challenge

By Bo [REDACTED] Montessori School of Central VT, 5th grade

Earth Day to me is a day to bring awareness to big problems that are affecting the world's environment like over logging, pollution and littering. It is also a day to celebrate the world's beautiful environment.

What I like about Vermont is the mountain, streams, greenery and wildlife. My favorite time to explore is spring when all the flowers and trees are blooming. The temperature is getting warmer and the streams and rivers are full. I enjoy sitting in the trees with binoculars and observing wildlife and listening to all the birds singing. My favorite Vermont birds are the Northern Cardinal and the Red Winged Black Bird. The Northern Cardinal is a year round bird in Vermont but the Red Winged Black Bird is one of the birds that marks the start of springtime in Vermont when it returns. Vermont has lots of different plants and wild edibles. In the late Spring/early Summer, I enjoy finding wild leeks and making wild leek bread.

I think that some people in Vermont take their state for granted. We should all be better about not littering and picking up trash if we see it. I like to do a thing called geocaching where you find a location based on GPS coordinates given in an app. What I like about geocaching is that it brings you to beautiful parts of the state and nifty little areas you may not have ever known about. One of the rules to geocaching is that if you see litter you pick it up in order to preserve nature the best you can.

When I was younger I participated in a year round program called EarthWalk where they taught me about the environment and how to protect it. Every Thursday I would spend the day outside instead of in a classroom. Because of Earthwalk I learned to value the Earth more than I would have if I didn't go to Earthwalk. I think more schools should include programs like this because spending time outside in nature makes you realize how amazing and important it really is.

There's a lot of green in Vermont, but if you go into the valleys or the meadows, it is like standing inside of a rainbow. It would take over a thousand words to tell you about all of the wonderful experiences that I've had outside. Even when it's not Earth Day you should care about the environment, you should do a little each day and get out there.