

Earth Day - a day designed to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment



Pluma Earth Day Special- **Green it Up Guam!**

April 22, 2009

Earth Day Origins



April 22, now known across the nation as Earth Day, was founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson. During his term under JFK, Nelson observed the environmental impacts from human activities and the public's outrage. In 1969, he announced to the nation a grassroots demonstration for observance of environmental problems would be held on April 22, 1970. Advertisements, fly-

ers and numerous calls were made. Thousand of Americans went to the streets on April 22, 1970 and participated. Now, millions of Americans participate in Earth Day. From the classroom, Washington DC and hopefully to your home, new goals are being made on how to keep this very unusual and extraordinary planet healthy. So **Green it Up Guam!**

Check out <http://www.earthday.net/> to learn more, calculate your carbon footprint, and join the movement.

How STA is participating.....

Teachers have volunteers to keep the lights off for the entire school day using only natural lighting.

We recycle both white office and newspapers and aluminum cans.

An organic garden has also been created. The reason it is organic is because we do not use synthetic pesticides or other harsh chemicals and artificial chemical fertilizers. The veggies are great!

What students are doing...

We recycle cardboard, glass, and aluminum cans at our house. We use plastic Tupperware for sandwiches and snacks that can be washed and reused instead of plastic wrap, aluminum foil, and Ziploc bags which are thrown away and do not break down. We use the natural shading and breezes to cool our house instead of constant air-conditioning. We also conserve energy during the day by making sure appliances are unplugged and all lights are off.

- Mia and Jessica Rohr



I speak for the Trees.....

If every American recycled his or her newspaper just one day a week, we would save about 36 million trees a year. You can save a tree for every four feet of paper you recycle. It takes half as much energy to make recycled newspaper as it takes to



make fresh newsprint from trees.

Why should we save our trees? Well, for one reason they give us almost 40% of the oxygen that we breathe. More reasons in favor of trees is shading, great family outings and they are



just amazing to look at.

More plants and trees in an area will cool temperatures, replenish groundwater sources, prevent soil erosion, and will put nutrients back into the soil.

So **Green it Up Guam!** Buy native species from your local nursery and plant them on this Earth Day 2009!



What's wrong with nuclear weapons?!

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By Norma Phillips and Ryan Raguidin

What exactly is nuclear chemistry?



Nuclear chemistry is the study of radioactive elements. For an element to be radioactive, it must have an unstable nucleus that breaks itself down, spontaneously emitting alpha, beta, positron, and gamma rays, in order to become stable. By studying radioactive elements and how they react, we are able to produce new technology in the form of nuclear bombs and missiles. Nuclear bombs are either hydrogen or atomic. In a hydrogen bomb, two atoms of hydrogen create energy by combining together to form an atom of helium: this is a process called fusion. In an atomic bomb, a massive nucleus releases energy when it splits up into smaller nuclei: this is a process is called fission. Scientists are working extra hard to further the development of nuclear chemistry in order to further the development of nuclear weaponry, and also develop tools for medical diagnosis, radiation therapy, medical research, electromagnetic security systems, methods of irradiation, methods of removing of toxic pollutants, advances in agriculture, microwave technology, and plasma energy.



Nuclear Weapons – Weapons of Mass Destruction

Although nuclear chemistry has many good aspects, we cannot help but realize how much destruction the further advancement of nuclear weapons production will bring to mankind. As we have learned from the media, having the power of nuclear technology is the perfection of the art of intimidation. Living on Guam, we are well aware that North Korea has the ability to blast us off the face of the earth. Knowing that a country has the power to potentially destroy the human race is too much for us to handle. No country should be permitted the power to destroy the human race. If the movement towards nuclear weaponry persists, there is a good chance that "World War III" will be the last war of the human species.

Why would it be good for us?



Nuclear weapons in some parts of the world can be used to some advantage. They can use it for a better purpose and a more peaceful one. For instance, take Australia. They could use nuclear weapons to help bring monsoons into the

Outback to create forest again. Knowing that a nuclear weapon is the most powerful weapon known to man they could use it for vast engineering projects. Because Australia consists of mostly desert they could possibly reverse this sea of sand into forest again. If they also build a canal they can ship and trade more easily. Nuclear weapons could help them to reach these goals. It would be the cheapest way for them to complete this feat.

Why would it be bad for us?

Nuclear weapons are very hazardous to extract. For example the ground extracting faze. Many harmful residues have been allowed to contaminate many of the water systems. Workers receive radiation from extracting the chemicals and they die a slow and painful death from various types of cancers. Now the nuclear weapons are the strongest weapon known to man. This weapon has given us the power to destroy the world. Plus the storage of all these radioactive materials has been hard to store. Both nuclear weapons and nuclear power plants dispense nuclear waste.

Read more about nuclear weapons at these sites:

- <http://jbmoore61.blogspot.com/2007/12/what-are-nuclear-weapons-good-for.html>
- <http://www.authorsden.com/visit/viewArticle.asp?id=2024>



A PRAYER FOR ALL THE BABIES NOT ALLOWED TO BE BORN

FOR ALL THE HELPLESS CHILDREN
SUBJECTED TO THE WHIMS
OF CARELESS MEN AND WOMEN
WHO THINK NOTHING OF THEIR SINS

MAY GOD PROTECT THE BABIES
NOW CURLED UP SAFE AND WARM
INSIDE THEIR MOTHER'S TUMMIES
PROTECT THEM FROM THE STORM

MAY SCISSORS NEVER PIERCE THEIR SKULLS
MAY SALINE NEVER BURN THEM
MAY THEIR BODIES STAY INTACT
WHEN HANDS REACH OUT TO HURT THEM

THE CHILD JESUS WITH THEM NOW
FOREVER AND FOR ALWAYS
WILL WATCH OUT FOR THEIR WHITE SOULS WHEN
THEIR BODIES ARE TREATED IN WRONG WAYS

THROUGH A HOLOCAUST THEY CALL ABORTION
THOUGH BABIES DIE EACH PASSING HOUR
BODIES MANGLED, CRUDE DISTORTION
GOD WILL SHOW HIS MIGHTY POWER

BY JESSICA ROHR