



What do you do to protect the Earth?

Tell us about it at www.4Kids.org/speakout



Amy answers your questions about the World Wide Web at www.4Kids.org/askamy

Protect the Planet

Learn how everyone can be involved in protecting the world around us at Ecology Kids, ecology.com/ecology-kids.



In Cool Creatures, read why Bees Are Not Optional! Did you know that Earth's average temperature is rising? Check out Planet Earth, where NASA Explains Climate Change in "Earth has a Fever." See how kids around the world are making a difference in Kid Power. Meet fifth-grader Gaby Zane, whose science project on germs and stuffed animals was published in a medical journal.

Clean Water

Those who have access to clean water are very fortunate. Aqua Venturer, wef.org/flash/aquaventure/aqua.html, looks at the history of water and sanitation. Have you ever heard the story of Miracle Water? Travel back to 862 BCE to learn how a British prince discovered the healing springs. Find out how the Perrier brothers began modern water service in Paris in 1778. Did you know that New York was home to a famous sewer detective? Go back to 1910 to see who it was. What are scientists predicting for 2050 CE?



Dear Amy: Why do we have leap years? — Kristin S., Los Angeles, California

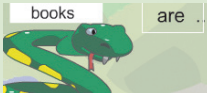
Dear Kristin: We have leap years for several reasons. Leap years happen every four years. In those years, February 29 appears on the calendar, causing the year to have 366 days instead of the usual 365.

It takes the Earth 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds to travel around the sun one time. In order for our calendar to stay correct, a day must be added every four years. Leap years function to make the calendar match the Earth's revolutions around the sun. Otherwise, in just 100 years, the Gregorian calendar that we use today would be incorrect by 24 days.

In order to be a leap year, it must meet specific criteria. First, it must be evenly divisible by 4. Next, if the year can be evenly divided by 100, it must also be divisible by 400. Previously, the Julian calendar was used, and any year divisible by 4 was considered a leap year.

We have since transitioned to the Gregorian Calendar, where the rules described above apply. To learn more, visit Geography for Kids, kidsgeo.com/geography-for-kids/0021B-understanding-time-leap-year.php.

Game Feature



Verb Viper

Go to www.4Kids.org/games to play!



What can you do to preserve native bees?



How much water is required to grow one pound of sugar?

Math Games



PBS Kids presents Cyberchase, pbskids.org/cyberchase/math-games, a collection of math games that will give you the practice you need to ace your next math test. Stop That Creature by typing in the math rule that runs the machine. Read the clues to find answers when you play Sleuths on the Loose. Help the movie theater guy Stop the Pop by discovering the codes that turn the machine off before the theater fills up with popcorn. Play Rescue Ecotopia and try to avert potential disaster by adding plants and animals to keep the ecosystem healthy.



Who invented the Kaleidoscope?

Kid Quest Challenge

Visit the featured websites, find the answers to our questions, then go to www.4Kids.org/kidquest