**EARTH DAY**

Today, Wednesday, April 22, 2020 is the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day!

50 years ago, a group of environmentalists decided the people of planet Earth had to be warned that if we don't take care of our planet, we could be putting everyone in danger of extinction -- just like the dinosaurs! People on Earth were polluting the oceans, rivers, and streams and our water supply as well as the land where crops are growing our food. The climate was changing, too! Parts of the Earth were getting warmer than they had ever been before which was causing the polar ice caps to melt --- which made the ocean get deeper --- which made animals and ocean life have to change too! In 1970, Senator Nelson from Wisconsin organized the very first Earth Day and 20 million people took part!

On Earth Day, we all need to think about ways we can keep our land, oceans and air healthy and clean.

Things we can do to help protect our planet:

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!! **Reduce** the amount of garbage we produce. **Reuse** things many times (like containers for food instead of plastic bags), give away toys instead of throwing them out. and **RECYCLE** !! PLASTICS, BOTTLES, CANS, PAPER, & CARDBOARD should be properly recycled and not thrown into the garbage to reduce the amount of trash the goes into landfills and pollutes the air.

-----plastic straws and plastic bags are dangerous in the garbage because they get into the oceans and ocean animals eat them and get sick or die.

----plant TREES! Trees are the "Lungs of the Earth" -- they provide all the oxygen we need to breathe!

Videos:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jQ7y\_qQYUA

Reduce, reuse, recycle song: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AsBOoCDXLH4