## **51 WAYS KIDS CAN GO GREEN**

- 1. Turn off the lights when you leave a room.
- 2. Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth.
- 3. Take showers instead of baths.
- 4. Keep showers short, five minutes or less.
- 5. Try turning off the water while you shampoo and condition.
- 6. When you are helping with the dishes, only run the dishwasher with a full load.
- 7. If you are washing dishes in the sink, turn off the water while you scrub them.
- 8. If you are helping out with the laundry, only wash full loads of clothes.
- 9. Wash clothes in cold water only.
- 10. Carpool to school, soccer games, ballet classes or anywhere else you can.
- 11. Skateboard, walk, or ride your bike to friends' homes, to school, or to other nearby activities.
- 12. Unplug appliances and chargers when you are not using them.
- 13. When you are shopping for school supplies make sure to buy recycled supplies.
- 14. Throw trash in the trash, not the toilet, that way you will flush it less and save water.
- 15. Bring reusable bags along when you shop at the grocery store or mall so that you don't need a plastic or paper bag.
- 16. If you get a present in a gift bag, save the bag and use it again.
- 17. Use rechargeable batteries.
- 18. Make sure your home and classroom have recycling bins.
- 19. Help clean up your local park.
- 20. Ask your parents to buy green cleaning products.
- 21. With your parents, look up recipes and make your own natural cleaning products.
- 22. Instead of throwing away old toys and games, donate them so they can be played with again.
- 23. When your old light bulbs burn out, replace them with new green ones.
- 24. Use a reusable water bottle instead of a plastic one.
- 25. Drink tap water or buy a filter for your tap water instead of drinking bottled water.
- 26. Join your school's environmental or green club. If there is not one, start your own!
- 27. Plant trees and flowers.
- 28. Turn off the water while washing your hands.
- 29. Water the yard early in the morning or late in the evening, not in the middle of the day.
- 30. Use a watering can to water plants instead of using a hose.
- 31. Use email and online invitations instead of paper letters, invitations, or thank you notes.
- 32. Use real dishes and utensils whenever you can instead of plastic ones you throw away.
- 33. Plant your own vegetable garden in your backyard.
- 34. Learn how to compost with recycled paper, leaves and other materials.
- 35. If you do not have a yard to garden in, reuse milk cartons or water bottles. Cut off the top, fill it with soil, and plant fresh herbs.
- 36. Ask your teacher to have your class write to the local government representative to let them know that you care about the environment. You can also do this at home with your friends and family.
- 37. Pack your lunch for school in a reusable container such as a lunchbox.
- 38. Buy groceries at a local farmers market.
- 39. Borrow books from the library instead of buying new ones.
- 40. Reuse items around your house to make your own cards or gifts.
- 41. When you can, use public transportation like the bus, subway, or train.
- 42. Buy toilet paper made from 100% recycled material.
- 43. If you are getting a new pet, do not get an exotic pet. Stick to domestic pets like cats and dogs and try to rescue them from the local Humane Society.
- 44. Head to the local park or nature center to hang out with friends instead of to the mall.
- 45. Instead of eating fast food meals that create waste and trash, have a picnic and use reusable plates and silverware.
- 46. If your family is buying a new car, get a white or light colored car. These stay cooler in the sun and use less energy cooling off with air conditioning.
- 47. Turn of the TV when you are not using it.
- 48. Open blinds or curtains on cold days to let the sun help heat your room.
- 49. Instead of turning up the heat in your house or car, use a blanket or layer clothes.
- 50. Use a fan instead of turning down the air conditioning.
- 51. Don't stand around with the refrigerator door open. Close the door while you think about what you want to eat.

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