

Kerpoof Scholastics News

April 2009



Welcome to the April 2009 Kerpoof Scholastics Newsletter!

Happy April! As always, our goal is to provide rich and timely information about Kerpoof's free resources for educators. If you have colleagues who would be interested in receiving this newsletter, please feel free to forward it to them. If you received a forwarded copy, you can sign up for your own free subscription by clicking [here](#).

I want Kerpoof Scholastics to be a great resource for you. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your comments or questions.

Sincerely,

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Kerpoof Celebrates St. Patrick's Day

Adobe Flash Player Alert

There is a known issue with old versions of Adobe's Flash Player that can cause Internet Explorer to crash. If you are having problems, we strongly encourage you to visit this Adobe site where you download the latest Flash Player (for free):

<http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>

If you can't update to the latest Flash Player, another option may be to use the Firefox browser, which is more stable while using the older version of Flash.



Kerpoof Receives A Second CTR Award

Kerpoof proudly announces that it received a rave review from [Children's Technology Review](#) in its March 2009 issue! With an overall score of 94%, Kerpoof was awarded the Editor's Choice Award.

Celebrate Earth Day on Kerpoof

For Grades K-3:

Kerpoof's Make A Picture provides dozens of scenes devoted to nature and animals. Creating pictures can be a great vehicle for getting kids to talk and write about nature and, in the process, foster a sense of respect and responsibility for the magnificence of the natural world. Try the following:

1. Launch the Kerpoof Make A Picture activity.
2. Then have them select a wildlife background - see below.
3. Next, have them create a rich picture filled with wildlife that would live in that setting.
4. Last have them write a story about their creation and share it with the class! While there are many wildlife scene on Kerpoof to choose from, here are some that are particularly appropriate for celebrating Earth Day:

(a) Design a Wildlife-Friendly Yard

http://www.kerpoof.com/#/activity/picture?s=aza_backyard

Co-developed with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums



Butterflies (b) Explore Butterfly Habitats with Wings of the Tropics

<http://www.kerpoof.com/#/activity/picture?s=butterflies>

Co-developed with The Butterfly Pavilion



(c) Learn about Wildlife Native to the Arctic vs. Antarctic

<http://www.kerpoof.com/#/activity/picture?s=antarctic>

<http://www.kerpoof.com/#/activity/picture?s=arctic>



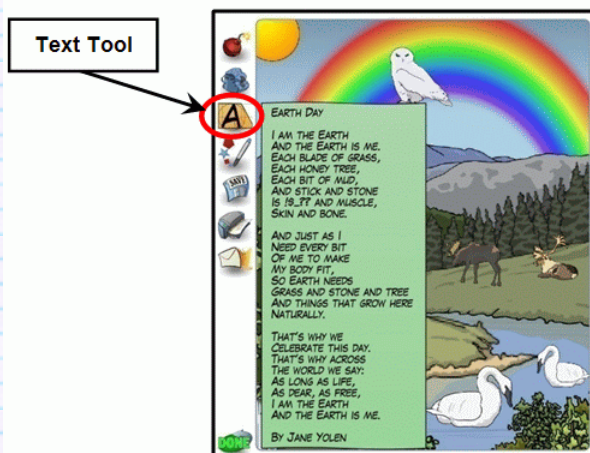
Celebrate Earth Day on Kerpoof

For Grades 4-6:

Have kids write and illustrate a poem for Earth Day in Kerpoof's Make A Drawing activity.

Try the following:

1. First, have them identify a topic that interests them:
 - Ecosystems, habitats, or conservation - ponds, wetlands, prairies, forests, rivers, beaches, coral reefs, desert, etc.
 - Wildlife and endangered species - like the Gray Wolf, Houston Toad, Manatee, sea turtle, Piping Plover, Gray Whale, Bald Eagle, Florida Panther.
2. Launch the Kerpoof Make A Drawing activity.
3. Then have your students use the "Text tool" to add the text of their poem and the drawing tools to illustrate it (see example below).
4. Last, put the kids in small groups to share their work with each other!





Earth Day Lesson Plans

We also offer a wealth of free lesson plans on [Kerpoof Scholastics](#) that focus on learning about wildlife and the environment. Here are just a few:

- Becoming a Scientific Observer (grades 3-5)
- Life Cycle of a Penguin (grades 3-5)
- The Life Cycle of Butterflies (grades 3-5)
- Nocturnal vs. Diurnal Animals (grades 4-6)
- Celebrate the Seasons (pre K - grade 2)
- Exploring the Polar Regions - Compare and Contrast (grades 6-8)

New: School-Themed Movies

The new "School Bell" Make A Movie is themed around school activities, classes and imagination. We can't resist sharing three of our favorites. Enjoy!

Science Fair Daze by Jackbot

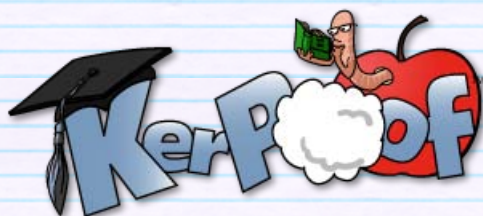
<http://www.kerpoof.com/create?view=e7148714d989-f2af93>

Math Class for Robots by nack

<http://www.kerpoof.com/create?view=a69568v4w249-2e0eb6>

Mystery Rain by bestfriendforever16

<http://www.kerpoof.com/create?view=t51776j5k339-34ef51>



For more resources for educators visit [Kerpoof Scholastics](#).

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