

### SWITCH OFF AT 30 MARCH 2019 8:30PM



### Earth Hour 2019: Schools

Starting as a symbolic lights out event in Sydney in 2007, WWF's Earth Hour has grown to become the world's largest grassroots movement for the environment, inspiring individuals, communities, businesses and organizations in more than 180 countries and territories to take tangible climate action for over a decade.

Today, as accelerating climate change and staggering biodiversity loss threaten the planet, we want to leverage the momentum and energy of the Earth Hour movement to connect people to Earth.

Earth Hour 2018 is on Saturday 30 March from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (local time). Different countries are organizing events according to environmental issues that they feel are most relevant to them. Visit www.earthmauritius.org for more details.

#### #Connect2Earth

Earth Hour has always been about the power of individuals to be a part of global conversations and solutions for our planet. Connect2Earth is a call for people worldwide to connect with the environmental issues and causes that they personally care about. This Earth Hour, we invite people around the world to 'spark' never-before conversations on the loss of nature around them. Connect2Earth.org is a platform to capture global conversations around biodiversity, for people to connect to each other and drive global awareness and action on biodiversity. It is the first step toward creating the global momentum we need to steer the planet away from path of staggering biodiversity nature loss.



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### **Event Ideas for Schools**

#### As a student/group of students, what can I/we do to #Connect2Earth?

There are countless of incredible ways for you to #Connect2Earth! Below are some examples to get you started!

- → Your voice has never been more important. Share your thoughts on the issues that matters to you your social media platforms and spark conversations with your peers. Remember, keep your accounts public to allow like-minded individuals to join in your conversations
- → Write to your school to suggest and share your ideas on how to make your school cleaner, more eco-friendly and sustainable, such as pushing for greater usage of recyclable materials, or the planting of more trees
- → Hop on to connect2earth.org and engage in interactive and informative conversations! Who knows, someone out there might share the same concerns and passion as you on biodiversity
- → Tell us how you #Connect2Earth: Submit your personal stories on earthhour.org and get a chance to be featured on our website as a hero for the planet



Supporters for Earth Hour Cambodia 2017 © WWF-Cambodia





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- → Remind your schoolmates to switch off their non-essential lights and all other unnecessary electrical appliances like air-conditioners wherever they leave the class during Earth Hour itself and beyond; your call to action then becomes theirs to pass on as well
- → Use your social network to spread the word on Earth Hour. The more people that get involved, the bigger the impact we can create for our planet! You can also like our page on <a href="Facebook, Twitter">Facebook, Twitter</a>, <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a> or <a href="Tumblr">Tumblr</a> for live updates and more ideas on how to get involved

### As a teacher/administrative personnel, what are some of the activities that I can organise for Earth Hour 2018-2020?

- → Organize an assembly session educating the students about relevant biodiversity facts in your country. From wildlife to deforestation, educate and raise awareness of your students
- → Hold tree planting sessions for students in any available green space
- → Conduct workshops on the your country's biodiversity
- → Hold a school-wide video competition asking students to present their take on the emerging issues of the country's myriad of animals and their habitats as well as the suggestions on actions individuals can take to improve conditions of the country's biodiversity
- → Conduct biodegradable plant-pot making workshops Check out a quick and easy tutorial here:
  - www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uuuSnO4YD4&list=PLXYRyvAMUUY9Vd9J5ZW6D0L5qVMI5iLH6)

#### How can schools continue to #connect2earth beyond Earth Hour 2018 - 2020?

- → Set up a recycling alley in a common area, perhaps against a colourful mural, to attract and encourage students to recycle unwanted paper, metal and plastic products. Also place recycling bins in all classrooms or at every classroom level
- → Set up compost bins and generate organic fertilizers by collecting leftover food scraps from cafeteria stalls





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- → Set up pen recycling bins for unwanted or used but refillable pens to be upcycled into art projects. (Do so here at: <a href="www.penguyart.com/the-pen-guy/">www.penguyart.com/the-pen-guy/</a>)
- → Conduct paper-making workshops in which used or unwanted paper scraps are turned into new paper to be used as bookmarks or art materials (A simple instructional can be found here: <a href="www.natashalh.com/how-to-make-your-own-recycled-paper-without-a-mold-or-deckle/">www.natashalh.com/how-to-make-your-own-recycled-paper-without-a-mold-or-deckle/</a>

We are excited to have schools participate in Earth Hour. As a movement that targets the mainstream audience and harnesses the power of the crowd, involvement of schools is a powerful way to empower youth around the world to take actions, and collectively, make change a reality.

Follow Earth Hour on Social Media. Go to <a href="www.earthmauritius.org">www.earthmauritius.org</a> to find all our social properties and use **#EarthHour**, **#EarthHourMauritius**, **#ANPRAS** and **#Connect2Earth** in your conversations to let us hear you



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