

WHAT'S YOUR WISH
FOR THE **PLANET**
THIS CHRISTMAS?



AN EASY SCHOOL PACK FOR
A NEW CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY

deargreensanta.org



SCHOOL PACK



My wish for a beautiful world, sent to Green Santa 2020



INTRODUCTION

Green Santa is the older brother of Santa Claus, and he wants to know what your wish is for the **planet** this Christmas?

Green Santa first appeared to Dr Laura Kehoe in a dream. In this dream, she saw school strikers on the news talking to Green Santa about the world of their dreams, where the air is clean, wildlife is thriving, and people are truly happy. She realized that talking about what we want for the planet is a powerful but mostly forgotten way to spark change. Laura is a scientist at the University of Oxford who has been working on global environmental issues for over a decade

By envisioning a better world, we begin to believe such a world is possible. The environmental movement has been stuck on the dark side of focusing on what we are against. How about we take some time each year to think about our wishes for our planet?

Children and adults, now more than ever, need a way to dream big. So, join us and start a new Christmas tradition, by sending messages to Green Santa, imagining the better world your heart knows is possible.



Session 1: What's your wish for the planet this Christmas?

Schools are already doing a fantastic job educating students on environmental topics. Asking students what they want for the planet this Christmas is a fun and creative way for young people to use what they have learnt to imagine a better world. This exercise is suitable for children (and adults) of all ages. The only requirement is an imagination!

Lesson Length: 45mins-1hr

1. Starter: Introduce Dear Green Santa and his mission by reading out the 'Story of Green Santa' (page 5)
2. Write to Green Santa: Handout the 'Dear Green Santa' letter templates (page 6) and ask students to write or draw their wishes for our planet.
3. There is no need to give students any prompting on what they want for the planet – allow their own creativity to flow. Don't even remind them of environmental topics covered throughout the year! Their wish can be for anything in the world – we find the less direction given the better.
4. Wrap-Up: Explain that you will send letters to Green Santa and that he would love to invite all of them to become helpers to make their wishes for the planet a reality (see session 2 on next page).
5. If parental permission granted, share photos of the letters using the hashtag #GreenSanta

Session 2: Becoming a Green Santa's helper

Green Santa would love for you to get active to help him make your wishes for the planet come true. Afterall, to make a better world, we need all hands on deck. This second session goes on to ask the class to become 'Green Santa's helpers' by selecting one topic as a group to champion for the rest of the school year.

Lesson Length: 45mins-1hr

1. Recap the wishes students wrote to Green Santa
2. Discussion: Either as a class, or in small groups (perhaps one for each topic area), start a discussion on some of the things they see happening in our world today, and want to change or protect. Ask the students to discuss how they could make a difference.
3. Write Ideas: Ask students to write down actions they could take to make a difference and help some of their wishes come true – these could be about anything and everything from how the school is run, making bee hotels, campaigning for safer bicycle lanes, planting wildflowers, the options are endless.
4. It is best to do this as a group project so that students don't feel the burden of individual consumer-only based actions. Green Santa is all about transforming society together at every level.
5. Select an idea as a class that you will all work on throughout the year and be sure to celebrate any achievements and share the story with us before next Christmas!



THE STORY OF GREEN SANTA...

Santa Claus has an older brother that you might not have ever heard about... His name is Green Santa.

All this time, he's been living happily inside the trunk of a huge tree in the woods. He is friends with all the woodland creatures. Bears hibernate in his guest bedrooms, golden eagles' nest on the thick branches of his roof, foxes snuggle up on his porch, and little elf-eared squirrels play and chatter around his fireplace.

He learns from his forest friends that children of the world are calling out for something different this Christmas. They want a healthier planet, with cleaner air, more trees and nice homes for all the animals.

"These children want the same thing we do!", Green Santa exclaims. "We must help these children make their wishes come true!"

Green Santa asks who wants to help. All the animals raise their paws, lift their hooves, squawk from the air, blow bubbles from the water, even the trees sway from side to side with joy.

Everyone is buzzing with excitement to join the crew. All the plants and animals know that we share Planet Earth as our home and that working together is the best way to ensure we have a beautiful world, that we can enjoy for all the Christmases to come.

To begin to create a better world, Green Santa needs to know: What is your wish for the planet this Christmas?



DEAR GREEN SANTA,

MY WISH FOR THE PLANET THIS CHRISTMAS IS...



CONTACT INFORMATION

FIND DEAR GREEN SANTA AT...

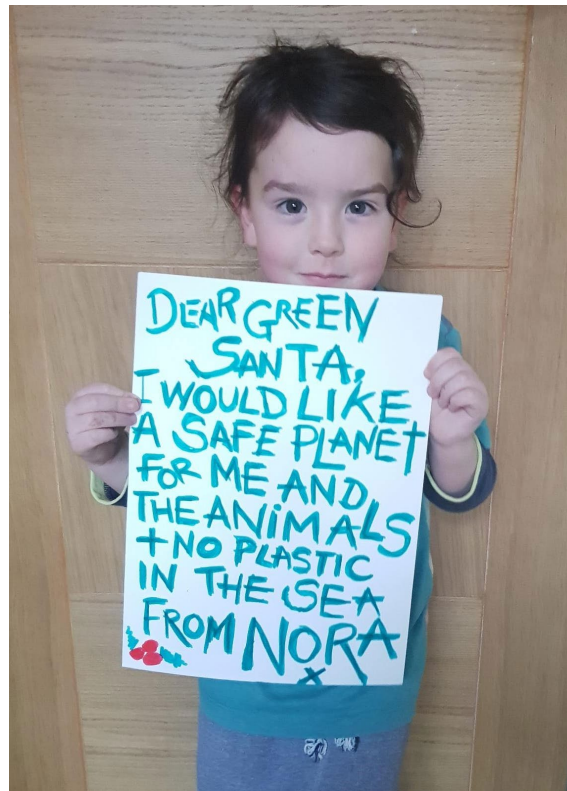
Website: deargreensanta.org

facebook.com/DearGreenSanta/

twitter.com/DearGreenSanta

instagram.com/dear_green_santa/

Email us at: DearGreenSanta@outlook.com



Nora's wish from Ireland, age 4