

Today we celebrate the Earth,
Changing over billions of years, supporting a vast variety of lives,
our home and oasis in a universe of other possibilities.
Celebrate Earth's moss and lichens, turning stone to soil,
and the worms, working hard on our behalf, turning soil into good food!

Celebrate bees pollinating the beautiful flowers we plant with Gran,
and Jane Goodall, giving her heart to the chimps.
Celebrate wind blowing through the trees
as butterflies emerge from their silky chrysalises,
and spiders spin their wonderful webs.
Celebrate trees, dancing in the wind.
Their breath is our life, growing favorite foods
as squirrels dart across the branches!

Celebrate Park Rangers for keeping our forests, beaches, and mountains clean,
and the native trout of Virginia for making every river a better place.
Celebrate the air that keeps us and the loyal, affectionate dogs alive,
ruffles the horses' manes, dances through fields of flowers and
flowering trees, and cools the foxes, running fast and faster.
Celebrate diverse groups of people around the planet who work every day
to improve the world, and the spirits of the earth with their positive power
helping us return that power with stronger light.
Celebrate the flight of birds, budgies flying through the tropics
looking for food, and the green leaves of trees that purify the air!

Celebrate polar bears spending all their time finding shelter and food as
they take care of their babies, and hemlock trees for giving us
fresh smelling air to breathe, and the beautiful rain.
Celebrate coyotes howling in the woods, under night time trees,
and dolphins leaping in the seas.
Celebrate snakes showing us how to be quiet,
and Venus fly traps devouring flies,
Celebrate the soft green grass we lay on and play in,
and the trees that we sit under with the cold morning breeze
Celebrate the sky so wide and the sea so vast,
home to all the little fishes and minnows!

Celebrate lavender, the cleansing calming herb, and
the kangaroos, their little joeys, their powerful tails, and their tiny ears.
Celebrate the flowers of the dogwood tree blooming pink and white,
the oak leaves that give shade for all, and the gift of wood.
Celebrate the rose, the red beauty of nature,
the cherry tree, blossoms falling down like the winter wind and white snow.
Celebrate all the colors of the earth, even though we color it blue and green.
Celebrate the hawks calling from their nest,
the waterfalls, singing,
and those that protect these things we love.

Earth Day at North Branch, 2021