



AN INVITATION TO ENO TREE PLANTING DAY 2010

- BIODIVERSITY IS LIFE

ENO Programme invites schools, children and youth groups to plant trees - **for biodiversity and sustainable future**. Our ENO Tree Planting Day will take place globally in 150 countries on the **21st of May 2010**. On the same day we will celebrate the International Day for Biological Diversity and the Year of Biodiversity 2010. Let's reflect on our achievements to safeguard biodiversity and focus on the urgency of our challenges in the future. It is time to act. We will do our part and plant trees.

The first trees will be planted at noon in Oceania. Following the Sun, new trees will be put to earth in Asia, Europe and Africa. Finally this chain of trees will reach the Americas. The Earth turns on its axis and new trees will have found their homes.

How to get involved? At first register your school/group online, by the 1st of May 2010. Each participating school or youth group will receive a certificate. Please find instructions, more information and material (our play, songs etc) for the day on the web.

Environment Online - ENO is a global virtual school and network for sustainable development. Schools around the world study the same environmental topics, do concrete deeds for the environment and share their learning results in their local communities and worldwide on the web. About 5 000 schools in 150 countries are taking part in these activities. The ENO Programme started 10 years ago and its headquarters lies in Finland.

ENO Tree Planting Day 2010:

<http://www.enotreeday.net>

For more information contact:

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PREPARATIONS

1. Plant **only indigenous tree species**, typical for your climate and dominant tree species in your region.
2. Get tree seedlings from local providers and find sponsors for them.
3. Choose suitable places for trees and dig the holes in advance. If you need some help contact local experts.
4. Find students who will plant trees.
5. Involve local people from your community to take part.
6. Choose a student who will give a short speech (see below).
7. Prepare to take photos and videos during the occasion.
8. Invite other schools and local decision-makers to join this event, probably one of them could give a short speech in this occasion.
9. At your school, make a world map with all the countries involved in tree planting.
10. Get local media involved (use the draft below).

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Date: Friday, 21st of May 2010

Time: at 12.00-12.30 your local time (or later/before during the day)

1. Go to your tree planting site and gather around the tree seedlings.
2. A student gives his/her speech.
3. Students plant trees together with local old people.
4. Optionally another speech by local decision-makers.
5. Other optional program like the play **The Drops Of Life** or music/dance.
6. Gather for a group photo, where students and audience are around the tree seedlings.

AFTERWARDS

1. Leave your message in our guestbook on the web.
2. Please send a very short report including

- a) your school or group name
- b) your city
- c) your country
- d) the number of participants
- e) include only one photo of your event (no more because we have 2000 schools)

3. Send your message and photo to the email address as follows:

If you come from Europe: photoeurope@enoprogramme.org

If you come from Africa: photosafrica@enoprogramme.org

If you come from North or South America: photosamerica@enoprogramme.org

If you come from Asia or Oceania: photosasia@enoprogramme.org

4. Record a video clip, put it online (like Youtube) and send a link (**not the video**) to videos@enoprogramme.org. We will then forward these links onto the event website. Photos will be available later in our online photo albums.
5. Remember to take care of your trees!

MATERIAL FOR THE DAY

A SPEECH FOR THE OCCASION

Our environment is important for us. Not only locally, but also globally. Today it's time to focus on the environment and biodiversity. We will do this together with schools, children and youth around the world. Today we will plant trees together with our green friends in the North, South, East and West. The first trees will be planted in Oceania. Then, following the Sun, trees will be planted in Asia, Europe and Africa. The last trees will be planted in North and South America. Thousands of schools in 150 countries are planting trees with us today. This tree planting day has been organised by Environment Online - ENO, a global virtual school and network for sustainable development, based in Finland.

A tree is a symbol for us. Firstly, it reminds us of the importance of nature and environmental protection. Secondly, it symbolizes our co-operation between schools around the world.

We are celebrating the international year for biodiversity. Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth. It is essential for sustaining the natural living systems or ecosystems that provide us with food, fuel, health, wealth, and other vital services. Humans are part of biodiversity, too, and have the power to protect or destroy it. Currently, our activities are destroying biodiversity at alarming rates. These losses are irreversible, impoverish us all and damage the life support systems we rely on. But we can prevent them. We need to reflect on our achievements to safeguard biodiversity and focus on the urgent challenges ahead. Now is the time to act.

We hope to grow together with our trees towards a better future! Biodiversity is our life.





PRESS RELEASE

Schools plant trees in a phenomenal event!

Our school/group will organise a special day on the 21st of May 2010. We will plant trees together with other schools around the world. The first trees will be planted at noon in Oceania. Following the Sun, new trees will be planted in Asia, Europe and Africa. Finally this chain of trees will reach the Americas. This event has become a success. Last year about over 5000 schools in 127 countries planted 300 000 trees during the day.

Tree planting is important for us. Firstly, it reminds us of the importance of nature and environmental protection. Secondly, it is a symbol for international co-operation. As this day is also known as the world biodiversity day we want to lay focus on the importance of biodiversity. We need to reflect on our achievements to safeguard biodiversity and focus on the urgent challenges ahead. Now is the time to act.

This day is organised by ENO-Environment Online, a *global virtual school for environmental awareness and sustainable development*. Schools around the world study the same environmental topics and share their learning results in their local communities and worldwide on the web. The themes cover forests, water, climate change, ecological footprint and cultural issues, for instance. About 5 000 schools in 150 countries are taking part in these activities. The ENO Programme started 10 years ago and its headquarters lies in Finland.

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