

2020 HHS Kid's Earth Day Poster Contest

Each year, HHS hosts an Earth Day poster contest for the children of employees within its operating divisions. This contest highlights the limitless creativity of children, while also compelling them to learn about the environment. Our children are the future leaders for protecting the environment and promoting sustainability, which makes it crucial to teach them about these topics starting from a young age.

The theme for this year's competition was "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle—50 Years the Golden Rule" in celebration of 50 years of Earth Day. We received 36 submissions from within the NIH, which were divided into four age groups. After a very difficult judging process, a winner from the NIH was chosen for each age group (shown below). These winners were submitted to HHS to compete with the winners from the other operating divisions. The HHS winners will be announced on Earth Day, April 22, 2020. You can view all the amazing submissions from the NIH [by clicking here](#).

The NIH winners from the 2020 HHS Kid's Earth Day Poster Contest for each age group are shown below. Congratulations on winning the NIH portion of the competition and good luck representing us on the HHS level! We asked each of these winners a couple quick questions about their Poster Contest experience and Earth Day. Here are their responses:

What was your favorite part about creating your Earth Day Poster?

Julia Gomes (Grade K-2 winner): "I want to save our Earth. I thought about the things we can reduce, use again, and recycle. I like those things of my poster."

Claire Hong (Grade 3-5 winner): "I really enjoyed brainstorming with my daddy, designing and drawing the poster."

Lily Luby (Grade 6-8 winner): "My favorite part about creating my Earth Day Poster was the ability to help inform people about Earth Day, as it is an important time to reflect on the health of the planet and what we can do or stop doing to ensure a sound place to live for future generations. It is vital that current generations understand the impressive gravity our actions will have on the welfare of posterity. It is never too soon to save the Earth!"

Kyrstin Salata (Grade 9-12 winner): "My favorite part was using artistic capabilities to convey a message."

How do you plan to celebrate Earth Day?

Julia Gomes: "I will use less plastic. I will clean them to reuse. I will walk more than riding in the car. I will find stuff that can be recycled. I will put them in the recycle bin."

Claire Hong: "While my school is closed, I noticed that a lot of plastic bags are in my neighborhood. So, I plan to walk around and clean up the trash to celebrate Earth Day. And actually, I have already started to do that whenever I get a chance to go outside."

Lily Luby: "For Earth Day, I plan to pick up ten pieces of trash I see and encourage others to do the same (while social distancing, of course). If every person on the planet was able to do that, the Earth would be a much cleaner place. People need to understand that it's not huge actions that save the Earth, but small ones."

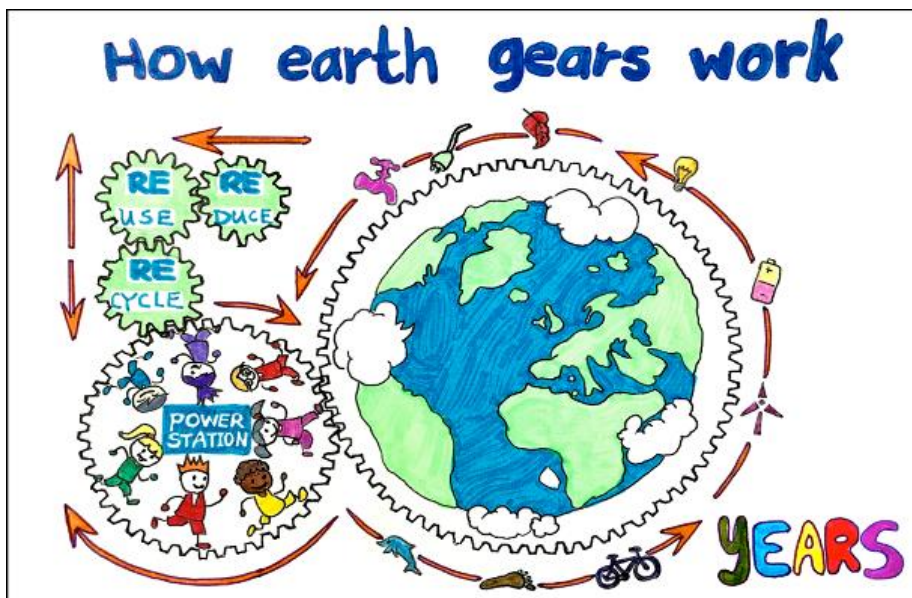
Kyrstin Salata: "I plan to spend some of the day outside, probably hiking."

Here are their winning posters:

Grades K-2: Julia Gomes



Grades 3-5: Claire Hong



Grades 6-8: Lily Luby



Grades 9-12: Kyrstin Salata

