



Title: This is Our Earth

Author: Laura Lee Benson

Illustrator: John Carrozza

Themes: Earth, habitats, conservation

Hear the book read aloud here: [This is Our Earth](#)

Items Needed for Center: device to show video

★ 2nd Grade Common Core Reading Standard ★

Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe.

I. INTRODUCTION (PREP QUESTIONS)

- Have students share different ways that everyone can do to protect Earth (recycling, water conservation, taking public transportation, etc). What are things they have personally done? Why is it important that we all work together?
- Tell students that there are two parts of the story. One part is a poem. Have students share what they know about poetry. Tell them that often poems have a special rhyming pattern, but not always.
- Tell students the other part is factual information. Tell students that you will first read the poetry part of the story (have students listen for the rhyming words as you read each page since they are present in this poem; also have students think about the different land habitats that are mentioned in the poem). Then tell students you will read the book a second time, focusing on the factual information.

II. INTEGRATIVE STRATEGIES

During Reading

- Pp. 1-29: Read the poetry parts.
- Return to the beginning and read the factual parts.
- P. 5: Read; have students define **benefit** and **vital** using context clues. Review ways trees help people.
- P. 13: Read; have students define **abundance** using context clues. Compare the rain totals of the desert and rain forest.
- P. 15: Read; help students visualize the grass height of six feet.
- P. 19: Read; have students share their observations about the information on this page.

III. INTEGRATIVE STRATEGIES

Post Reading

- Refer to page 25. The author says, “That this beautiful Earth is one of a kind.” What does “one of a kind” mean? How does this tie in with the message the author is trying to get across?
- What can you go home and do today to help Earth?

IV. SMALL GROUPS

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=071lUxclTBw&t=267s> (9:34)

The video has a section around 3:45 that supposedly is a place where the viewer can participate by clicking on items in first a family’s bathroom and then a kitchen. **Do not do any clicking at all** since the video will continue anyway while noting the conservation points without any viewer participation.