

Name _____

Earth Day

Answer Key

Correction Marks

The history of Earth day traces back to the environmental awakening of the late 1960s, a period marked by growing concerns about pollution, deforestation wildlife extinction, and the detrimental effects of industrialization on the environment. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin was deeply moved by the 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill, one of the most devastating environmental disasters in U.S. history and was inspired to harness the energy of the emerging counterculture and student activism to bring environmental issues to the forefront. He proposed the idea of a national environmental teach-in day, which later became Earth Day.

On April 22, 1970, the first Earth Day was celebrated in the United States marking a historic moment when millions of Americans took to the streets, parks, and college campuses to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment. The event transcended political, cultural, and geographic boundaries and resulted in a remarkable display of unity and activism. Earth Day 1970 led to the passage of key environmental legislation, including the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and the establishment of the Environmental protection Agency (EPA). Since then, Earth Day has grown into a global movement, with millions of people from around the world participating in activities aimed at raising environmental awareness, advocating for policy changes, and taking actions to protect and preserve the planet for future generations.

Complete Passage

The history of Earth Day traces back to the environmental awakening of the late 1960s, a period marked by growing concerns about pollution, deforestation, wildlife extinction, and the detrimental effects of industrialization on the environment. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin was deeply moved by the 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill, one of the most devastating environmental disasters in U.S. history and was inspired to harness the energy of the emerging counterculture and student activism to bring environmental issues to the forefront. He proposed the idea of a national environmental teach-in day, which later became Earth Day.

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