

**LESSON: We Need the Earth Game      GRADE:                      2****OBJECTIVES:****Social Studies**

**SS.K-2-G.3 Understand how human factors and distribution of resources affect the development of communities and the movement of populations.**

- Understand the role that resources play in human's daily lives.

**SS.K-2-G.4 Understand how geographic process and human actions modify the environment and how the environment affects humans.**

- Understand ways in which people depend on the physical environment.

**Physical Education**

- **P.E. Standard 5** - Exhibits responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others in physical activity settings.

**MATERIALS & RESOURCES:**

- Chairs that students can run around

**PRESENTATION:**

Talk with students about how humans depend on the physical environment. Humans require clean water, food, and air and more. Humans can't live without Earth. Let students know they are going to play a fun game in which they get a chance to tell a story about humans, Earth, and resources on which we depend.

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Help students generate a list of ways in which humans depend on the Earth. (Write the list on the board or large paper so it can be referenced later if needed.) Examples:
  - Water
  - Plants
  - Trees
  - Coal
  - Sunshine
  - Soil
  - Air
  - Animals
2. Have students sit in chairs placed randomly around the room. Make sure every player can stand up and run around their chairs at the same time.
3. Have each player choose an item from the list they come up with. The same name may be given to more than one player, especially if the group is large.

4. The leader starts out as the storyteller and makes up a story that includes the items named by the group. (i.e.; When I was getting ready for school this morning, I brushed my teeth and when I turned on the faucet so I could rinse, there was no *water*. Or, I went swimming this summer in a big lake. I was really glad it was warm enough to swim. I'm sure it was all the *sunshine* that made it so warm.)
5. When the storyteller mentions any of the things on the list, the player who represents it stands quickly, runs around their chair once, and sits down. The storyteller can steal a chair any time any person is out of their seat. Make sure to use and repeat all the items on the list many times, so people really have to listen attentively and run around their chairs a lot.
6. Each time the storyteller says, "We Need the Earth!" all the players change seats and the storyteller tries to get one of the chairs. The storyteller can actually try to steal a chair any time one is open. This makes the running around the chairs more suspenseful.
7. The player left without a chair continues the story or starts a new one.
8. Continue the play, with different storytellers as long as you want. This game is a fun way of helping kids become comfortable speaking in front of a group, even if all they say is "We Need the Earth!"

**TIME:**

**30-45 min**

## **PROCESSING THROUGH THE SIX PILLARS**

### **WHAT**

- What happened if you weren't listening carefully to the storyteller?  
(Listening carefully to someone is showing them respect)
- What happens if we don't listen (pay attention) to earth?

### **SO WHAT**

- Did everyone follow the rules and move when "We Need Earth"? Why?
- Can we Keep Iowa Beautiful if we follow rules and don't pollute or litter?

### **NOW WHAT**

- Is it fair when the same rules apply to everyone in the group?
- What about someone who may have difficulty speaking up or moving in playing the game? How can we make the game fair for them?
- Can we help others to Keep Iowa Beautiful by not littering?

