

Kids for Saving Earth Presents:

Real Trees for Christmas

I love real Christmas trees!

It takes 8 to 12 years for a Christmas tree to grow but guess what? All those years it helps the Earth. Many of us worry that cutting down that tree will hurt the Earth. If you cut one from a national park or protected habitat, that wouldn't be good. However, Christmas tree farms replant millions of trees each year and that's great for the Earth.

Here is how a real Christmas tree helps the Earth.

1. While it is growing it removes carbon dioxide from the air all year long. That helps to slow global warming
2. It helps reduce air pollution by absorbing toxic gases and changing them to more breathable air.
3. It helps to filter particles of dust, ash, pollen and smoke.
4. Its roots help absorb water into the soil and hold the soil in place.
5. It helps to provide a habitat for wildlife.

More good things...

A real tree can be composted to help the Earth. Check to see if your town has a tree recycling program. If not, ask them to start one. You can also cut up your tree and put it in a composting area in your yard. If you have to put it in the trash make sure it isn't in a bag. A real tree can be used as mulch for pathways and compost for your garden.

After you have bought a live tree: Make the Holidays Even "Greener"

1. Look for gifts that are considered healthy for the environment, like those made out of recycled products.
2. Go to the Kids for Saving Earth Green Shop to order gift memberships for kids and instructors.
3. Reuse wrapping paper or buy "wrapping bags" found on the www.kidsforsavingearth.org
4. Have a "reuse" holiday gift store at your school to encourage "reuse", earn funds and help the Earth!!
5. Draw pictures of real Christmas trees and email them to Kids for Saving Earth KSE@kidsforsavingearth.org

Learn more about Real Christmas Trees: <http://www.mncta.com>
Learn more about Earth-saving: www.kidsforsavingearth.org