

Environment in Action at New Earth

Field Trip Main Ideas



City Organics Station: New Earth helps to collect and process ORGANIC waste from the city of San Antonio and turn it into new, environmentally friendly products out of materials that would otherwise be thrown away into a landfill.

Compost & Mulch Piles: To make composting soil, New Earth needs organic material, water, oxygen, bacteria and time to naturally break down, or decompose the organic composting piles into fine particles of nutrient-rich soil.

Bagging Building: The bagging building uses automatic equipment to help New Earth package product quickly and consistently. But just because machines are being used, the New Earth staff still need to use math, science and engineering to make sure all goes well.

Biosolids Pad: Biosolids are made of treated human waste and used to create nutrient-rich compost.

Scanning Station: New Earth uses plenty of STEM-based (science, technology, engineering, and math) knowledge and tools to ensure it is operating the best it can while ensuring safety and accuracy in all the recycling it performs. Laser-guided measurement and drone survey are highlighted.

This experience supports STEM and TEKS standards:

The lessons, discussions and activities throughout this experience support a STEM-based curriculum by emphasizing key concepts in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Additionally, this experience supports TEKS standards, including, but not limited to:

The study of elementary science includes planning and safely implementing classroom and outdoor investigations using scientific methods, analyzing information, making informed decisions, and using tools to collect and record information while addressing the content and vocabulary in physical, earth, and life sciences. Districts are encouraged to facilitate classroom **and outdoor investigations for at least 40-60% of instructional time.**

3.1.B Make informed choices in the use and conservation of natural resources by recycling or reusing materials such as paper, aluminum cans, and plastics.

4.1.B Make informed choices in the use and conservation of natural resources and reusing and recycling of materials such as paper, aluminum, glass, cans, and plastic.

5.1.B Make informed choices in the conservation, disposal, and recycling of materials.

6.1.B Practice appropriate use and conservation of resources, including disposal, reuse, or recycling of materials.

7.5.B Demonstrate and explain the cycling of matter within living systems such as in the decay of biomass in a compost bin.

Note: All viewing areas, activities and discussions are subject to availability and may change slightly depending on the age of students and the overall size of the group. Adaptations may also be made in conjunction with the daily business needs of the facility and student/worker safety.