

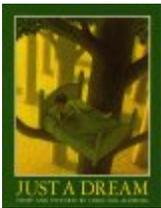
Celebrate Chris Van Allsburg Birthday June 18

Description of Program: Every time you hear Chris Van Allsburg's name you immediately think of his timeless classic tale *The Polar Express*. Introduce your readers to two other classics written by Van Allsburg that they will enjoy even more!

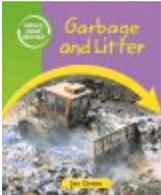
Just a Dream

Program Plans: This program is perfect for children in grades 3 and up. *Just a Dream* is a wonderful story to use for Earth Day programs because of its strong environmental message. For more fun, you can also focus your program and activities on the dream aspect of the story.

Books:



Just a Dream by Chris Van Allsburg (0395533082). When he has a dream about a future Earth devastated by pollution, Walter begins to understand the importance of taking care of the environment.



Garbage and Litter by Jen Green (9781615322343). This title is great for those who are interesting in reducing, reusing and recycling. Information is given on how to start a compost pile as well as tips for reducing plastic waste.



Looking After My Environment by Neil Morris (9781595665430). An introduction for kids on how to care for their neighborhood to insure the environment is healthy for everyone. Includes activities for kids and notes for parents and teachers on the projects.

Activities:



Let's Make a Dreamcatcher!

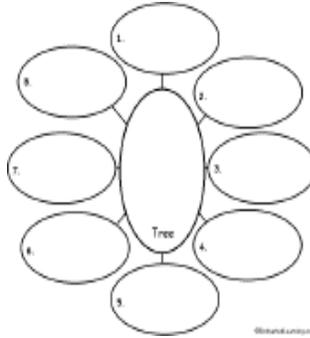
It is said that the dreamcatcher is intended to catch your bad dreams in its web and then they disappear in the sunlight. Check out this website for easy instructions and clear photographs on how to create your very own dreamcatcher.

http://www.ehow.com/how_2186949_dream-catcher.html



@ZoomSchool.com

Pine Cone Bird Feeder



Draw a tree and describe it using eight adjectives

Find the words in the matrix, then read the leftover letters to find a secret message about Earth Day.

H	E	D	N	O	C	E	S	Y	T	H	E	W	T	P
S	A	N	E	N	V	I	R	O	N	M	E	N	T	O
T	L	V	D	A	K	H	Y	G	O	L	O	C	K	L
E	A	A	P	A	A	E	S	R	E	T	A	W	L	L
N	T	R	M	B	N	E	R	S	I	S	N	S	C	U
A	I	S	I	I	G	U	E	C	V	A	L	Y	T	
L	D	T	A	C	N	E	E	A	D	V	E	F	C	I
P	A	E	E	W	R	A	A	R	E	U	L	R	E	O
T	Y	F	L	A	N	T	S	T	E	H	C	E	R	N
A	S	L	A	N	D	R	T	H	H	D	E	A	Y	

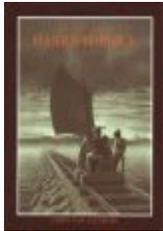


Earth Day wordsearch

For many more ideas, check out this website: <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/earthday/>

The Mysteries of Harris Burdick

Program Plans: This book truly has a mysterious element to it which Van Allsburg describes on the *Introduction* page. Be sure to share it with your readers as you begin the program. This event would be perfect for junior high and high school students.



Book:

The Mysteries of Harris Burdick by Chris Van Allsburg (0395353939). Presents a series of loosely related drawings each accompanied by a title and a caption which the reader may use to make up his or her own story.

Activity:

Writer's Workshop

There is no better tome of illustrations to use for a teen creative writing event. Check out http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/features/harrisburdick/tips_for_writers.html for awesome ideas and tips on inspiring the teens through the use of *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick*.

More information or questions?
 Contact Mary Adamowski, Orland Park Public Library
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