

Earth Day Celebration Workshop Charts (2023)



At Sacred Heart Greenwich, we celebrated our 2nd annual Earth Day celebration on April 19, 2023 with 71 student leaders from K-12 & 27 faculty/staff presenters giving 34 workshops about the environment. We are new at school-wide sustainability endeavors but have made great progress in the past two years including launching a Mustard Seeds program in Lower School, cross-divisional farm-to-table efforts that bring food to communities in need, cafeteria composting, and a beekeeping program in Upper School. We recently became one of three schools nationwide to receive [Audubon certification](#).

Workshop Leader(s)	Title	Summary
Workshop #1 Dr. Cristina Baptista & Samantha '24	The Poetry of Nature	Join us for a meditative nature walk and some free writing inspired by our campus - the session will culminate in a large group poem reading.
Workshop #2 Dr. Cristina Baptista & Avery '24	The Poetry of Nature	Join us for a meditative nature walk and some free writing inspired by our campus - the session will culminate in a large group poem reading.
Workshop #3 Chloe '27	Earth Day Campus Walk	We will learn more about soil, plants, and bees on a walk around our campus with a visit to the garden and the hives.
Workshop #4	Combating Climate Change: A	In this workshop, Upper School French students will lead us in

Ms. Krissie Williams, Ms. Marie Hubert, Isabella '23, Kass '23, and Maddy '23	Franco-American Cultural Comparison	exploring and comparing how climate change is combated in France and the United States.
Workshop #5 Emily '24 & Jane '24	How to Create Your Own Compost	Join us in an instructional activity on how to create your own composting system at home.
Workshop #6 Dr. Smigen-Rothkopf, Clare '26, Olivia '26, Maggie '26	A Bird's Life	You can find birds wherever you are, any time of year. Through a bird walk across our campus, we will learn to identify the variety of bird species that call the diversity of habitats at Sacred Heart Greenwich "home." By considering how the health and diversity of bird populations are linked to the quality of their habitats, we will then reflect on how human activity impacts wildlife and discuss how we can actively contribute to a more sustainable campus environment.
Workshop #7 Ms. Christine Gerrity	Ocean Pollution Needs A Solution	Informed by the educational materials by environmental and ocean activist group, 4Ocean, become aware and empowered on how to care for our vast oceans and the planet Earth at large.
Workshop #8 Skylar '24 and Guinevere '24	Campus Nature Walk	Come take a walk around campus and appreciate the nature that surrounds us. We will visit some lesser-known corners of our beautiful 110 acres.
Workshop #9 Dr. William Mottolese	Walking the Earth with Poetry	We will do a small poetry walk exercise, creating short poems and illustrations to map a journey to some of the beautiful spots on campus. After our walk, we will return to our starting place and create a colorful poetry map that highlights plants, creatures, and beautiful spots on campus. Bring a pen and small notebook for your work.
Workshop #10 Sophie '24, Giada '24,	Nature Photography Walk	Come learn how to express the intricate beauty of nature through the power of photography. We will take a walk around campus and

and Sophia '24		explore the various natural environments that Sacred Heart Greenwich has to offer. Don't forget to bring your phone with you!
Workshop #11 Ella '24 and Olivia '24	"Squishy the Squirrel" at Sacred Heart Greenwich	Listen to our presentation on squirrels and their habitats (acorns, hibernation, etc) through a story about a squirrel named Squishy. Students will collect sticks, leaves, acorns, etc. to build a "squirrel house."
Workshop #12 Mr. Vincent Badagliacca	Environmental Resource Policy: Wizards (Technology is the Answer) v. Prophets	Briefly introducing the historical foundation for today's environmental policy debate, as set forth in Charles C. Mann's book, <i>The Wizard and the Prophet</i> . Students will critically analyze the diametrically opposed views of the two little known 20th-century scientists who framed this debate - Norman Borlaug and William Vogt.
Workshop #13 Hadley '24, Jenny '23, Sophia '23, and Bettina '23	How Can We Reduce CO2 Levels?	Explore a special website that has different adjustable settings to determine how CO2 levels change depending on certain factors. We will split into groups and compete to figure out the best ways to reduce our carbon footprint.
Workshop #14 Ms. Jillian Wolf and Mrs. Olivia Kolenberg	Upcycled Book Art	Weeded books will be used to craft buttons, accessories, black-out poetry, and more! Upcycle the old and create something new with various art supplies, shredded pages, and a little creativity.
Workshop #15 Mary Kate '29 and Paige '29	Earth Day Helpers	Participate in earth-related crafts and listen to a mini-presentation about Earth Day and why it is so important.
Workshop #17 Josephine '23	Nature Bingo	I will make and provide bingo cards of various levels (easy, medium, hard). The cards will have various IDs of plants, animals, and objects outside on campus, and the activity will be similar to a scavenger hunt. Maybe there could be prizes, too, for students that make a line or fill the cards.
Workshop #18 Julia '24 and Helena '24	Leave No Trace	We both did NOLS backpacking trips which emphasized Leaving No trace when you hike. We hope to educate younger Sacred Heart students on how to hike responsibly and how to be responsible in the outdoors and create less of a footprint. Key Principles are: Leave what you find, Travel and Camp on Durable surfaces,

		Dispose of Waste properly, Leave what you find, Minimize campfire effect, Respect Wildlife, Be considerate of others. For our workshop, we would explain all the principles and we would have the students make a skit and show to their peers what it means to follow that principle.
Workshop #19 Ms. Marnie McLaughlin	Hands in Clay Earth Day Workshop	Participants will learn about the geology of clay and how civilizations have used clay since antiquity to create tools and functional objects. Participants will work together to create pinch pots that they will imprint with dried plants. The goal of the workshop is to promote appreciation for the earth's resources and for students across divisions to experience the centering nature of working with clay.
Workshop #20 Claudia '23, Katrina '23, Christine '23, Gabrielle '23, Audrey '23, Annie '23, Bettina '23, and Manuela '23,	Cookie Mining	In this exercise, the student "mines" a chocolate chip cookie to learn about the costs of mining and the environmental impact that it has. This was a lab that the AP Environmental Science class did in unit 5.
Workshop #21 Mrs. Catherine Butler	Dancing with the Daffodils: An Interdisciplinary Journey	Students will learn about the Lake District of England, where the beauty of the daffodils appearing each spring influenced poet, William Wordsworth, to write his famous poem. We will also make interdisciplinary connections to discover how hybrid daffodil bulbs differ from those that Wordsworth admired so many years ago and learn why the soldiers of the Roman Empire carried daffodil bulbs on their military expeditions. Participants will leave with tips on how to plant and care for daffodils.
Workshop #22 Mrs. Donna Minafra, Mrs. Heather Palladino, and Mr. Pierre St. Croix	Hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature!	This workshop showcases the Botany curriculum in the 5th and 6th grade and the hands-on work that is done in the garden to complement the coursework. In this workshop the participants will plant seeds in a recyclable pot to take home, learn more about the Botany curriculum, and if time allows a nature walk to the Patricia McKean Garden.
Workshop #23 Ms. Ricki Bogin	Earth Day Mosaic	Students will contribute to an Earth mosaic.
Workshop #24 Mr. Wil Smyers	Shrubs Planting in Meadow	Students will help plant & learn about native shrubs in the meadow that attract birds & wildlife

Workshop #25 Kevin the Arborist	Orchard Planting	Kevin Wyatt from Emerald Tree Care will talk about & allow students to help plant new trees in our orchard.
Workshop #26 Ms. Margaret Von dermeden and Frankie '24	Naturescaping in the Meadow	Walk down to our beautiful meadow for an exploration of honeybees and native species! We will learn about the first pollen and nectar sources, plant wildflower seeds, and make your own Pollinator Hotel.
Workshop #27 Ms. Marion Kieltyka	Animals of the Arctic and Antarctica	Explore the animals of Antarctica and the Arctic... all without leaving Greenwich! Bring your phones to the Middle School Science Hallway to scan QR-code animal videos created by the third grade.
Workshop #28 Ms. Kathy Dunn	Environmental Podcast listening Session	Join us in the Lower School science lab and listen to creative podcasts made by the fourth grade to investigate environmental issues facing our world.
Workshop #29 Sinclair '23	Earth Day Bingo	Enjoy the outdoors while playing a game of bingo to learn how to reduce your carbon footprint.
Workshop #30 Ms. Marian Campana and (16) 8th grade student leaders	Building a sustainable spiritual practice	Explore creative exhibits made by the 8th grade class that share materials that support them in their spiritual practice.
Workshop #31 Emma '25, Gianna '25 and Mrs. Mary Musolino	Moss testing demo and activity	This workshop will introduce participants to the possibility of using various mosses to remove algae-causing nutrients from our waterways. After a brief presentation, participants will observe different mosses and form a hypothesis about the potential of each one to absorb potentially harmful nutrients from the water. They will then use test strips to determine if their hypothesis is supported!
Workshop #32 Mrs. Considine and Mrs. Laura Pochintesta	Rosary	In thanksgiving for God's gift of the earth and in pursuit of Goals 1 and 5, we will gather at the front of the school and walk over to Via Mater Orbis, the rosary stones on the front lawn of the campus. In this workshop, we will do a number of activities. First, we'll review the prayers of the rosary and offer insights on ways to incorporate

		<p>this form of prayer into our meditative practices. Then we'll take a 'gallery walk' along the stones, viewing the depictions which center on precious aspects of nature, such as animals, plants, landscapes and seasons. We'll spend some time sketching/ journaling and small group sharing. Finally, we'll enjoy a guided meditation on nature through the senses. We hope this will be an invigorating workshop that invites participants to recommit themselves to spending prayerful, meditative time outdoors and serving as responsible stewards for the earth.</p>
<p>Workshop #33 Ms. Cynthia Scharf</p>	<p>Religion and Climate Change</p>	<p>Join us for an interactive discussion about the intersection between climate justice and Christianity with the former director of strategic communications on climate change at the UN.</p>
<p>Workshop #34 Mrs. Jeannine Tocco, Mr. Adam Arcano, and Mrs. Ellen Baudinet & 16 Kindergarten student leaders</p>	<p>Learning About Bluebirds</p>	<p>Join the kindergarteners in the outdoor classroom to learn about bluebirds and play games! Build and paint birdhouses.</p>