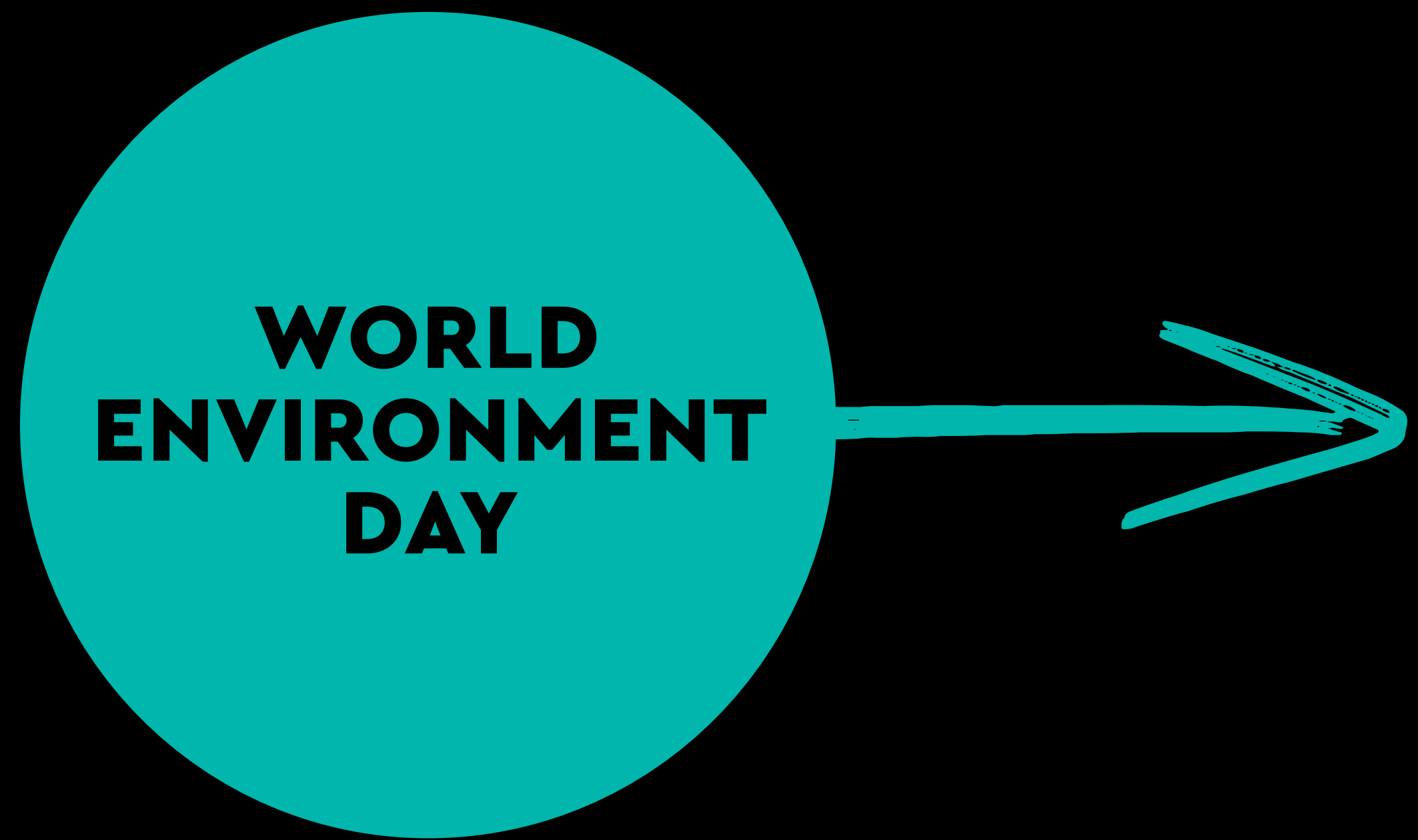


 **ON**
AIR
PlayUP



Join the **PlayUP team** as they share how to make your very own

BINOCULARS AND NATURE EXPLORATION BAGS

to celebrate

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY!

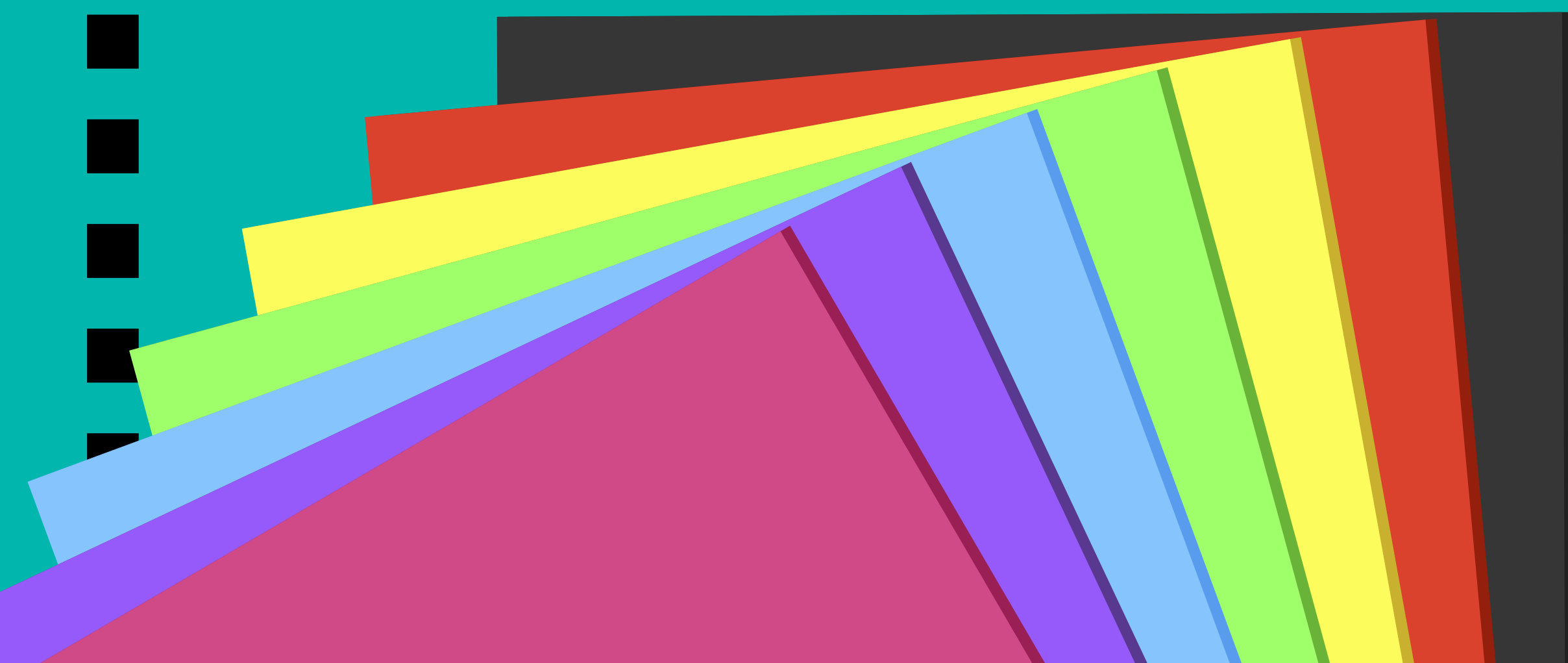
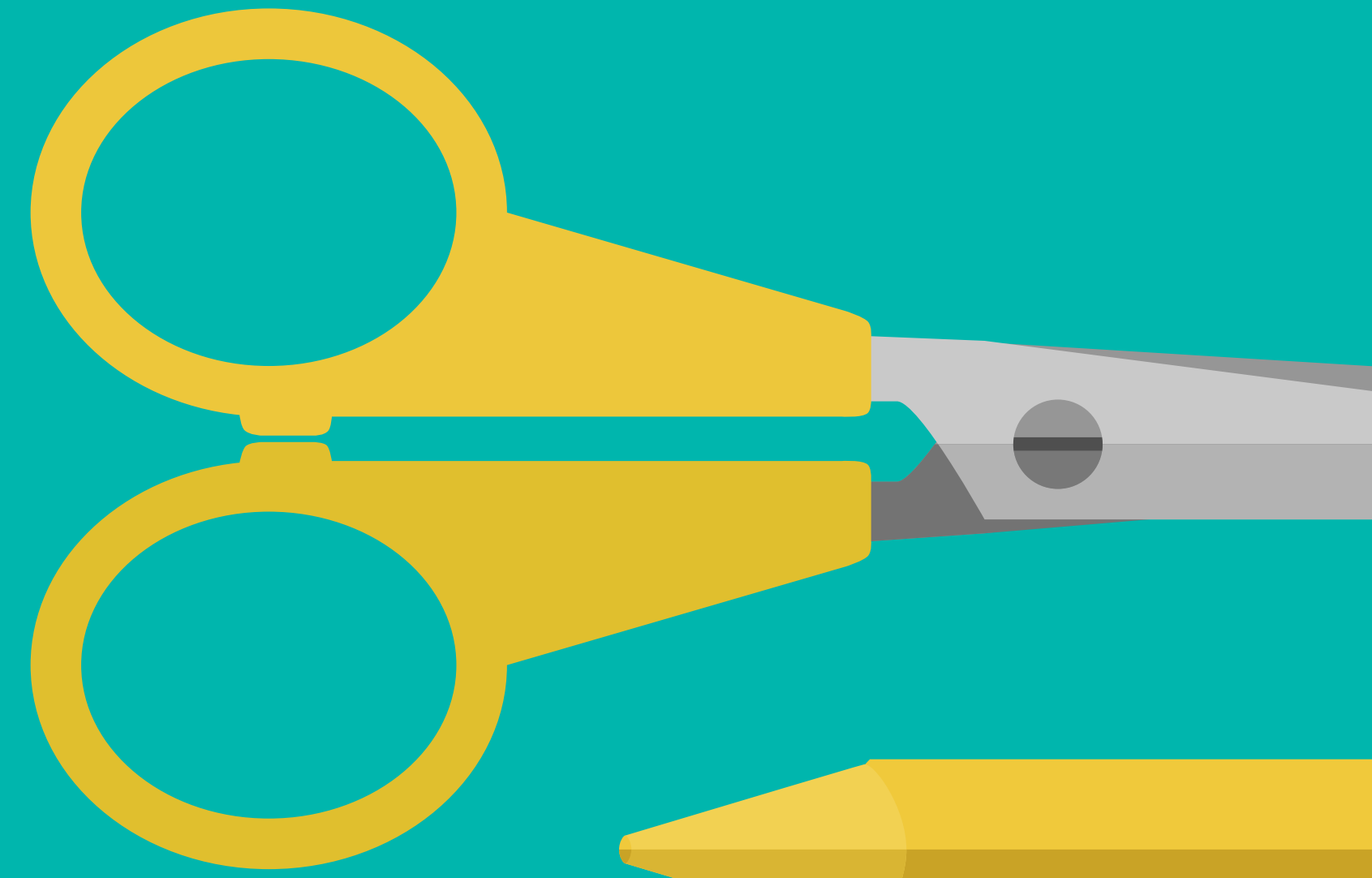
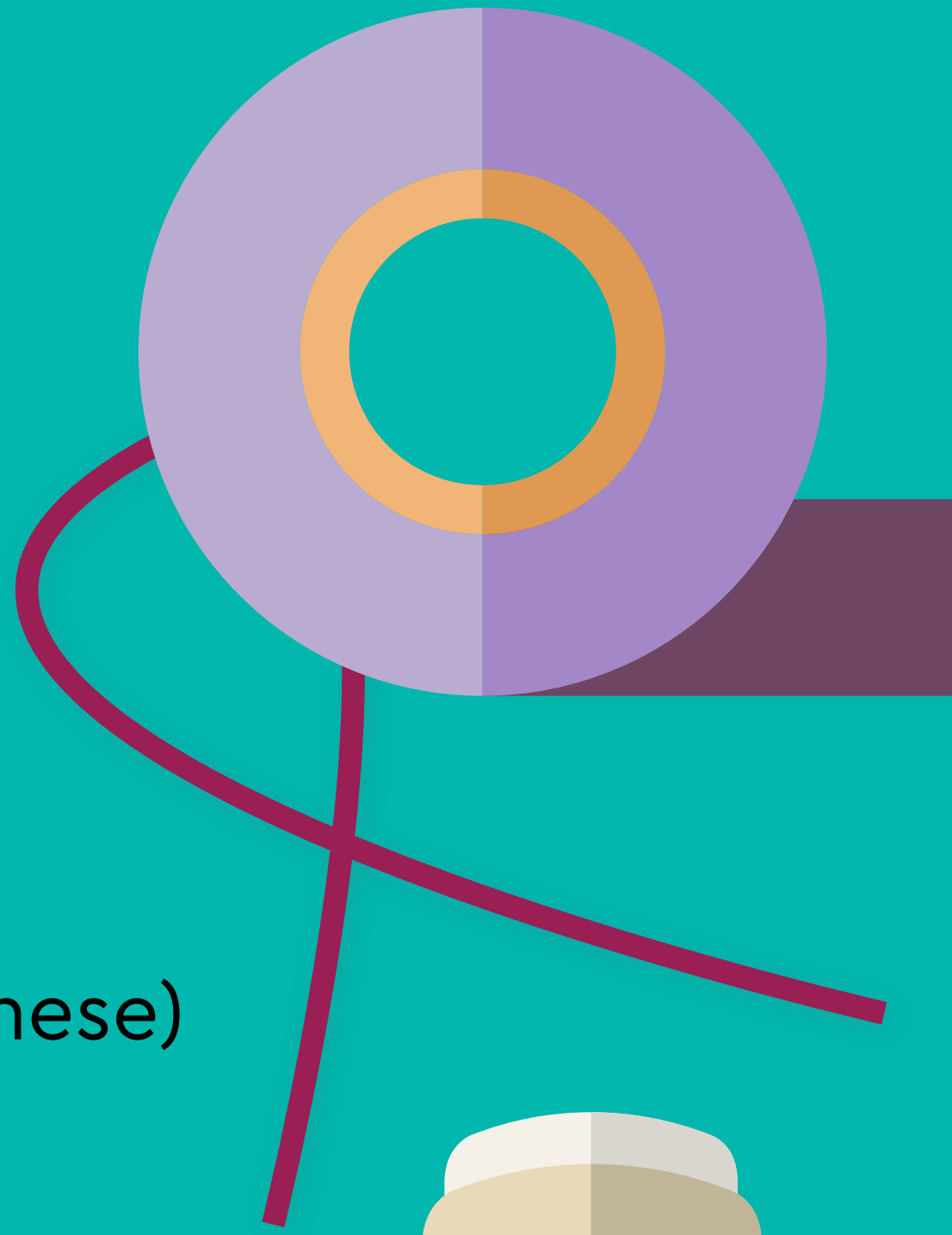


Nature is all around us! It's the air we breathe, the food we eat, and the water we drink. The animals and plants are nature too. And so is the climate—the weather patterns that effect all life on earth. World Environment Day is about looking after nature in all its forms.

Did you know that there are over 8 million different types of living things (species) in the world, including us? Each species is interconnected and relies on each other for health and balance in nature, this is called biodiversity. Protecting biodiversity means that when we care for nature, we are also caring for ourselves.

Materials

- Paper or cardboard
- Cardboard tube (optional)
- Ribbon or String
- Scissors (please be careful with these)
- Crayons/Pencils/Textas
- Glue Stick or Sticky Tape



Instructions

Binoculars


1. Collect two cardboard tubes the same size or make tubes by rolling paper or cardboard into tubes and securing with sticky tape.
2. Stick your two tubes together, side by side, with tape.
3. For the binocular strap, measure your piece of ribbon or string around your neck, add a bit extra length so that it will easily fit over your head.
4. Sticky tape your string or ribbon to the outside of the tubes.
5. Decorate your binoculars! Will they be covered in green leaves so you don't disturb the animals? Or maybe you'd like to draw your favourite animals or decorate in your favourite colours.

Nature Exploration bag


1. Fold a piece of paper in half.
2. Sticky tape the two short sides together, just along the edge.
3. Decorate the bag with ideas of what you'd like to find in nature.
4. Add handles to your bag with two long pieces of paper, ribbon or string and secure with sticky tape.

Use your binoculars and your bag to explore nature. Can you find leaves in different colours, shapes, and textures? Can you spot a singing bird or a crawling beetle?

Remember: We can explore nature and help it at the same time. Borrow or collect items that have fallen from trees and bushes. Draw a picture or take a photo and put your collected items back. If you see rubbish on your exploration, pick it up and put it in the bin, or find a way to recycle it!



Fun at home



Make a mini garden with recycled materials and bring nature to your home.

Recycle your:
eggshells, egg cartons
or takeaway coffee cups

You'll also need

- seeds
- potting mix or cotton wool



Decorate your eggshells and cartons or coffee cups before you fill them.

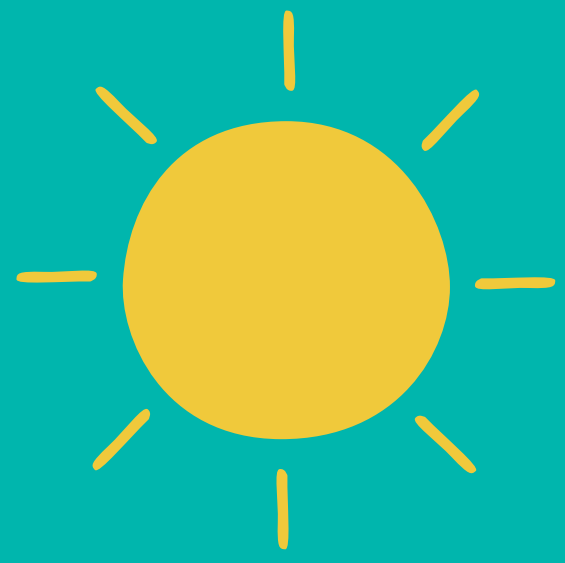
1. If using, place your eggshells back into their carton to keep them upright.
2. Fill your shells or cups with potting mix or cotton wool.
3. Now add your seeds.

If you're using potting mix, press your finger into the dirt and drop in the seeds.

—
For cotton wool, place the seeds on top.

Keep your mini garden in a warm and sunny spot and water it regularly.

Tip: Try growing your own herbs or alfalfa sprouts – alfalfa looks like hair when it grows!



More Fun at Home

Stuck in the Mud!

This is a great game for outside or inside where there's plenty of space to run.

One player is 'in' and all the other players run around trying not to be tagged by the 'in' player. When a player is tagged they must freeze and stand with their legs and arms apart... they are now stuck in the mud! The only way to be freed from the mud is for a non-tagged player to crawl through their legs. The game is finished when all the players are stuck in the mud.

Active Animals

Can you move your body like an animal?

Easy – swing your arm trunk like an elephant, crawl like a sloth, waddle like a penguin

Hard – run like a cheetah, slither like a snake, star jump like a starfish

Pro – squat hop like a frog, crawl sideways with your tummy in the air like a crab, run like a gorilla on your hands and feet

When you've got the hang of it, have an animal race, relay or play a game of tips with everyone waddling like a penguin!

Create a clay animal

What animal will you make?

What does it eat? Where does it live?

How will you care for your animal and protect its environment?

Tip:

While you're creating, any excess dough can be wrapped in a damp tea towel to keep it from drying out too soon.

Ingredients

- 2 cups of bicarb soda
- 1 cup of cornflour
- 1 ¼ cups of water

Method

1. Place all ingredients into a pot over medium heat.
2. Stir mixture constantly until it thickens to the consistency of mashed potatoes.
3. Take the pot off the heat. Wait until the mixture is cool enough to handle, and then roll into a ball and wrap in a damp tea towel. Put aside to cool completely (approx. 15 minutes).
4. Unwrap the clay ball and knead until it's smooth and no longer sticky.
5. Now your clay is ready to use!

When you're finished sculpting, leave your animal overnight to dry (no need for heat). Once it is dry, you can colour your animal with textas or paint.

Books

There are heaps of great books that celebrate caring for the environment. A few of our favourites include:

Title	Authors/Illustrator
<i>The Digger and the Flower</i>	by Joseph Keufler
<i>Above and Below</i>	by Hanako Clulow
<i>Where the Forest Meets the Sea</i>	by Jeannie Baker
<i>Easy Peasy: gardening for kids</i>	by Kirsten Bradley
<i>Benny Bungarra's Big Bush Clean-Up</i>	by Ambelin Kwaymullina and Sally Morgan

Nature Sounds

Check out the ABC kids Soundwalks and Noisy by Nature podcasts to relax and learn more about nature.

www.abc.net.au/kidslisten/soundwalks/

www.abc.net.au/kidslisten/noisy-by-nature/

Learn More

(links to further info)

www.worldenvironmentday.global/

www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/09e90a16-e2e1-4ef8-903b-d860bb313d01/files/backyard.pdf

www.canberraenvironment.org/biodiversity

www.mdba.gov.au/sites/default/files/food-web-cards.pdf

[Links to the Early Learning Framework – Belonging, Being and Becoming](#)

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world:
Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment.

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners:
Children develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.

Learn More

[Links to the Australian Curriculum](#)

Critical and Creative Thinking – Levels 1–3

Generating ideas, possibilities and actions
– imagine possibilities and connect ideas.

Reflecting on thinking and processes
– reflect on processes



Aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 15

To protect, restore and promote sustainable use of ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

ON
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**Don't forget to tune
into On Air PlayUP next
Wednesday @ 10:30am
for more fun.**



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