

Ideas for Earth Rights discussions

It's Earth Day 2010, what should Earth Day be about?

If we are dependent on this living planet, if we are destroying it, are we not destroying ourselves?

How can we work towards protecting it? Or is it more about living in harmony with it?

How do the issues in this film help us to think about Earth Rights?

If you were drafting some pointers for Earth Rights, what would be the most important things for you? How would it work in this community?

Earth Day has been renamed Mother Earth Day this year at the United Nations, on the suggestion of President Morales of Bolivia, who's drafting the worlds' first Universal Declaration of Mother Earth Rights. Does the term Mother Earth mean anything to you?

Film specific topics

THE COVE

This film was chosen because it highlights with such power, on the one hand, man's brutal exploitation of not only our ocean's, but our relationship of trust with the most intelligent creatures that inhabit it and then on the other hand, man's sheer determination to protect and stop the abuse. It helps us ask whether people are acting out of human nature or economic desperation and how earth rights could help redress this balance.

Food Inc

This film was chosen because it takes us to the heart of the question of whether Man can manipulate nature and food production, with no regard for it's negative effect on human health, animal welfare and the mammoth and exponential effect on the environment.

Bananas

This film has been chosen because it depicts the rights of a corporation prevailing over all else and helps highlight the idea that human rights are in fact inextricably linked with earth rights and that if you do not protect the earth and it's ecological well-being, you cannot hope to protect humanity.

The Garden

This film has been chosen because it tells a very powerful story of Man's inextricable link to nature and the harmony that, despite the challenges of life, that relationship and sovereignty brings to a community. It also shows how Man will put everything on the line to fight for that.

Flow

This film was chosen because it shouts out about the sheer criminality of the exploitation of our natural resources and that the survival of our planet and our species, is dependent on protecting these resources for the benefit of all and not just the benefit of a few.

H2Oil

This film was chosen because it tells the story of one of the most environmentally destructive projects of our time taking place despite our desperate need to stop climate change. Oil, water; black gold, blue gold – is it about one or the other or is it about a shift away from our exploitative relationship with our planet and towards one of harmony and respect. If we want to fight a war with the Earth, we need to ask ourselves whether we will ever win?

Who Killed The Electric Car?

This film was chosen because it tells the story of one of the great tragedies of this century; the solutions are there, but we were unable to embrace them, why? And if this was to happen now, 5 years down the line, would we have the right mind to act differently or do the rights of corporations still out-weigh human rights and the rights to nature?

