

# Earth Day

A composite image of Earth and the Moon in space. The Earth is in the foreground, showing a blue atmosphere and white clouds. The Moon is in the background, showing a grey, cratered surface. The background is a dark blue space filled with stars and a bright sun or star in the upper right corner.

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# Earth Day Around The World



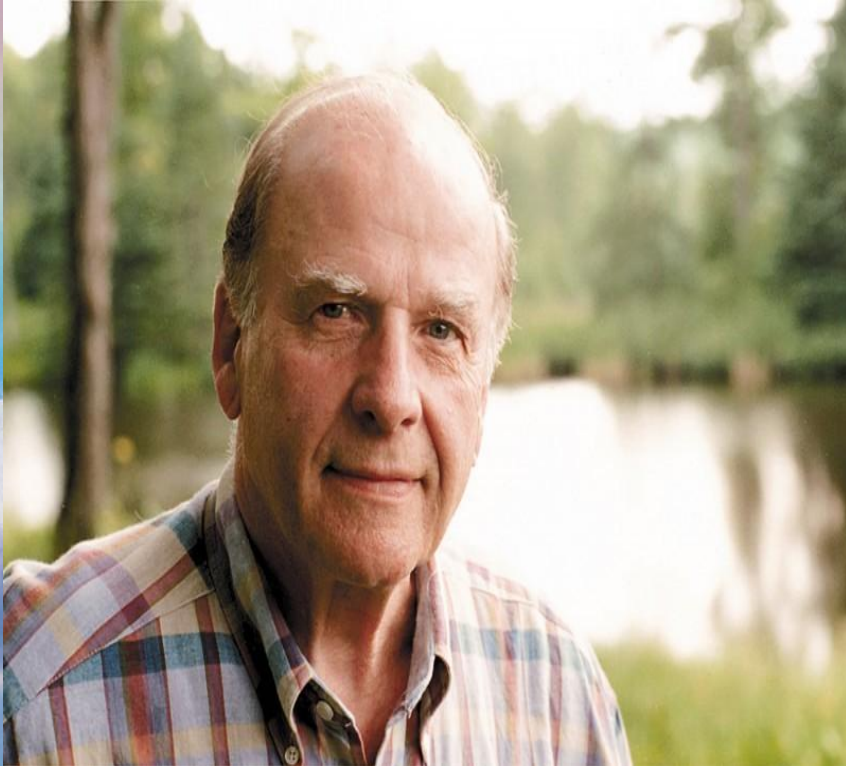
- Many countries around the world celebrate Earth Day. It is a day that is meant to raise awareness and appreciation about the Earth's natural environment.

# The first Earth Day



- The first Earth Day was held in the USA. It was founded by United States Senator Gaylord Nelson as an environmental teach-in – a sort of general educational forum or seminar. That was on April 22, 1970. While this first *Earth Day* was focused on the United States, an organization launched by Denis Hayes, who was the original national coordinator in 1970, took it international in 1990 and organized events in 141 nations.

# Gaylord Nelson



- American politician from Wisconsin who served as a United States Senator and governor. A Democrat, he was the founder of Earth Day, which launched a new wave of environmental activism.

# Earth Day is now



- Earth Day is now coordinated globally by the *Earth Day Network*, and is celebrated in more than 175 countries every year. Numerous communities celebrate Earth Week, an entire week of activities focused on environmental issues. In 2009, the United Nations designated April 22 International *Mother Earth Day*.

A night view of the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben in London, with the text "THE END" overlaid in a white, stylized font. The scene is illuminated by the warm lights of the buildings and the cool purple and blue tones of the twilight sky. The River Thames is visible in the foreground, reflecting the lights.

*THE END*