

# The Earth Day Hen and Friends

By Carol Montgomery

Performance Time = about 4:40 min.

Readability: grade 1.3

Cast (6-8):

Narrator

Bug #1

Bug #2

Bug #3

Jen

Wow Cow

Zig Pig

Hat Cat

**Note:** All the bug parts may be read by one good reader.



# The Earth Day Hen and Friends

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**Narrator:** Jen the hen raced to see the happy yellow bugs under the lemon tree. They grabbed her attention with their hootenanny.

**Bugs:** (*sing-song*) Yee-haw! Happy, happy, happy...

**Jen:** I see you, little bugs. And, now I'll eat you little bugs.

**Bug #1:** No, please! We're not ordinary bugs. And, we never bite or sting.

**Bug #2:** We only hug.

**Bug #3:** And, we do NOT taste good. Blat!

**Jen:** How cute...huggy buggies.

**Bug #1:** May I hug you?

**Jen:** Yes! You may hug me. Here...

**Narrator:** And Jen gently lowered her head for the huggy bug to hug her beak. But....

**Jen:** (*surprised*) That happy yellow bug gave me a hug on my toe.

**Bug #1:** I never hugged a toe before.

**Jen:** I never had my toe hugged. What's your name, bug?

**Bug #1:** My full name is Ree Sie Cling 1.

**Bug #2:** I am Ree Sie Cling 2.

**Bug #3:** And, I am Ree Sie Cling 3.

**Bugs:** We're the Ree Sie Cling bugs.

**Jen:** Oh, I've heard of you, but I never met you. Thank you for the hug, Ree Sie Cling bug.

**Bug #1:** You are very welcome. How do you feel?

**Jen:** Fine. But, I feel like I must collect various things now.

**Bug #2:** What kind of things?

**Jen:** I'm thinking of paper, cans, bottles, bags...you know.

**Bug #3:** Yes! It's working then.

**Jen:** What is working?

**Bug #3:** You've been hugged by the Ree Sie Cling bug.

**Jen:** So?

**Bug #2:** So when some bugs bite or sting, you feel it, right?

**Jen:** Yes. It hurts.

**Bug #1:** When the Ree Sie Cling bug hugs you, it never hurts. It always helps. You feel the hug someplace inside. Soon you want to help recycle. It's for the earth, you see.

**Jen:** I see. But, what can I do?

**Bug #2:** Give a friend a hug, then ask what that friend does to recycle.

**Narrator:** So, Jen gave away hugs and asked what each friend did to help recycle.

**Jen:** My friend, Wow Cow, said...

**Wow Cow:** Moo! I put my milk in containers that can be recycled. Well, I don't actually say, "Ready, aim, fire!" then shoot my milk directly into the containers. The farmer uses a milking machine, but eventually the milk goes into a plastic jug that can be recycled.

**Jen:** My friend, Zig Pig, said...

**Zig Pig:** Oink! Oink! I eat leftover food so nothing is wasted. I love vegies and spaghetti! What little I don't eat, I compost.

**Jen:** My friend, Hat Cat, said...

**Hat Cat:** Meow! I reuse papers and then recycle them. I make paper hats with used paper, too. Soon I'll have enough recycled paper hats to have a party!

**Bug #3:** Good! All of those things can be used again so we have less trash.

**Jen:** Used for what?

**Bug #3:** Lots of things! Go back and ask the cow, the pig, and the cat.

**Narrator:** So, Jen went back to each friend and asked...

**Jen:** How can things be used again? You mentioned the plastic, the leftover food, and the paper earlier.

**Wow Cow:** Moo! Plastic can be used for lots of plastic things: bags, toys, bottles, lumber and more! Start a list!

**Zig Pig:** Oink! Oink! Leftover food is great for pigs! But, it also puts good stuff in the dirt. It makes the worms very happy, too! They like organic material.

**Hat Cat:** Meow! Used paper can make new recycled paper, cardboard, and boxes. That helps save trees. Most paper comes from trees.

**Jen:** I'd like to help save trees.

**Bug #2:** Very good! Do you want to compost and make the worms happy, too?

**Jen:** Oh, I LOVE worms!

**Bug #1:** We are not talking about EATING happy worms, Jen. We make worms happy by putting good stuff in the dirt. What about trash?

**Jen:** I don't like to eat trash.

**Bug #2:** That's not what we meant. Trash is not good to eat, but it IS good to recycle. If we make less trash that helps everyone.

**Jen:** Great! Less trash and more bugs to eat.

**Bugs #1,#2, #3:** Excuse me!

**Jen:** Oh, sorry. I will not eat huggy bugs. But, I will try to make less trash.

**Bugs #1, #2, #3:** And recycle.

**Jen:** And recycle.

**Wow Cow:** Good for you!

**Zig Pig:** Welcome to the club!

**Hat Cat:** The Recycling Club!

**Cow:** We got hugged by the Ree Sie Cling bugs, too.

**Pig:** But, we didn't tell you.

**Cat:** We wanted it to be a surprise. Here are the recycled paper hats I made.

**Cow, Pig, Cat:** Surprise!

**Bugs #1,#2, #3:** Surprise!

**All:** Happy Earth Day!  
(*song--tune of Happy Birthday*)  
Happy Earth Day, to you!  
Happy Earth Day, to you!  
Happy Earth Day, Dear Jen;  
Happy Earth Day, to you!

**Bugs #1, #2, #3:** And many more!

**Narrator:** The End.



## Curriculum Links (Valid as of March 2015):

<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/worms/>

Great interactive website on Squirmin Herman, the worm (e.g., anatomy, food, facts...). Also, includes a "Teacher's Bin" with ideas for raising worms in the classroom. (It's okay. They only need to be fed weekly and you may let them go anytime!)

<http://commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/letsnet/noframes/subjects/science/b2u1.html>

Worm bin project lesson plans for middle elementary grades.

[http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/enved/Rec\\_lessons/contents.htm](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/enved/Rec_lessons/contents.htm)

8 lesson plans on recycling from the Pennsylvania Dept of Environmental Protection K-12

<http://www.terracycle.net/>

"Terracycle provides free waste collection programs for hard to recycle materials." You may get paid to recycle some trash (e.g., drink pouches, wrappers, yogurt containers...)

<http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/earth/mclutter.html>

Clutter Bug Paper Craft. Use her ideas or have the children make their own bug creations. What about 3-D clutter bugs?

<http://www.planetpals.com/precycle.html>

PlanetPals page on pre-cycling--ways to prevent recycling by planning ahead.

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/earthday/litterbug/>

Earth Day Litter Bug craft. Don't limit it to egg cartons. Be creative using recycled items.

[www.thegreenteam.org/pdf/AdditionalLessonPlan-Compost.pdf](http://www.thegreenteam.org/pdf/AdditionalLessonPlan-Compost.pdf)

Informative long-term composting lesson plan. Multi-levels.

[http://pages.uoregon.edu/recycle/after\\_collection.html](http://pages.uoregon.edu/recycle/after_collection.html)

Lots of information and a chart on what happens when you recycle (upper elementary - high school)

### You Tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhlsIBUpS6c>

Tour of Denver's single stream recycling plant. Wow! 4:25

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J\\_RWqgXcP\\_k&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_RWqgXcP_k&feature=related)

Single stream Recycling--How It Works. Another Wow! 4:27

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOpYa5OKGgY&feature=related>

"A Day in the Life of Your Garbage and Recyclables"--includes info on what to recycle and a little on composting 7:35

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxhEQEA0GN8>

Setting Up a Worm Composting Bin by RedWormComposting.com lots of practical ideas for what to add or NOT to add to your worm bin 8:16

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=llyEQoxgocY>

How to Make a Worm Tower for your garden compost 1:44