

Journey: Between Earth & Sky: Part 4

This is the fourth and final part of the journey called “Between Earth and Sky” where we take a trip with our clever flower friends across the country. Finish strong with your Clover Project and know that YOU can make a difference in the world!

- How are you feeling about your Clover Project? Are you excited? Are you nervous? Tell your parents how you’re feeling about it.

Steps:

1. Story time
2. Clover project
3. Reflect on your journey
4. Party!

Purpose:

When I have earned this award, I will:

- Be aware of my feelings and the feelings of those around me
- Be able to use my special skill to help my friends
- Be able to care and advocate for the Earth

Step 1: Story time

Materials:

- “North to White Sweetclover”
- Laptop or phone with internet

Did you know some plants basically hitchhiked into Alaska in cars, planes, and ships? Even on tires and the soles of shoes? Plants that come in this way are called invasive. They can grow taller than the local plants, so they block the sun from reaching them. Basically, they're a tough bunch! Open this Smithsonian [link](#) that shows the top six invasive plant species in the U.S.

- You might have seen English Ivy around. These invasive plants came all the way from Europe, and they tend to make it really hard for trees to grow by restricting light.
- This beautiful purple plant is the Purple Loosestrife and it's also considered invasive! This plant comes from Europe and some parts of Asia and they tend to become the main plant species in our wetlands!

What other problems can invasive species cause? They can edge out native plants, they disrupt the natural ecosystem, and they might not be good for local animals. If you had to rewrite this section of the story so it happened right where we live, what plants

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and flowers would we have here? What would they do and say? Look up some invasive plants in your region and where they originally came from. What are ways we can get rid of them?

Step 2: Clover project

Materials:

- Dependent on project

Watch some older Girl Scouts create their own “Mini-Clover Project” to give you some ideas. Next, work on your own project! You may take several days to create your project, so don’t rush it.

Share your finished project with Girl Scouts by sending it to aphilley@girlscoutsindiana.org for a chance to get your project shared on our YouTube! Have your parents share it on their social media and tag Girl Scouts of Central Indiana. What other ways can you spread your message?

Step 3: Reflect on your journey

Materials:

- Blue bucket
- Firefly suitcase
- Paper
- Crayons

Open your blue bucket and read out some of your favorite words and sentences that are in there. Next, do the same thing with your firefly suitcase.

Now that you shared those, it’s time to share your favorite international phrase you learned along the way! Can you teach someone in your house how to say “have a good trip” in Italian, French, or Chinese? Have a parent record you saying “have a good trip” in your favorite language and share it with Girl Scouts social media or to the above email!

Take a moment to think of something you did during this journey that made you proud. Draw it on a piece of paper and explain it to your parent. Gift it to them or a friend or keep it to remind yourself of the amazing job you’ve done!

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Conclusion questions:

1. How do you feel about your Clover project and about completing this Journey?
2. What was the most important thing you learned during your Clover Project?
3. Why do you think your project is important?
4. Do you think your project helped make the world a better place? If so, how?
5. What do you think people around the world can learn from your Clover project?
6. Can you think of anywhere else in the world that may need a project like this one? Where might that be? Why there?

Step 4: Party!

Congratulations of completing this journey! You have put in so much hard work and effort to earn your Clover Award. Feel free to celebrate anyway you can and want to! Ask members of your family to participate, you've earned it!

Try making some of these nature recipes to celebrate your accomplishments!

- [Dirt Pudding Cups with Gummy Worms](#)
- [Fruit & Vegetable Bug Snacks](#)
- [Blueberry Earth Day Smoothie](#)
- [Floral Ice Pops](#)

You can order all of your awards that you earned from completing this journey [HERE!](#)