

LOVING EARTH PROJECT : Caring for the world we love

MAKING A TEXTILE PANEL

The Loving Earth Project aims to help people engage with environmental breakdown without being overwhelmed.

Climate break-down and species extinctions are happening all over the world. We hope this project will inspire people to make connections and change our habits, to live more sustainably for the sake of love.

A travelling exhibition is helping to illustrate what people are doing to help care for what we love. about We invite you to make one or more textile panels to join the growing exhibition.

More information about the project and how you can get involved is at lovingearth-project.uk

Getting Started:

Consider these questions:

- **Is there something, someone or somewhere that you know and love which is endangered by environmental break-down?**
This could be a place, a person, a species , etc.
- **How does your lifestyle contribute to that threat?**
You may need to do some research to find out more about this. There are some suggestions at <http://lovingearth-project.uk/getting-started/>
- **What could you do, or are you doing, to help reduce that threat?**
What steps have you already taken? What is the most radical thing you could do , whether by yourself or with others? What's the tiniest thing you could do?

You might like to jot down some thoughts on paper. You can add to them later.

Now decide on an image that would illustrate your response. For example, it could be an image of what you love, or about something you will do. Sketch out a rough design on paper and play with some ideas. You can make about the right size square from a sheet of A3 paper.

Making

Make it up in the form of a textile square. The finished size should be 30x30 cm. Any style or technique and textile materials is fine, but it should be robust and flexible enough to be folded (for posting), and to be hung up for display. Repurposed materials or offcuts are ideal, if you have some. A square of woven cloth between 36 and 40cm in size will be a good base to work on in most cases. You could make a picture in appliqué , or you could do embroidery, or attach knitted or crocheted items. Paint, dye or fabric pens are also options. Have fun, use what you have, and perhaps try out new techniques on a scrap of fabric first. You can see examples at <https://lovingearth-project.uk/gallery/> , and on Facebook at @LovingEarthProject but your panel will be unique. Take your time to enjoy playing, and also to reflect on the environmental issues, and maybe find out more about them.

Finishing

When you have finished, if you can fold the edges back and stitch them in place that would be lovely. If you can add a lining behind, for protection, better still. But don't worry if it's a problem.

Before you send your square to join the travelling exhibition, please write a few words about what it represents and it's important to mention something about what you personally are doing about the issue. This is important, if you are to become part of the solution, and it may also inspire others to action. You are welcome to include links to relevant websites. Panels will be displayed anonymously, so nobody else will know what you have said unless you tell them.

Send your panel and writing to :

Please email a photo of your panel to us and accompanying text at lovingearthproject@gmail.com. We will then let you know the address to post the panel to. (This will depend on the evolving COVID situation.) Your panel will not normally be returned to you, but you may see it appear on our website gallery, or at a display. In sending us your panel you are agreeing to this, and that the LovingEarthProject will have copyright (jointly with you as the maker). To arrange a display locally in due course, please get in touch with us at lovingearthproject@gmail.com.