

**STEP****1****Learn about the Week 2 Theme: Finding Beauty in Challenge**

During the time of the COVID-19 pandemic there have been incredible challenges and incredible stories of people finding ways to support others. Examples of these stories can be found in Step 2. Additionally, this Wednesday, April 22 is **Earth Day**, a day to demonstrate support for environmental protection and the beauty of Earth. In honor of Earth Day, for this week's challenge you will look for ways to find **beauty in the world** despite significant challenge.

You will have the option to describe the **beauty in the world** through a **proposed engineered solution** or through **a poem or spoken word**. More details about the challenge description are shared in Step 4.

Engineers **propose solutions** by applying science and math to solve problems. Engineering designs should also take into account their **feasibility**, which means to make sure that an engineering design is not only physically possible, but it also should meet all requirements such as cost, time, and safety. The solution you will design will also focus on **sustainability**. Sustainability focuses on not being harmful to the environment or depleting natural resources.¹



Poems are a form of written language with an artistic quality to help the reader feel different from ordinary prose. **Spoken word** describes poetry that is shared through performance.

¹ All definitions are taken from TeachEngineering.org

STEP

2

Learn about Earth Day and Places of Beauty in Challenge

Earth Day started on April 22, 1970, and it is now the largest non-religious holiday celebrated in the world. This year is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.² You can learn about some of the current themes about climate action that Earth Day is supporting at the site [Earth Day 50th Anniversary](#).

One example of beauty found in this time of significant challenge is that due to reduced human activities, especially less transportation, there are many cities experiencing clear air from the lack of air pollution. For example, in New Delhi, India, people are able to see the Himilaya Mountains for the first time in decades, as shown in the photo.³



According to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, air monitoring sites in the Denver area have shown that the amount of PM2.5 concentrations (particulate matter) are down 36-49 percent from this same time last year.⁴

STEP

3

Make your plan from the challenge information

Challenge Opens: Wednesday, April 22

Submission Deadline: Monday, April 27 by 8am

Upload submission information and attachments [here](#) when you are done.

Questions? Please reach out to project.create@scienceandtech.org.

² Earth Day history retrieved from [Earth Day 50th Anniversary](#)

³ New Delhi image and information retrieved from [CNN Travel](#)

⁴ Denver skyline image and information retrieved from [The Denver Channel](#)

STEP

4

Select your option from the challenge details

For each week there will be two options to complete the challenge, through a STEM or Arts submission. Choose **one option** from the descriptions below of criteria, and submission guidelines.

	Option 1: STEM	Option 2: Arts
Description	Design an advertisement for a product or service that can be used to improve environmental challenges and improve beauty in the community. You may either submit a video commercial, an advertisement that could be used on social media (ex. Instagram), or a billboard.	Write a poem about a significant challenge, such as fear, sickness, or cruelty—but find the beauty (silver lining) in it or something good that comes out of it. You may either submit a video of the poem's performance or a written poem.
Criteria for Evaluation	❑ Entries must complete the template to share ideas captured through the engineering design process. ❑ Solutions must consider the feasibility of the design. ❑ Expresses creativity and innovation in the proposed solution. ❑ The advertisement must explain how the solution is a sustainable design.	❑ Poems and performance must express a unique idea about finding beauty during significant challenge. ❑ Video performances must be under two minutes. ❑ Written poems must be 500 words or less. ❑ Expresses creativity and innovation in the language.
Submission Guidelines	❑ Template should be submitted via a link in the google form.	❑ Videos and documents must be under 100 MB. ❑ Videos can be shared as an attached file, or uploaded with a link shared (ex. youtube) in the google form. ❑ Uploaded videos should be in .mp4, wmv, or .mov. and written poems should use the file type is .docx, rich text format (RTF), PDF, or Google Doc link.

