

# SCHOOL CELEBRATES EARTH HOUR

By Courtney Cairns Pastor • April 4, 2011



Teacher Kelly and students from The Goddard School save energy as they work on art projects with the light from the windows. (Photo Eric Hausman)

**NINE EAGLES** - Usually when the lights go out at The Goddard School®, the kids think it's time to nap or quiet down.

But on March 25, they lowered the lights for the environment.

Children from toddlers to prekindergarten participated in "Earth Hour" at The Goddard School, a year-old child care center off Race Track Road. For 60 minutes, they switched off classroom lights to help the children understand about conservation.

Earth Hour is an international, grass-roots movement to symbolize environmental concern. Participants

are asked to turn off nonessential lighting to show that they are committed to protecting the planet, according to the Earth Hour website, [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org).

Earth Hour started in Sydney, Australia, in 2007 and has grown worldwide. This year, 134 countries joined.

Most took place on March 26, but Goddard did it a day earlier so the children could join in at their school.

A hush fell over the school's prekindergarten classroom as 4-year-old Preston Jones flicked off his room's switches at 10 a.m. The rest of the students remained at their desks to finish art projects in the light from the windows.

The Goddard School extended the lessons beyond the day. Owner Lorri Frankel said the teachers had built up to the event by talking to kids about recycling and saving energy.