

Ways to Make a Difference

There are so many things you can do to take care of your home on Earth and the people you share it with. Here are some ideas!

Saving Fuel

Just as you need food to give you energy and help you grow, vehicles like planes, trains and cars need fuel to power them. Most fuel comes from oil or coal, but humans are using up these types of fuel faster than the earth can create them. Using fuel from oil or coal releases gases that are bad for the environment. These gases cause our planet to get hotter and hotter, which is called climate change.

Walking, biking, skateboarding or pushing a scooter are ways of getting around that use no fuel. Carpooling and taking buses or trains allow people to share a ride, so each person uses less fuel than they would if they went alone.

GET TOGETHER!

Whenever you can, walk, bike, carpool or use buses or trains.



Recycling

When you throw something away, it doesn't disappear — it just goes somewhere else. Often, waste ends up in a landfill (where it is buried in the earth) or at an incinerator (where it is burned). Landfills and incinerators both produce gases that are bad for the environment and cause climate change.

We can recycle some things instead of throwing them away. Recycling is a way to make things new again. For example, when you recycle a food or drink can, it is cleaned, melted down and made into a new can. Composting is similar to recycling, because it turns food waste into fertilizer for plants.

GET TOGETHER!

Learn about recycling services near where you live, and let your family and friends know what you find. Whenever you can, reuse and recycle things.



Giving Back

Everyone needs help sometimes. Can you think

of a time in your life when another person helped you? Maybe a doctor cared for you when you were sick or a teacher showed you how to do something new. You can help other people too! When we help each other, we make the world a better place.

GET TOGETHER!

Think of small ways you can help others in your family, at school and wherever you go. You can also find a place to volunteer in your community like a shelter, food bank or library.



Activism

Activists speak up about things they care about and invite other people to join them to make change happen. Kids can be activists too! There are many things you can do to make changes in the world.

For example, in 2016, an 8-year-old named Mari Copeny found out about a water crisis in her hometown of Flint, Michigan, in the United States. Her family's running water had lead from old pipes in it that made them sick. They had to use bottled water instead of running water in their homes. She wrote a letter to US President Barack Obama asking for his help, and he visited her in Flint to make sure the whole world knew what was happening. Since then, she has raised a lot of money to send clean water to children and families in Flint.

GET TOGETHER!

Do you want to save a forest, cure a disease or get more books for your classroom? You can write letters to people who make decisions or raise money for a cause. You can also set up a petition, a written request that lots of people sign to show that they care about the same thing.

