

Our Power Our Planet: The Path to Saving the World by Zoe Suinat 5th grade essay

Grass as green as an emerald, water as clear as a glass marble, soil whose roots run oh so deep into the rich Earth. This is how I imagine the perfect Earth in the palm of my hands. But this perfect Earth can not just appear in a snap of a finger. Let's work hard together to save the planet that gives us everything we need to live!

We can start by making small steps into saving the world, but before we can do that we have to know what the issue is. Climate change, pollution, and habitat destruction are all problems our planet sadly faces every single day. The issue with pollution is that it can harm the air and affect the way people breathe. Factories often send out smoke and chemicals into cities. Climate change is also a pretty big problem. A lot of people believe in the "greenhouse effect" which is when the weather tends to get worse and animals are forced out of their homes.

The solution to the problem of our planet can start within the hallways of our school. Many students love to help and make a difference. A good idea is to start a sustainability club. Last year in my school I was in that club, and one day at least every month there was a day where no students could use plastic, my job was to walk around and make sure everyone followed the rules. This year I joined the student council and we got to plant outside in the school's garden. It was a great experience because I got to learn teamwork and new planting skills. People from all ages can help out and make a difference.

Many people don't realize it but you can help in simple ways in your everyday life. An easy way you can help is by saying no to "single- use" of plastic. You can carry a reusable water bottle or cloth grocery bag, it's not just about carbon to make them, it's ensuring that we can keep plastic out of the stomachs of turtles and whales. You can also compost food scraps, instead of throwing out banana peels and eggshells in the trash, you can make the choice of composting, this turns what you could have thrown out in the trash into "waste" which turns into rich soil for the Earth. You can also buy second- hand items. A lot of people with older siblings might be passed down clothes so parents don't need to spend too much money, but you don't need a sibling to get second hand clothes. Everytime you buy something used you are saving the materials that could have been dug out of the Earth to make a new one.

But we can't forget about the animals that shape our planet. Every day more and more animals are hurt by our use of plastic, we must protect the wildlife. If you see any animals in your neighborhood you can make a difference as well. You can turn a small part of your balcony or a corner of your yard to create a sanctuary for local creatures. Did you know even water can help? Believe it or not you can make a simple shallow dish or "birdbath" with fresh water for bees and birds, especially when it is hot outside. Adding a pebble or two can help insects be safe and sound without drowning. Dealing with animals can be stressful, you may want everything to be nice and neat, but it is ok to be messy. Just get some sticks and leaves and create a home for toads, chipmunks, and insects. Birdhouses are also really good because they create a nest-like home for birds.

In the end, saving our planet may seem like a huge job, but it starts with small actions from people like us. By learning about problems such as pollution and climate change we can make a difference by helping animals and our schools and communities, we can make a real difference and impact. Whether it's using less plastic, planting gardens, or working together, every step

counts. If we all do our part and never give up, we can protect the Earth and keep it beautiful for future generations to come. The power to save our planet is in our hands.