

What can I do to help the environment?

*By Jessie Rizk- **School Winner OLHC***

First, I would begin with picking up all the rubbish off the ground, so then there can be clean streets to walk on. I would suggest making the rubbish bins a bit more appealing by making a poster to put up. Trying to repurpose the population of plastic bags, so then they don't get thrown on the ground. Reducing the amount of PM and carbon dioxide, in Australia, by giving seaweed to cows, as feed. Making drink bottles out of plants like algae, that don't affect the environment.

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*By Emily Hanrahan - **School Winner St Francis Xavier PS***

To save the planet, it starts with me. It starts with me, to save the bees. To save the bees, to make the garden grow. To make the garden grow, in rain, hail or snow. And, of course, we can't forget about worms. The worms, composting the garden as they squirm. As they squirm, they need our help. They need our help, so they don't eat contaminated soil and yelp. Rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle. Instead of taking the car, ride a bicycle. It isn't that hard, if we all do our part, And together, our world can be a work of art.

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*By Aashima Jmeel - **Special Mention OLHC***

As we all know that we do not have any other planet besides Earth in this universe where life is possible. It is the only known planet with a combination of the most essential natural resources of oxygen, water and gravity which makes the possibility of successful life here. We do not have time to think about it and we need to start saving Earth seriously by following various effective measures in order to handover a healthy Earth to our future generations. People should plant more trees to get more sufficient oxygen and curb the effect of air pollution and global warming.

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*By Paddy Mulraney - **Special Mention OLHC***

This would be my plan for helping the environment. I would start by exploring which company in our city has the most impact on our environment. Once I have found the biggest, I begin. I investigate to see if they sponsor a local sports team. I inform them of how much they contribute to the destruction of the city's environment. I expose them to the community of the most affected area. With them exposed, I help gain support of other communities so that the city council gives the seal of approval and ends this.

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*By Elizabeth Baruwa - **Special Mention St Francis Xavier PS***

Climate change is a big problem. We can fix this by: using less plastic or no plastic at all. We MUST tell the government to stop plastic use completely. In Europe their government has banned plastic and Australia should too. If no one else will act, then our school should act instead. Maybe we could bring recyclable plastics to schools. To stop deforestation we should stop building more classrooms and plant more trees. We can reuse accessories such as pencils, textas, crayons, scissors and glue sticks. Just remember the 5 r's – refuse, reduce, reuse, repurpose and then recycle.

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*By Claudia Cochrane - **Special Mention St Francis Xavier PS***

I believe that I can help the environment by doing what I am about to tell you. I have a can with the 10 cent mark I can recycle it, or repair the thing that I am going to throw out. Maybe I can even walk or ride to my destination instead of driving. I can walk to school, ride my bike, or go on the bus. When I am out on a walk, I can pick up some rubbish, and walk to the shops.

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*By Campbell Delahunty - **Special Mention St Francis Xavier PS***

Drought is a massive issue in Australia. It impacts farmers growing our food, and can lead to desertification and lower our food sources. Everyone has the responsibility to look after our Earth. Here are a few easy suggestions that can make a big difference. Firstly, adding water tanks to your home allows it to collect rainwater so you're prepared for a potential drought. Secondly, make sure your shower time is small. Lastly, water your plants responsibly.

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*By Emma Locke - **Special Mention St Francis Xavier PS***

Sometimes you use water for a long time not knowing what it impacts the earth. For example when you have a shower and you leave the tap on. To reduce water you could start by taking a minute or two off your shower, brushing your teeth with the tap off, going easy with the garden hoses, fixing any leaks and maybe taking baths. Did you know that one flush of the toilet uses 24 litres of water? Water conservation is important because fresh clean water is a limited resource, as well as a costly one.

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*By Harriet Locke - **Special Mention St Francis Xavier PS***

I can help the environment by recycling properly and get a 10c refund with plastic bottles and glass bottles. I have coloured bins and signs on the bins at my school and I have coloured bins at my house to help us recycle. I can help clean up Australia with my family. I can do parkrun and pick up rubbish while doing a volunteer job. I can also conserve water. I can stop using single-use plastics. I can turn off the lights when not in use.

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*By George Pearce - **Special Mention St Francis Xavier PS***

The plastic in the sea is killing our animals and especially turtles. The community should have a day once a month where everyone meets at the ocean to have a clean up or it could be once a year but I agree once a month. We could also use electric cars because humans are burning fossil fuels so much lately. E Boats are better because if you search it up 706 million gallons worth of oil is spilled into the ocean each YEAR!

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*By Lily Rice - **Special Mention St Francis Xavier PS***

Sea levels are rising and icebergs are melting. The coral reefs are dying and no one is helping. The earth is beckoning for us to help, but people only care about themselves. Our factories are putting gas into the air we breathe, which makes some of us want to leave. Deforestation and deserted lands, some of us need to use our hands, to pick up the rubbish on the ground and help the world stay around. Today we let the plants grow, instead of ruining the earth's glow.