

## Topic 3

When people hear the word Earth, they usually think of a planet, green grass, or maybe even the color blue. However, it is so much more than that. It's the place we like to call home, and it is also one of the greatest planets out there.

A long time ago, the Earth was a thriving planet that had beautiful green grass, strong, tall trees, magnificent oceans filled with the bluest water you could imagine, and skies that were so clear, you felt like you could fly. Earth was an amazing planet, and probably one of the most beautiful planets you could imagine. Over time, humans began the task of mining resources, building cities, and ruining what used to be the green grasslands of Earth. People started to build factories and cars, and many other things that were harmful to the environment. The grass stopped being so green. The trees are being torn town acre by acre to make things like money, paper, and other necessities. The oceans are being polluted with candy wrappers, coke cans, and oil spills. The sky is becoming less and less beautiful every time factories burn chemicals and release them into the air. We have dug ourselves a hole that we cannot seem to get ourselves out of. We are destroying what used to be a beautiful planet. Don't get me wrong, Earth is still beautiful, but we are slowly making it deteriorate every passing day.

We went from beautiful, to not so beautiful, but we are starting to make a change in the world around us. We have started to come up with more efficient ways to run things, that are eco friendly, and still get the job done. Inventors all around the world have come up with things like solar power, cars that don't run on gas, and have started to promote programs that help rebuild the environment. People have slowly started using these products, and it's starting to change the world. I have seen some people tried to change the way we treat our magnificent planet. People are doing things like planting trees, recycling trash, cleaning up the

oceans, ride their bikes instead of drive, and using products that won't destroy what we have left of this planet. For example, water conservation is a big thing now days. When I was in 5th grade, we had a person come over from Panhandle, Texas to talk to us about water conservation. We had to draw out what we thought was important about the water cycle and conserving water. I did what any 5th grader would do, and I drew out this big huge picture of the water cycle, and I labeled everything I knew. I won the contest, and got to go to a dinner with other winners around the Panhandle of Texas. At the time, I didn't see the importance of it other than getting dinner and a trophy. Now, as a senior, I understand why they were trying to place the thought in my head that we need to think about the bigger picture and understand that water conservation is a serious matter. They continued to do the contest, and my younger sister, who is now a freshman, won the contest as well. She got the same trophy and dinner that I did. Now, my youngest sister is in 5th grade and is doing the contest. She knew that my sister and I won it, and wants our help on the project. I'm so glad she asked me because I can use this opportunity, not only to bond with my sisters, but to instill the same thoughts that are going through my head about water conservation, and how important it is to the world. I see people trying to promote water conservation even today, 7 years later. Matter of fact, I was filling out scholarships for school next year, and there was one that came upon my screen that I never even thought of. There is a scholarship where you create a song playlist that you can play while you are in the shower, to help you remember to save water and shower faster. The goal is to keep the playlist around five to six minutes long so that the person showering can know when his time is up. I have already made about nine or ten playlists already, and have even started to use them while showering! I think it is an amazing way to conserve water and help the planet!

I find it amazing how understanding how everything works has helped me not only become a better person, but helped me start conserving to help save the planet. There are many more ways that I can change the planet, and make the world a better place. Writing this scholarship made me think a lot about Earth and how we are harming it day by day. I'm beginning to see that all it takes is one person to make a change, and that I can improve the planet just simply by changing up one or two activities I do on a daily basis.

I want to thank you for helping change the world into a safer, cleaner, and eco-friendly environment. I also want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to write you this paper, and further my education in college. Next year, I hope to become even more eco-friendly while attending West Texas A&M University, and save the planet even more than I am now. All I have to remember is this paper I'm writing to you, and that it only takes one person to change the world around us.