

# My Small Project to Save the Earth

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Today, I'm going to talk about environmental problems. Recently, environmental problems are increasing year by year. Some problems such as air pollution, global warming, or acid rain will have a bad influence on the earth. We must care for the earth because we need it to live and improve our quality of life.

I would like to reconfirm what causes environmental problems. For example, if you use cars, they emit carbon dioxide, CO<sub>2</sub>. CO<sub>2</sub> is a toxic substance, so if the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions increase, the air will be polluted. Also, the increasing levels of CO<sub>2</sub> cause global warming. The temperature of the earth will increase and the sea level will also rise. This will lead to a decrease in the area of the continent and there will be no place to live. When I discovered this, I was shocked. Then I thought to myself, "How about acting on behalf of the earth?" I'm not an environmental specialist, so I can't do a big project or something technical, but I just want to save the planet. And this is the beginning of my "small" project.

First, I made a shopping bag from an apron. It was very easy to make. My mother still uses it; she told me that this shopping bag was quite useful. We usually use plastic bags when we go shopping, but they emit CO<sub>2</sub> when they burn. Indeed, they're useful, however, they're not very eco-friendly. So using cloth shopping bags is essential to save the earth. If you have some free time, please try to make some cloth shopping bags.

Second, I started separating and sorting my recycling. For example, I categorized empty bottles, empty cans, and plastic bottles. If we do this, a lot of things will be recycled as resources, but if we don't, a lot of things will be just garbage. So it is clear that separating and sorting your recycling decides the future of the earth and also preserves our own future. I guess most people already do this, so please continue! It will surely save our lives.

Third, I went to a secondhand store. I sold unnecessary books and clothes, and I bought a used dictionary. We can get money if we sell unnecessary things, and we can buy things that we want for a reasonable price. It's important to utilize secondhand stores. Also, we can buy some clothes or books at a flea market.

Let's think about my three projects: first, if we use cloth shopping bags, we don't need plastic bags. So, we can "reduce" the amount of trash. Second, if we separate and sort our trash, they will become resources. So it's related to "recycle." Third, if we sell unnecessary things, they will be used for a long time. So, we can "reuse" things more. As a result, these projects are related to the 3Rs. But, I want to add one more R — "recovery." For example, if we plant trees as a volunteer activity, photosynthetic processes will cause the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the environment to decrease, recovering the air quality. Moreover, if we stop using synthetic detergent when we wash the dishes, it will cut back on water pollution, helping our lakes and oceans to recover as well. All environmental projects help in the recovery of the earth. So please cherish these 4Rs.

It's good to think about the environment, but the most important thing is to act for the earth. These projects are small, but if many small projects come together, they will become one big project. So, let's act and save the earth!

I hope our projects give the earth a wonderful future.

Thank you for your attention.