

Christmas Special Edition

From the Editors tab



Published: 25-Dec-2020

Ho ho hello!! I hope you are excited for this year's Christmas edition of Kidly Friendly. Have fun reading a mixture of lots of holiday cheers and traditions with puzzles and knowledge.

This is the time of the year of family and Festive fun! KIDLY FRIENDLY wishes you and your families a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This Christmas edition is proud to present to you, a unique card game to explain a complex concept of Human rights to children, stories that will transport you to a different world, brain scratching puzzles and much much more.

New Eco-friendly traditions waiting to be heard.

It's time for Santa to say, "Tally ho from Lapland, around the world I shall go!

Wait, a second! How many of you became a SANTA and shared your pre-loved toys and books with kids who could not afford them?

As we gather our memories and thoughts before we say GOODBYE to 2020, a big thank you from Kidly Friendly to all those who contributed, including our valuable readers from the following countries:

Continued next page.....



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Country	Hong Kong SAR China	Paratteria.
	◆ Brazil	Kazakhstan
United Arab Emirates	40	Belarus
India	South Africa	Greece
United States	Switzerland	7.0
China	Thailand	Dominican Republic
China	• Mexico	New Zealand
◆ Canada	★ Vietnam	Sri Lanka
United Kingdom	Russia	Colombia
Malaysia	Kenya	Taiwan
Australia	Indonesia	
France	Shana Ghana	Poland
	Venezuela	Uzbekistan
Germany	Argentina	□ Israel
Singapore	Bangladesh	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
Austria	Nigeria	Serbia
Japan	Macedonia	Morocco
		Peru
Philippines	Oman	Hungary
Netherlands	Mongolia Mongolia	Horigary



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Want to be a Special Correspondent for Kidly Friendly?

What do you need to have?

- ✓ Enthusiasm to connect with children across the globe
- ✓ Be an active Kidly Friendly team member during holidays
- ✓ Creativity

If you want to share something interesting, we are all ears. Please mail to rnucollections@gmail.com













Naisha

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Look at this picture. What do you see?



Bingo! You are correct.

The answer is: Human Rights

Is Human Rights a difficult thing to understand?

No, if someone explains to you in a way that you can understand.

Kidly Friendly was honored to interview Creative Director Özge Tığlı of Bumbuku Creatives based at Amsterdam.



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We produced a game for Amnesty International for the 70th year celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Our Creative Director Özge Tiğlı illustrated and designed the game. Our main goal was to help children think about and discuss their rights, while having fun.

The game consists of notions of universal human rights such as fundamental rights, equality, and freedom. We adopted a positive language while designing the cards. We want to show children that claiming for human rights can be fun and hopeful.

We put special attention to equal visual representation of girls and boys. You can see the girls always in active compositions. This is what we care about and focus on in all of our projects. At the same time, we visually represented children from different nationalities, races and backgrounds.

The main value that we want to gain children is while claiming our own rights, we also need to raise our voices for other's rights and respect other's freedom. Moreover, children will see in this game that all the living things - animals and plants - also have the same rights, like the right to freedom and should be treated equally.

We hope the game reaches as many children as possible in the whole world. The rights-based discussions it can evoke among children can also reflect into the adult's world.

Unfortunately, we are not living in an ideal world like in the game. This is a world where the grownups fall behind to save the children and their rights. If we want to progress within the matter of human rights, we need to realize that children are our key allies. If we want to protect our children, no matter how old they are we need to inform them clearly about the rights they have.



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If only they know what their rights are, they can claim theirs and others' rights. While we try to raise awareness amongst our children against the dangers of life, instead of picturing a negative and scary world, envisioning a hopeful world that can bloom with their own existence, acts and impact will be more useful.

We believe in children and their wisdom. There is no concept in this world that cannot be explained to them if you do it right.



ARTICLE 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. No distinction shall be made.



ARTICLE 7

All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination.



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Creepy Tale

It all started when my classmates and I volunteered to help out at the town recycling center. It was a special weekend when people could drop off old computer equipment and cell phones.



My job was to make sure that the batteries had been removed from every laptop and phone. By the end of the day, I had a carton full of dead cell phones in front of me, and then one of them started ringing.

I slowly tip-toed over to the phone and opened its battery case. There weren't any batteries.



My brother asked "Hey are you coming, Ira?"

"Yeah, just putting this box away!" I tried to keep my voice from shaking. I carefully flipped over the phone. I saw nothing. Then, a demon's face appeared.

"AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHI!!" I screamed. I assured myself that it was just my imagination. The bus was leaving! I knew my way home, though. I checked the cell phone again. The demon was still staring up at me. I jumped and pinched myself to make sure I wasn't dreaming. "Ow!" Nope. Not dreaming. I assured myself, It must have been a prankster. The demon flew around on the screen to let me know it was real. Should I check again? My brain tells me no, but my curiosity got the best of me.



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I dashed over to the phone, feeling brave. All that courage spilled out of me when I saw the demon's eyes had turned white and were glowing. He started cackling. Cackling too much. I ran as fast as I could. I decided the safest place to run would be home. I opened up my phone to call somebody for help. When I got the home screen, the screen turned completely black and the demon appeared again. "Hello, Ira..." he whispered.

"I am Xanther, tech demon, the king of my MONSTER WORLD!" He cackled. "I like games. I'll give you a prophecy, to stop me!"



"When the Blue moon has risen at midnight,

On a night called Hallow's eve

The undead shall awaken

And the phones shall not be seen!

One girl can stop it,

With tech's greatest enemy,

She shall get the demon hit!

She shall bring a bucket (nothing else) full of the enemy to me,

The bucket has to be filled to the brim when brought to me,

A sidekick shall come!

A scroll with the prophecy written on it appeared, and he left. I opened the scroll. At the bottom there was a message saying I am at Bonny Slope Elementary!

I found K, my brother. "K, I need you to be my sidekick!" I said.

"Wait, WHAT?!" He looked at me with doubt, "Why would I want to do that?"



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I explained everything.

"Ok, I get it,"

I nodded

"WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?" he screamed.

K looked down at the scroll, concentrating. "Technology's greatest enemy. That's water,"

"The river, K!" I shouted.

We hopped on our bikes and rode down to the river. "I can't take anything other than a bucket of water...how do I not spill any?" I said to myself.

"What about your clothes?" K suggested.

"Huh?" I looked at him, confused.

He took my sweater off my waist and soaked it in the water. I saw what he was doing. "I can take it from here!" I said to him. I filled up the bucket with water and rode off to Bonny Slope.

I strolled down the deserted halls of Bonny Slope. There was a candle flickering in Room 201. I opened the door cautiously. There was Xanther, sitting on a throne made of phones. It was just before midnight. I had made it. "Hello..." whispered Xanther.

"Do you always whisper?" I asked

"No, I - Never mind!" he replied

I put the pail of water down and took off my sweatshirt. I twisted it around until some water dropped into the bucket, filling it up.

He started melting. "I will come back for you," he groaned as he melted away.

"Yes!" I cheered. I had defeated Xanther. This was the most exciting day ever.

I biked back home, ready for some celebrating.

Author: Ira Agarwal, 10 years, Portland, U.S.A.

Picture Credits: Abcteach.com, Vecteezy.com, Pinterest.com

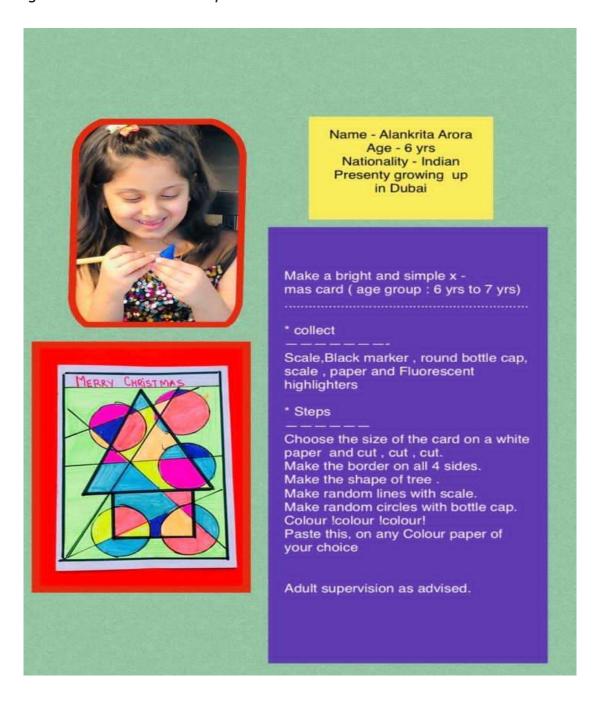


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Card Canvas

Love doing some art and craft? Try this out \odot





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Fantastic Photography

Krishang Pal, a 13 years old boy from Sharjah, takes us through beautiful Dubai through his lens at Dubai Creek Harbour.



Dubai Creek Harbour is a place from where you can see the development of Dubai's technology and lifestyle all out the years. Starting from pearl diving, to trading oil and building the tallest skyscraper in the world. Burj Khalifa all so known as the tallest building in the world, is with a height of 830m to tip. With this height you can take in the breathtaking view of Dubai.

For those, who enjoy photography. Dubai Creek Harbour is an ideal place for capturing all the stunning shots with Fancy Flamingos, Spherical Sail, Glowing Lighthouse. It is also a place where children enjoy with water fountain.



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Fancy Flamingos

When you enter the creek, you will be introduced to three fancy flamingos with a grass boulevard surrounding it. Laying on the grass, you can watch the sun as it sinks behind the buildings, is painting with colorful ray to the sky creating a beautiful scenery. Just after sunset, all the lights of buildings start glowing which give a dazzling view.





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Spherical Sail

The lights of the Spherical Sail, a stunting new marine artwork entice the tourist. The elegancy of the Spherical Sail is so enhanced that it is a moving sculpture and not permanently positioned in a single location. Capture the Spherical lights coming alive at night giving a splendid look.



Glowing Lighthouse

The Glowing Lighthouse gives a brightness to its surroundings with a symbol. Knowing UAE for its pearl diving experience, the lighthouse, a glowing piece of excitement symbolises prosperity as it used to help the pearl divers reach home.



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Playground of Art

The artistic structures of UAE will amaze you with neon colours and in-built playground. You will see the traditional structures of UAE turned into colourful playgrounds for children.



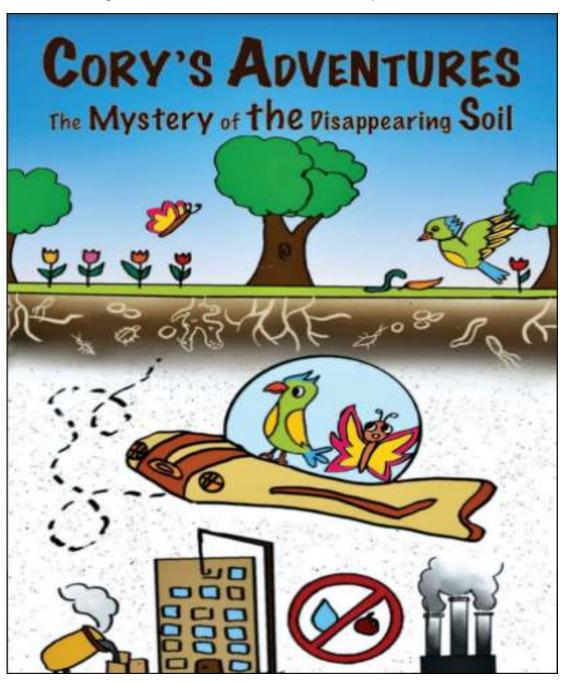


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Sustainable Story

Water Alliance is committed to responsible water behaviors and so are it's Student Ambassadors. The Student Ambassadors collaborated to create the following story, which focuses on an enriching tale centered around sustainability.





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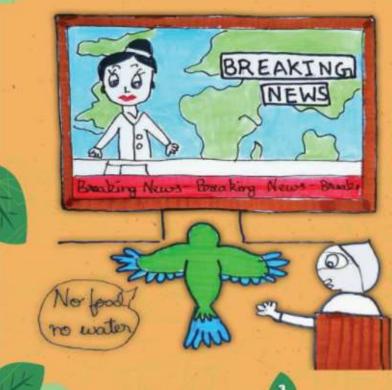
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There is a sudden code red in the laboratory; alarms are blaring and lights are flickering. I'm startled and I nearly knock over a jar with my wings. Carl, chief scientist and my master, switches on the glass screen. The news channel appears and what we hear next, puts the whole laboratory into chaos. The news presenter says that we have no water left! With what is left, humans could survive for barely ten days!

I'm stunned. While I'm not a human, I'm still a living



creature and need water and food. I wonder about the other 8.7 million living species on the Earth. We are already surrounded by steel and plastic. Most plants in the city were now



made of plastic. Just a select few that are in our lab are real specimens kept for harvesting some of their DNA. There are no big farms today. Some people still grow their own vegetables in home gardens, but there is just not enough space for big farms today. People eat a lot of 'fake fruit and 'make-believe meat' grown in a Petri dish. That's why Carl is my hero. He makes food for people and he's always coming up with a new fancy treat for me.



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While I space out, scientists gather themselves and are acting fast. Carl is giving everyone instructions. They are dividing themselves into 2 teams, one will go to Mars looking for water and the other will finish the new prototype for a special synthetic food. Even though it has no nutritional value, it makes you feel full. We'll need to start producing a lot more of this funny food since without water, the home gardens will be gone.

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I feel restless and go to Carl. I want to help him. "What is the plan Carl? I mean this fakefood and Mars cannot be right?," I ask Carl. "Honestly? This is all we have Cory," Carl sighs. "We humans have crossed a line and for the first time, I have no clue how to fix this."

I am shocked again. Carl is someone who always has an answer and this time, he too is blank. The seriousness of the situation hits me. I fly off and I find myself next to those precious plants that the laboratory stores.

They are in a beautiful greenhouse. There are just 5 of them. I sit there thinking, trying to figure out a solution when I hear a voice.





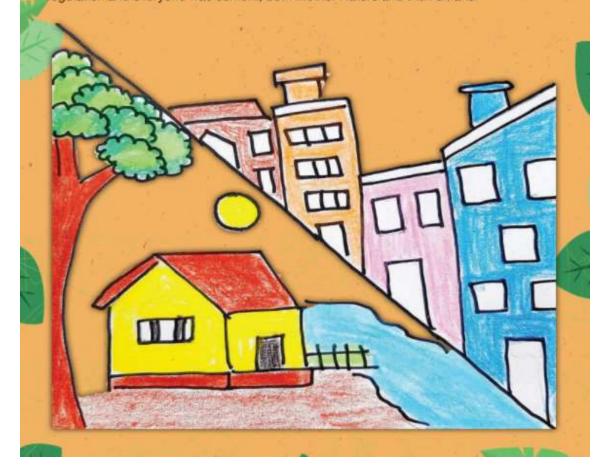
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"What's wrong? You seem so sad Cory," the plant says.

"You see, nothing's wrong... except, there is no food and water left!" I laugh bitterly. He squeaks in shock. I explain the problem, and after he hears it, he begins to cry and tells me his life story. "I remember when I lived with my aunt and uncle in the open air. It was so green and everyone around them was happy and satisfied. Everyone had enough food to eat and water to drink. But that was before the concrete monsters like big buildings and machines came in. They uprooted all the trees and ruined the soil. Gradually, the monsters and giants increased in numbers. Forests disappeared. 3.9 million square miles (about the area of Canada) of forest have been lost to deforestation. But that was not all; with the vegetation they took the soil too. More than half of the world's topsoil has already diminished because of soil erosion. Oceans were polluted, something as common as fresh water and food became rare."

He pauses and speaks up again. "I wish you could see that time, when there was still vegetation and everyone was content, both Mother Nature and the humans."





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I sadly sigh. He has no idea how much I wish that were true. As I walk away from the greenhouse, I ponder on my wish. I think how good it would be if all of us could see and learn from the past, see how beautiful the world used to be.

Suddenly, something lands on my shoulder; it is the butterfly, Noro of course. I was about to fly off when a sign caught my eye.



"Oh my gosh! It's crazy. Did you see the recent code red??? No food! No water!" Noro says. I just roll my eyes at the dramatic butterfly. I am too used to his behavior to be bothered.

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I fly off in a frenzy and crash into an exhibit. It is wrapped in red tape. That usually means it is incomplete, not tested. I would have been bored and walked away if not for the description board. It reads – Use for Teleportation. Then in bold it says – Might be the key to time travel.

The dots connect in my head, I could use this to travel back and see how the world used to be! I am nothing if not a loyal parrot. I fly closer, and remove the tapes, then use my legs to open the single door. I get in and while I am trying to figure out how to make it work, I forget about Noro.

Noro flies inside too. Oh, that mischievous butterfly! He presses some buttons! Before I know it the darkness fades away, there is a loud explosion, and suddenly we are in a very, very green place. I am astonished! Then I remember Noro and I turn to scold him for whatever he did with this machine. I see Noro is already out and playing with some flowers. That sneaky butterfly! As I am wandering and looking in fascination at the various plants, I hear something shriek. At once I fly off towards the noise and discover Noro hovering above a family of earthworms! One of them is screaming at Noro.



the situation?

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A baby earthworm is yelling at Noro. "Hey, how dare you attack my grandfather you bug?" As Noro steps back, I step in. "What is going on?" I ask. I look at baby earthworm and say, "I am Cory. I am so sorry about Noro."

The father earthworm steps forward. "It is no problem son. What are you doing here?" I suddenly remember the time machine, "About that, what year is it?" I ask.

"Ha, very funny. No worries, if it will entertain you, it is 1750", says father earthworm.

"Oh my gosh! We are ahead in time! I mean behind!" I mutter in surprise while thinking that my wish came true. I am in the past when the world was at peace. Why not make good of

"We have come from the future, where we will soon run out of all food and water. Which is why Noro and I have come to the past, to find something useful, so we can save all living creatures. Can you help us?" I ask.





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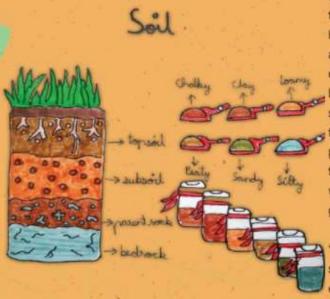
Well, no food, that must be because of plants. Tell me, do you have any plants left in your world?" enquires grandfather earthworm.

"No, not really," I say. "Everything is made of plastic nowadays. There are only few plants left. Some years ago, plants just stopped growing at all the big farms. I do not know why, but scientists, said something about soil. I do not why they would say that."

"Obviously, soil is the most important thing in a plant's growth." Baby earthworm exclaims. "We learnt it in school."

"What kind of soil do you have there, Cory?" Grandfather earthworm asks. "In our world we have very dry, rough soil," I reply.

"Ah, well, that is the issue." Grandfather earthworm sighs. "For plants to grow you need fertile, wet soil with nutrients and minerals. The kind of soil you have in forests. Just look



at this for example." He points to the soil he is on and picks up a handful of it. It is dark, clumpy, and slightly moist. It is hugely different from the dry and light brown soil at home. "Feel it," he says handing it to me. "It has all the basic nutrients, like nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium for plant growth. It also holds water, which is needed for plant growth."

"Oh! I just realized, your soil sounds like sandy soil." Baby earthworm says. "It is golden, warm, and dry and low in all the

nutrients that grandpa mentioned. Which is why your plants might not be growing!"

Grandfather then explained their job. "Did you know that we Earthworms burrow in the soil and make passages that lets air move around the roots of plants better?"

"Wow! I never realized just how important soil is!" I shout out.



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"It is vital!" Mother earthworm adds. "Soil provides a habitat for a quarter of the biodiversity on Earth including megafauna organisms like rabbits, macrofauna like earthworm, mesofauna like nematodes and microfauna organisms like bacteria and fungi. They are important for the cycling of ecosystem nutrients. They are necessary for plant growth and plant nutrition."

"Oh! Let us take him to meet our friend! Follow me Cory and Noro," Baby earthworm suggests. I am curious. What friend is he talking about? "Ok, where is he?" I reply. Baby earthworm laughs "He is so tiny; we cannot see him. He is a bacterium. Beck! Come out!" Someone answers to him, someone green in color says, "Hello! What do you want?"

Baby earthworm replies, "Our friend Cory is from the future. We were telling him how important soil is, not only to grow plants but also because of the different organisms that live in it."

"Well, not to boast or anything, we and soil make an effective team and we do a lot of work. We play a critical role in keeping soil healthy and helping the ecosystem function. We organisms are important to make sure it is capable of growing good quality crops. We decide the fertility of the soil," Beck explains.

"Which is why, soil biodiversity is so important. Soil gives home to these creatures and they work together to support and grow plants, which help give food, medicine, oxygen, and other resources to humans." Grandfather earthworm adds.

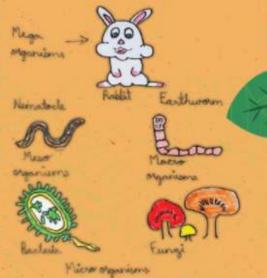
"It is all a cycle by nature, and no one should disturb it," Mother earthworm says.

"Oh my goodness!" I burst out, "This trip was so important. I learnt a lot of things that can help us save my world, but we need to hurry up and... we need to show them healthy and moist soil and the microorganisms. How can I do that?"

Father earthworm jumps in "There is an easy solution to that! Our family will help you collect samples of this soil, and Beck?"

"Yes?" Beck responds.

"Can you and my son travel with them and show the future humans the importance of organisms like us?" Father asks.





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"Well.... It is our future too!" Beck says. "We are all a part of your future, Cory. Yes, I will help, so will your son." "Come on, we don't have a moment to lose! We are going to run out of food in 10 days! Disaster!" I cry out. I help the earthworm family as we collect many samples. We're all done. Beck and the baby worm start to say goodbye but Mama worm stops us in our tracks. "Wait now," she says. "Hold up there! I know you are in a hurry but you're forgetting something vital. You must take 'Drop'! Without water, Beck won't live long and all soil biodiversity will die. Bring back 'Drop' so life underground can thrive. I sure hope your scientists can keep 'Drop' safe and clean so he can be most useful!"

Boy, was I feeling silly that we could have forgotten something so important! Water is the source of all life but it's true that we hardly ever think twice about it. Back home, people were always wasting it and polluted it so much that these days we have to put it through a super expensive machine to make it clean. As we head to the capsule, I realize I've forgotten something else really critical.

"There is another problem! I have no idea how to get back!" I scream.

Noro comes out of the capsule and says, "Ha! Now who is being dramatic? While you were discussing how to save the future, I figured the capsule out. I know how to go back!" I am surprised, but I grin and look at the family of earthworms who really helped me. "Thank you so much for all your help! Really, you saved the world!" I exclaim. "You're welcome!" They reply.

We get into the capsule and Noro punches some buttons. We are thrown into darkness; it fades away and... suddenly we found ourselves back in the laboratory! Oh no! Carl is coming towards us! Carl is furious, "Cory? How could you? You used an untested machine



during a crisis!!!," he shouts. "But I figured out how to help us and save the humans and all living creatures!" I say.

Carl looks bewildered. I decide to help him out. I tell him the whole story and introduce him to Beck and the Baby Worm. "Whoa. I never would have believed.... Thanks Cory! And Noro, you really saved us. Scientists, gather! We have a project!"

The scientists rush into action. They start recreating these samples through their technology to make the soil more fertile.



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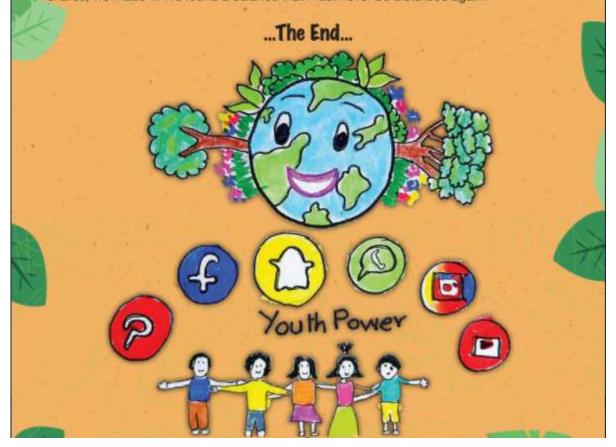
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They start multiplying Beck and other soil bio-diversity organisms collected from the soil samples. Everything is going according to plan.

They have one problem, how will they grow soil biodiversity across the entire planet for all plants, trees and crops? "Why don't we ask all the young people - like you - to help?" Noro suggests. "We can show them how good life can be without all these problems". They use social media and launch this campaign.

Many families get involved. They create urban farms, plant more trees, form green corridors across the city, make compost at home and at schools, conserve water and much more. The soil starts keeping water. After our efforts, and with everyone's help, we all have plenty of good food and clean water.

We got a lot of learning from our adventure. We understood the importance of nature, we are aware, and now we will preserve our environment. The earth stopped grieving and went back to the way it was, colorful, lively and beautiful! Through many toils and snares, we made it. We found a balance that must never be disturbed again.





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GLOSSARY

Biodiversity: from "biological diversity" means all the variety of life forms.

Compost: is a natural soil fertilizer resulting from the natural process of recycling and decomposing organic matter, such as leaves and food scraps.

Deforestation: the removal of trees from a forest to make room for something else.

Ecosystem functions: the collective life activities of plants, animals, and microbes that provide us with food, natural resources, clean water and healthy air.

Megafauna organisms: toads, moles, beavers, rabbits and badgers are the principal agents of soil turnover and distribution.

Macrofauna organisms: size of several centimeters. Earthworms, termites, ants, millipedes and woodlice help with soil drainage and seration.

Mesofauna organisms: less than 2mm small invertebrates such as taydigrades, mites and insects like diplurans and proturans are biological regulators of decomposition.

Microfauna organisms: bacteria, fungi and nematodes are the smallest (1 to 100 micrometers) and most numerous organisms in the soil. They are responsible for biogeochemical processes.

Soil degradation: the erosion of the topsoil by the action of water & wind, pollution, increased sail levels, and the increased urbanization."

Soil nutrients: elements essential for plant growth. It includes nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.

Topsoil: the upper layer of soil, usually 5-10 inches (13-25 cm) thick, made of a mixture of organism matter, minerals, soil nutrients, organisms, sir, and water that helps grow plants. It is a reserver of water and nutrients that sustains life on Earth.

Water conservation: using only the amount of water we need, to avoid wasting this precious resource.

1750: A few years before the start of the industrial revolution, when the power of steam was harnessed to develop the world we know today.



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Evenin' Coffee!



Without compassion what are we,

But merciless barbarians in a raging sea.

The more you give,

The more you get,

The more you laugh,

The less you fret

Love your friends,

Like you love yourself,

Else, you will be left alone,

Like an empty bookshelf

If you think you are the only one worth saving,

Then honestly, your life is worthless,

Give compassion, you will be blessed.

Credit: Samarth Anant, 9 years, Airoli, India



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How are you spending your Holidays?

Let us all try and have an eco-friendly winter holiday!

Tis the most wonderful time of the year! It is Christmas, and the winter holidays are here. It is a time of being kind and generous, exchanging gifts & sweets. So, why not go that extra mile and try doing something kind, for our dear planet Earth. If we all do our part, it will add up to a greater good. Here are some small changes we can incorporate in our day-to-day life. Let us take it up as a challenge.

- DIY gifts: Make a handmade gift for your family and friends. It will not only save money but also show more love to the person you give it to because you made it! (Candles at home, stationery holders, try baking a cake)
- Think long-term gifts: We all want to gift that perfect gift, but you do not want to
 contribute to unnecessary wastage. Let us shop wisely. Try gifting a meaningful and
 lasting gift like a potted plant or a ticket to their favorite movie.
- Wrap your presents: Think sustainable while wrapping . For e.g., use cloth (Furoshiki
 are a traditional Japanese wrapping cloth used for gifts etc.), bio-degradable paper, reuse last year's wrappers or decorate delivery boxes & re-use them as gift boxes.



across the globe.

- Decorations: Adorn your home with homemade décor. Not only is it eco-friendly but you can spend quality family time making decorations.
- 5. Reduce food wastage: Every year we all unknowingly all waste so much food and that is not good. Try not to waste food. If you do happen to waste food, you can donate or freeze it or add it for compost. To donate you can also use: "Share the meal" app which helps feed many hungry children.
- 6. Greeting cards: Make use of technology & prepare e-cards rather than store bought.
- Go plastic free: Try and minimize the use of plastic bags while shopping. Say no to single
 use plastic bags. Carry your own cloth bags or make a one-time purchase of reusable
 bags for sale in supermarkets.





All these small changes in the way we think, and act will eventually aid our well-being. Let the change we want to see begin we us and let us fight global warming & do our bit for the environment.

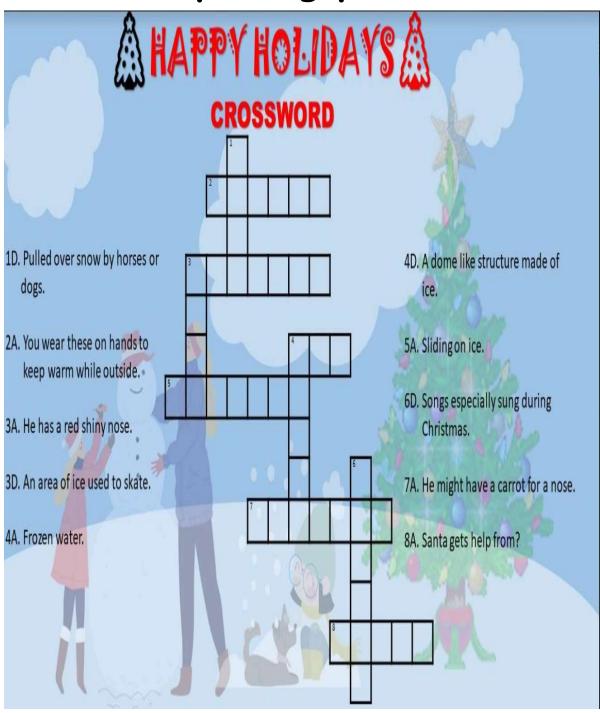
Credit: Elizabeth D'sa, 9 years, Dubai, U.A.E.



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Perplexing puzzles



Credits: Elizabeth D'sa, 9 years, Dubai, U.A.E