

NO LITTER day

16 MAY
MAI MAIO MAYO



جین بلا مُہملاّت

JIL QASHIN LA'AN AH

स्वच्छ पीढ़ी

کچرے سے پاک نسل

SKRÄPFRI GENERATION

NO LITTER GENERATION

NO
LITTER
generation

نسل بدون زباله

GÉNÉRATION SANS DÉCHETS

GENERACIÓN SIN RESIDUOS

نسل بدون کثافات

GERAÇÃO SEM SUJEIRA

फोहोर नफाले दिन

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The No Litter Generation

Rubbish can be found almost everywhere on Earth – on land, in lakes and in oceans. But you and other children and young people around the world can make a difference. Through the No Litter Generation, you can stand up for every child's right to a clean and healthy environment, and fight climate change.

For the majority of human history, litter has not been a big problem. Most of it was organic, food and kitchen waste, which decomposed and went back into the earth.

The problems began as cities grew in size and we gained practical new materials such as plastic. It was handy to be able to store food and other stuff in secure containers. However, this also generated much more waste that doesn't break down by itself.

Plastic doesn't go away

It can take hundreds, or even thousands, of years for plastic waste to break down into smaller pieces. It can travel long distances on the wind or in rivers and rainwater. 8 million tonnes of plastic end up in our oceans every year. Even really tiny bits of plastic (microplastics) can cause harm. Microplastics can be eaten by small organisms like animal plankton and clams. When these organisms are then eaten by larger animals, the plastic carries on up the food chain. In the end, the plastic may end up in the fish you eat for dinner.

Litter costs money

It's hard to work out how much littering costs all around the world. Many countries invest lots of resources in cleaning and picking up litter, but it's cheaper to deal with the litter properly right from the start.

Waste that can be recycled or burned should be placed in special rubbish tips, where it does as little damage to the environment as possible. But many people are careless and throw things away in the wrong place. Materials that should be recycled end up with rubbish that will be burned, and a lot ends up as litter on the ground. This is a waste of the Earth's resource because so many things could be used several times over.

When waste is thrown away thoughtlessly, it can cause harm to both animals and people. For example, diseases are spread through faecal matter and needles. A lot of waste also contains hazardous substances that should not seep out into nature.

Wealth means more waste

Rich countries create the most waste and rubbish, especially in cities. But sometimes it can look as if poor countries have more rubbish because they often lack good systems for collecting and recycling waste. As a result, many people are forced to throw rubbish on the streets or open rubbish tips. A lot of rubbish and waste can blow away and end up in lakes and oceans.

On the other hand, rich countries can afford to take care of their waste. That's why it isn't seen as much on the streets. Sometimes some of the most dangerous waste, like electronic waste and chemicals, is even sent to poor countries.



Litter is stuff that ends up on the ground or in lakes and seas, and that shouldn't be there, such as glass bottles, plastic bags, tins, cigarette butts or sweet wrappers.

Working for change
It is the responsibility of everyone to ensure that people everywhere, especially children, get to live in a safe and healthy environment. Countries must work together to solve these problems and to fight climate change. Taking care of waste, recycling and not littering will help contribute to achieving the UN's Global Goals by 2030 and solve the climate crisis.



Countries must make it easy to do the right thing, for example, by putting out more rubbish bins with lids, so the waste doesn't blow away, and improving recycling systems.

In the whole world, around 4,500 billion cigarette butts are dropped on the ground every year! If you line up all these cigarette butts, the line would be 90,000,000 kilometres long. That's as far as travelling to and from the moon 117 times. It takes about three years for a cigarette butt to break down into such tiny pieces that it can't be seen. But even tiny pieces can do damage.

A number of countries have banned or increased the price of plastic bags. Rwanda in Africa was the first country in the world to ban plastic bags.

Producers – the companies that make plastic packaging must be encouraged to develop smarter packaging that doesn't end up as litter.

A stranded whale in Norway had 30 plastic bags in its stomach. 99 percent of all sea-birds will have eaten plastic by the year 2050 if this trend continues.

NO LITTER
generation

Best and worst thing about waste

The best thing would be if there wasn't any waste in the first place. Maybe we could use less packaging?

- Any waste that is still produced should ideally be reused or recycled. Then our stuff and materials could be useful again and it would help save the Earth's resources.
- If that's not possible, the waste should be incinerated or taken to a rubbish tip. But we need to do it properly, so we don't contaminate the air, ground or water.
- The worst thing is if waste ends up as litter on the ground or in rivers, lakes and seas.

USE DUSTBIN
DO NOT LITTER
THE PLACE
MAKE A LITTER
FREE GENERATION
LITTER FREE EARTH

How many Earths do you need?

All people need food and water, a roof over their heads, and sometimes, heat to survive. We all share the Earth's resources, but some people use much more than others. Globally we're eating, travelling and consuming as though we had 1.7 Earths!

Every human affects the planet through how they live. For example, this includes what we eat, what things we buy and how we travel. How much impact a country or person has is often simply called our ecological footprint. Along with countries like Kuwait and the USA, Sweden has the largest ecological footprint per person in the world.

What is the footprint?

An ecological footprint refers to the "imprint" that every person in nature makes on the surface of the Earth. The more resources we use, the more we affect the environment.

The size of your footprint is connected to the area used to produce what you use, from food to gadgets, as well as the

area required to take care of your waste. Based on how much land and resources exist on the planet, you can calculate how many globes we would need if everyone lived like you.

Bigger handprints

If you do good things for the environment, like recycle more and conserve water, your ecological handprint increases. It helps if the things you buy and the energy you use are produced in a way that affects nature as little as possible. For example, if the car you travel in runs on electricity instead of fossil fuel. Locally grown food often has a smaller footprint than eating things grown on the other side of the world that are transported to your country.

Create more waste

In wealthy countries, the amount of waste per person has multiplied many times over in the past 20 years, and this has to change. Waste includes carbon dioxide, the gas released when we use oil, petrol and carbon, or burn rubbish and wood. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas that contributes strongly to climate change, which in turn causes droughts, floods, and acidification of the oceans.

Different countries face different challenges. In Sweden, carbon dioxide emissions account for more than half of the footprint. A lot depends on our consumption of food and gadgets.

Big, rich footprints

Rich countries have the biggest ecological footprint, while poor ones have much smaller footprints. Sometimes there are big differences between different people in the same country. A child in the Amazon rainforest uses almost no resources at all, while a rich rancher could have their own aeroplane,

several cars, air conditioning and a pool. That creates a gigantic footprint.

What has to happen now?

Rich places must reduce production and consumption in order to reduce their footprints. Meanwhile, on the other hand, many poor people need to increase their footprint in order to have dignified lives with electricity, heat, food and clean water. The challenge is to find a more environmentally friendly path to a better life than the environmentally hazardous alternatives that rich countries have been using for a long time.

If everyone lived like the average inhabitant of the world, we would need 1.7 Earths. And if everyone lived like they do in...



... North America = 5 Earths



... Africa = 0.8 Earths



... South America = 1.8 Earths



... Europe = 2.8 Earths



... Asia = 0.7 Earths



- Not throw rubbish on the ground.
- Not buy unnecessary things.
- Repair, reuse and recycle.
- Use renewable energy.

What else can you do?





NAINA HELEN W. JÄMA/AFTONBLADET/TT



MINAS PANAGIOTAKIS/TT

Children of the world strike for the climate with Greta

Greta, age 16, is living proof that kids can make a big difference. In September 2018, she stood alone before the parliamentary building in Sweden every Friday, on strike from school for the climate. She demanded that adults listen to the science and start to

take serious action to stop climate change, which threatens people, animals and nature.

Greta's protest quickly spread throughout the world via social media. Children in other countries were inspired by Greta and also began to strike on Fridays. Her battle

inspired a global movement called Fridays for Future.

One Friday in September 2019, four million people in over 160 countries went on strike for the climate with Greta. Were you one of them?

How long will the Earth's resources last?

Humanity uses up more water, food, energy and more than nature can regenerate in a year. Some countries use up far more resources than others. The day when all resources run out is called Overshoot Day, and in 2019 it fell on 29 July!

As you can see in the picture, some countries used up their resources well before the end of the year, while many countries aren't there at all. Their ecological footprint is so small that their resources are enough.



"You are failing us. But the young people are starting to understand your betrayal. The eyes of all future generations are upon you."
Greta, 16, in her speech to the UN in 2019



The Earth is heating up ...

The sun's rays hit the ground and turn into heat that radiates out from the Earth's surface. Greenhouse gases stop this heat radiation from disappearing out into space. When the level of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere increases, more heat gets left behind and the Earth's temperature rises.

Some important greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane gas (CH₄). Additional carbon dioxide is released mainly by cars, coal and oil fires, factories and aircraft. Developed countries in the northern hemisphere produce the most emissions. China also generates a huge amount of carbon dioxide. As the Earth heats up, it affects all countries.

Changing climate

As the Earth heats up, our climate will change. Climate is the weather over a long period of time. For example, it's about how hot it usually is, how much and how often we get rain and perhaps how long and how hot the dry season is normally. A hotter Earth can mean dry seasons get longer, rain might not come every year, or the opposite might happen and it rains more in some places, with more torrential rain and flooding where you live. Perhaps there will also be more storms, and they might be stronger.

Rising sea levels

As the Earth heats up, sea levels rise. Mostly because warmer water expands and takes up more room, but also because glaciers (ice on land) melt and drain into the sea. Greenland and Antarctica have the most land ice. There will be big changes for coastal areas and islands when sea levels rise. People will no longer be able to live in these areas if the seawater covers fields and houses.

It is difficult to say exactly how the climate will change in different places on Earth, but we know for certain that there will be climate change as the Earth heats up. If the Earth heats up a lot, it may be impossible to live in some countries, and in the worst-case scenario the changes could be so great that almost the entire planet becomes uninhabitable! If nothing is done, the Earth will keep on heating up!

Fossil fuels

Fossil fuels are the remains of old plant material that have been stored in the ground for hundreds of millions of years. When people burn coal, oil or natural gas now, we release in just a few years the carbon dioxide that has been absorbed by plants over many millions of years! That's why burning fossil fuels is causing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to increase very quickly.

Disappearing forests

When there are major forest fires, it releases a lot of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. This carbon dioxide can be absorbed again later if the forest grows back. It's a natural cycle that has been happening throughout the history of the Earth. But if forests are cut down, or worse, burned without planting any new forest, the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increases because the released carbon dioxide is not absorbed and stored in new trees!



CO₂ CO₂
CO₂



Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere stop heat radiation (red arrows) from disappearing out into space.

The sun heats up the Earth

CO₂
CH₄

... If we don't take action

Extreme weather and higher temperatures

Drought, flooding and natural disasters affect everyone on Earth, but children's rights in poor countries are affected the most.

Disease

Malaria and dengue fever, and water-borne diseases such as cholera and diarrhoea increase and spread faster to more areas of the world. More children will become sick and die.

Hunger

The number of hungry and undernourished children is expected to rise by 20–25 million by the year 2050.

War and conflict

Inequalities and poverty increase the risk of violence and war. This affects children, particularly girls, the most.

Economic crisis

Poor children will get sicker and go hungry, and sometimes end up homeless. Children will also be forced to work instead of getting an education. Girls have to quit school first.

Refugee crisis

Many children have to leave their homes when villages and towns become uninhabitable. War and conflict also forces families with children to flee their homes. Children's schooling and health are affected, particularly their mental health.



If we act now!

Reduced hunger and poverty

Harvests will be better and not destroyed by drought or flooding. Children will have enough to eat and will be healthy.

Clean water and hygiene

Children will stay healthy, be able to go to school, play and develop. Access to

clean water will give girls in particular more time for study and play, as they won't have to walk long distances to fetch water.

Safety and security

Greater equality and gender equality reduces the risk of people and countries being drawn into violent conflict over areas of land and natural resources.



Who should act?

Live sustainably

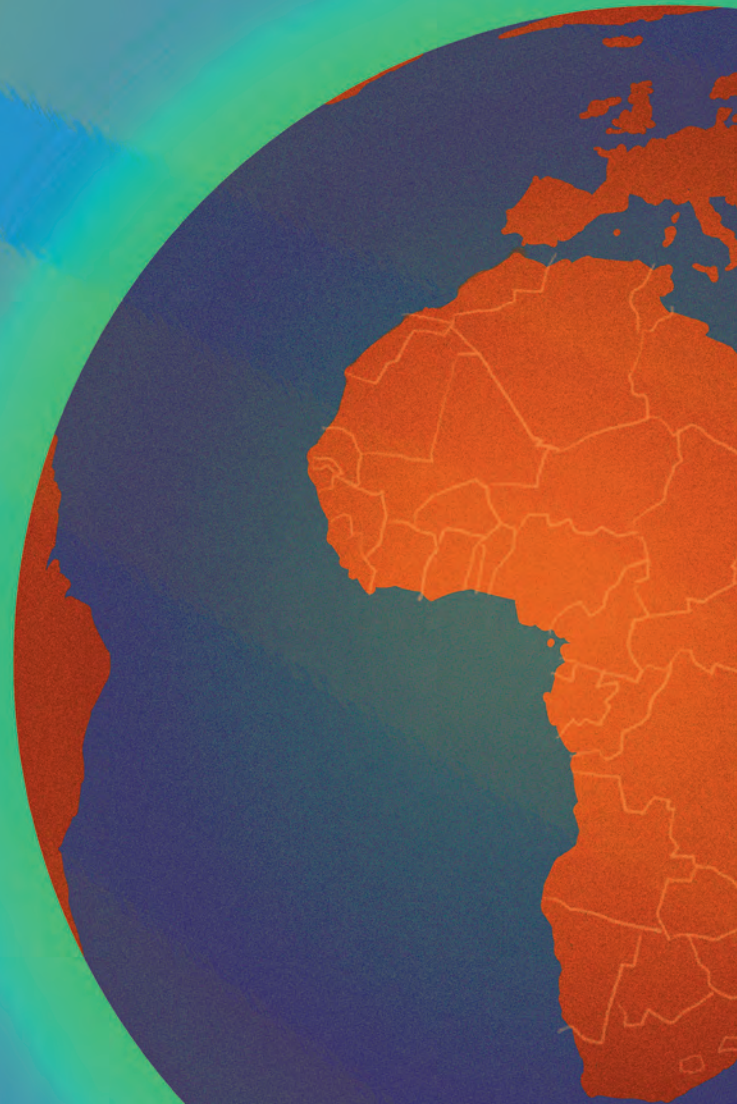
Everyone needs to try and live sustainably. But it is the emissions from and wastage by rich countries over a long period of time that are the biggest cause of the current climate crisis. Rich countries must now support poorer countries where children are suffering the effects of climate change.

Climate-smart

The environmentally harmful way that rich people have long been using resources to live comfortable lives has had catastrophic consequences. We now need more climate-smart alternatives, so that everyone on Earth can live a decent life. Rich countries have a big responsibility here to lead and finance developments.

Children demand action

Today, children across the globe are fighting for their right and the right of future generations to inherit a world where people and the environment are healthy. Children are demanding that adults and decision-makers listen to science and do everything they can to stop climate change and build sustainable societies.



On No Litter Day, 15 May 2020, kids everywhere will show that they belong to the No Litter Generation. Here's what to do:

- Pick up litter and make things look nice.
- Spread information to everyone where you live about children's right to a clean and healthy environment, and about climate change.
- Weigh the litter and report the total weight to WCP!
- Make sure that all collected rubbish is recycled or goes where it will be stored safely



India



"It's our responsibility to protect Mother Nature."
Kunsang, 14, Saraswati Vidhya Daan School, Darjeeling, India

Nepal



Children from Teresa Academy, Kathmandu

No Litter Day

Scotland



The children at Banchory-Devenick School in Scotland were surprised at how much litter they found in a small area.



Philippines

"We have to have clean water on Earth. Without water, there's no life!"
Sheena, Negros School, Dumaguete, Philippines



South Africa

Premiere Meisieskool Oranje School in Bloemfontein

Senegal



Uganda

Brazil





Burma/
Myanmar



Plaw Khee School



DR
Congo

"Today I realised that we children have the right to live in a clean and healthy environment. We have tidied up and said to our parents that they must help to keep the area as nice as we have made it today."
Mumbere, 13, Saint-Simon School in Goma, DR Congo



Burkina
Faso

Primaire Privée Silmiyiri School

around the world



Pakistan



Sierra
Leone



Weighing at Western
Hall School

Nigeria



Ghana

NOTE!
Be careful so that the rubbish does not make you sick! Wear gloves and a mask and get help from an adult if you find something sharp or dangerous in some other way.



Guinea

In Guinea, students spread information about the climate crisis during No Litter Day.



Sweden



Togo



On No Litter Day 2018, children everywhere demonstrated that they are part of the No Litter Generation. In Pakistan, where children's voices are rarely heard in the media, the Children's Press Conference attracted lots of journalists, and the children's initiative for a cleaner environment even made the main news item on several TV channels.

"We demand more bins, so we can throw litter away instead of leaving it on the ground," said Saba. Her friend Shamoan, who grew up as a debt slave at a brick kiln, explained that litter is dangerous for both people and the environment:

"When brick kiln workers mix the clay for the bricks, they often cut themselves badly on bits of glass that people have thrown on the ground."



Pakistan



Saba and Shamoan (in the middle) leading the Children's Press Conference in Pakistan.



Philippines

No Litter Day

Cameroon



"A dirty environment creates more litter because when people are surrounded by dirt and waste they stop caring and then it gets even worse."

Tafuah, 16, HIMS BUEA

Benin



Burundi



"Climate change is affecting my life, like when it rains so much that my house gets flooded."

Seni, 10, Privée Nonglom Evangelique school



"I tell my parents that they mustn't drop litter or burn forest and bushes because it's bad for the environment."

Asseta, 10, CMI Privée WA Malgba de Palgré

"We must teach our friends and parents that litter needs to be dealt with."

Joel, 14, EP Yoba school

Burkina Faso



"I'm going to pass this knowledge on to my children and grandchildren, to save future generations."
Pituwa, 12, Ujio wa heri school



DR Congo

"If we take better care of the litter situation, it will reduce the problem of illnesses like malaria and diarrhoea."
Mweneke, 13, Espace Ami Universel-school



Burma/ Myanmar

"We collected plastic bags and bottles in my village and it was the first time we organized litter picking. There isn't much plastic in my little village; we use mostly bags and baskets made from leaves and bamboo."
Naw Sha, 12, Mee Wah Dern school

Côte d'Ivoire



Senegal



Sierra Leone



Around the World

Nigeria



Ghana



Congo Brazzaville



Sweden



Guinea Bissau



Mozambique



"No Litter Day isn't just about cleaning up, it's about making children, adults, teachers and other citizens aware of solutions to the problem of littering!"
Esther, 15 EAM school

"I've caught two 'bugs' – 50% 'Spread children's rights' and 50% 'Keep your place tidy'. And that's exactly what I'm doing, 100%!"
Espoir, 12, EAM school

Togo



Nisha and Sidra are part of the No

Every afternoon when she gets home from school Nisha makes bricks. Her family are debt slaves and Nisha must help to pay off their debt.

Sidra gathers litter when she is not in school and sells it to various buyers. Both girls live in Pakistan and have learned about the rights of the child through the World's Children's Prize Program. Now they want to be part of the No Litter Generation. On No Litter Day on 16 May they will teach others why they should stop littering!



"I make two hundred bricks every day."



Nisha, 12
Class 5, BRIC
school

"My sister and mother get up at four every morning to make bricks until late evening. My mother borrowed a big sum from the brick kiln owner for treatment for my father. Since then we are like slaves to the owner.

"After school I cook lunch. I then bring lunch to my mother and sister. I stay with them and we work until the evening. I make two hundred bricks every day.

"The owner and the munshi (supervisor) do not treat the working children well. They shout at us and often beat us cruelly. I become sad and speed up my work. I think that if I make more bricks we will be able to pay back our debt and get freedom from this work.

"The rest of the evening I do my homework. We can only buy clothes or shoes at Christmas, but thank God we have the opportunity to go to school.

I work hard at my education. I want to be a doctor and open a hospital. I will then buy clothes and shoes for my mother and sister and they will not have to work at the brick kiln any longer. I will never leave school because I know that education is the only way to make life better.

"I learnt that I have rights, that all children are important and that everyone should respect our rights. Here everybody thinks that boys are better than us girls. This must change and girls must be respected!

"I like the idea of us being the No Litter Generation. Litter can be bad for everyone, people and animals. We must stop throwing litter everywhere and teach the adults to stop doing that. It will be nice to take part in No Litter Day together with children in other countries."



"Education is the only way to make life better."



"We have already had our first Global Vote Day."



"I weighed all the litter we picked and we made a note of the weight each time."

Litter Generation



Sidra, 12
Class 3,
BRIC school



“We are born in these tents and will finish our life journey in these tents. All members of my family collect garbage seven days a week. We sell it to vendors and buy food with the money.”

“I always wonder why people waste so much food? But this way we always have food, which we could never buy from the market. Sometimes we find toys. Most of the toys are damaged, but perfect for us to play with. We never buy new clothes, we only use clothes which we find in the garbage.”

My miracle!

One day when I woke up my father told me: ‘You are not going to pick litter today but going to school.’ This was a miracle! I never thought about school even in my dreams. I

was so happy. This had not happened before in my family.

“One thing hurt me. Other students made fun of me because I was what people call a Khan Badosh (nomad) girl. I don’t know why people hate us. We are just like them! But my passion for education helped me tolerate it and later I made friends at school.”

“When I started going to school others also started sending their children to school. Through education I can get respect in society. I work hard to get an education and become a social worker, so that I can fight for the rights of our people.”

“I learnt that all children have rights. It was a wonderful experience. But here adults need to be educated so that they start respecting girls’ rights.”

“After school I always go lit-

ter and rubbish picking. When we collect garbage other people treat us like we are not human. And the vendors often cheat when they are weighing our litter.”

“We have always lived surrounded by litter. It would be nicer without the litter. But how would we then earn money? I will still be happy to belong to the *No Litter Generation*. We need to teach people about litter, to be aware of the environment, and change their habits. It will be beautiful when we have picked litter on *No Litter Day*.”



“It was a miracle going to school.”

Money from No Litter Day pays for school

Nisha and her friends will sell the litter that they pick during No Litter Day to the vendors. The money will be used for their school costs. The money from the litter that Sidra and her friends pick on that day will also be used for their schooling.

No Litter Generation collecting litter

Nisha and her friends have already become part of the No Litter Generation, and here Nisha weighs the litter that they have collected where they live and at the brick kiln.



Kimberley and Hassan ready for No Litter Day.



“Today on No Litter Day, us children raised our voices so everyone in the town heard us. Because if we don’t look after our environment, life will be difficult and short for all children on the planet. And that’s not something that we, the No Litter Generation, are willing to accept!” says WCP Child Rights Ambassador Hassan, 12, who lives in the town of Murewa in Zimbabwe. He and his ambassador friend Kimberley take environmental issues very seriously.

The WCP Child Rights Ambassadors have been given a lot of training in children’s rights. I’ve learned that a clean environment is counted as one of the rights of the child. I didn’t know that before. As WCP ambassadors, we are now fighting for children’s right to a clean environment and health. It’s really important! Us members of the No Litter Generation do not accept previous generations littering and failing to look after our environment. It’s time for change! We hope the fact that we demonstrated in front of everyone in the town on No Litter Day and demanded that adults change their behaviour will be a good start.”

Environmental Club

“The other ambassadors and I meet twice a week, as we’re also in the school’s Environmental Club. In the club we learn how important recycling is for the environment. Litter contaminates the environment and makes people sick.

We learn how to recycle plastic bags to make rain hats for the rainy season, and we’ve made over fifty rubbish bins out of old beer and juice bottles, which people see as worthless junk. We make things that are useful, beautiful and cheap. You can actually make a little wastepaper bin out of old bottles or bottle tops instead of buying an expensive new one. And it’s clever!

Litter-free school

“I believe the No Litter Generation has made everyone at school more aware of the environment, and that’s why we look after it. The only place litter is dropped at our school is in our rubbish bins, which we made at the Environmental Club!” says Hassan.

We are the No Lit

“Everything we learn we share with all the others at school assembly.”

Girls’ rights

“When I had my Child Rights Ambassador training, I learned a lot about girls’ rights. That it’s a violation of a girl’s rights to force her into child marriage, to do all the heavy housework, to stop her going to school or not listen to her opinions. There are lots of parents here who value their

sons more and listen to what we have to say. Daughters don’t count. Even when us boys are little, we’re allowed to tell our big sisters what to do. If the girls are constantly seen as being of less value and treated badly, I think that in the end they start to believe it themselves. It’s so wrong! Because girls’ rights have always been violated, and boys’ rights always protected, I decided to be a Child Rights Ambassador who fights for



KEEP OUR SCHOOL FREE OF LITTER



ter Generation!

girls' rights and gender equality together with Kimberley and the other ambassadors."

Period know-how

"I often talk to my friends and others at school about the importance of gender equality and girls' rights. And I've produced material about menstruation, which we keep on a shelf at the Environmental Club. There are sanitary towels and panty liners and other things. Girls can learn to look

after themselves properly. But we also teach the boys about periods, so they understand, stop teasing and can support the girls and treat them with respect instead. This is about girls' rights after all!

"In the future, I want to do talks about children's rights and the environment at schools and workplaces."

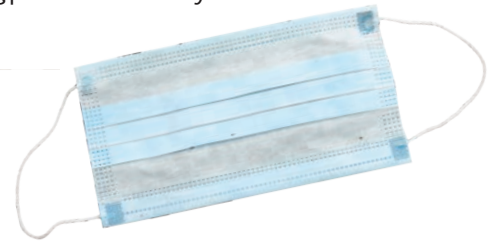
Hassan, 12, WCP Child Rights Ambassador, Hurungwe Primary & Secondary School



Kimberley and Hassan both got involved and organised No Litter Day, and collected litter.



Hassan gives out plastic gloves, bags and protective masks to everyone taking part in No Litter Day.



Hassan's period shelf

"We use tomato sauce to demonstrate how sanitary towels work!" explains Hassan



We are united!



All the litter collected during No Litter Day is weighed.

Hassan's friend Kimberley thinks it's important for girls and boys to be united in their fight for girls' rights and the environment if they are to get good results.

I became a WCP Child Rights Ambassador and member of the No Litter Generation together with Hassan and a few others. We meet every Tuesday and Thursday at the Environmental Club at school. We read The Globe together and talk about how to reach as many children as possible.

Our job as ambassadors is to teach other children about their rights and about the environment. Then they teach their families and neighbours when they get home. I talk about girls' rights most of all. In the past, girls were seen as totally inferior and they were not valued, but in our generation we're doing everything

we can change these attitudes."

Together

"That's why it's so important for us to work together with the boys when it comes to girls' rights, gender equality and the environment. Here, out of habit and tradition, people listen to boys when they have something to say, for example that girls have the same rights, or that the environment is important. If us girls say the same thing, it still happens that our opinions

don't count, and many suspect that we don't want gender equality but in fact we want to take over, that we think we're better than boys and men. When we join forces, people see that we are actually equal."

No Litter Day

"We had our No Litter Day yesterday, and us Child Rights Ambassadors had a big responsibility. It used to be really messy and dirty here, but since those of us in the No Litter Generation made

At Hassan and Kimberley's Environmental Club, litter is turned into something new...

...bottle tops become bags...



...old plastic bags become clothes...



...shoes...



...and chairs...



...plastic bags become rain hats...

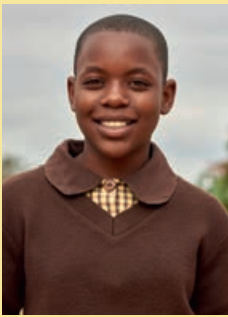


...wastepaper bins...





At breaktime the pupils at the litter-free school play football with a ball made of plastic bags and throw litter in rubbish bins made of plastic bottles.



Lawyer fighting child marriage

"Child marriage creates major problems for girls here. They're subjected to a lot of violence, and because the girls are not fully developed there can be such serious problems if they get pregnant that they end up dying. My dream is to be a children's rights lawyer who protects children who've had their rights violated," says Kimberley.

people aware of environmental issues, things have actually started to improve. It's clear that people don't want to drop litter so much anymore in Murewa.

"In the Environmental Club we make rubbish bins from old plastic bottles instead of leaving the bottles on the ground where they contaminate the environment. Now there are rubbish bins all over the school, but our aim is for them to be put in various places in public areas. Us

Child Rights Ambassadors are planning to write and suggest this to the City Council. We will also ask them to come regularly and empty our school rubbish bins, so the litter doesn't spill out causing a dirty and unhealthy environment here again for us children. That would go against our rights."

Kimberley, 12, WCP Child Rights Ambassador, Hurungwe Primary & Secondary School



The Globe offers tips

"The Globe is so good because we learn about how children around the world have solved their problems. When we find ourselves in similar situations, we know what to do," says Kimberley.



We are the No Litter Generation!

...juice bottles become rubbish bins...



...biscuit packets become hats...



...plastic packaging becomes toothbrush holders...



...and old tyres and toilets become planters for flowers!





We teach the adults!

"Today we've demonstrated through the town and taught adults that they mustn't throw litter, and about the importance of recycling. Many adults don't know this because they never learned about the environment in school. We learn lots of new things through the WCP programme and the No Litter Generation. Now we have the chance to teach the adults!"

Nyasha, 12



Use the bins!

"The No Litter Generation has taught me that it's really important to throw all litter in the rubbish bins and not on the ground. For example, if you throw used nappies out, dogs can come and eat them. Then maybe the dogs lick the plates at home and then people can get really sick. It's wrong, because us children have the right to live in a clean environment, and we have the right to health."

"In the future, my dream is to become a doctor."

Privilege, 12



Dirt and glass bottles everywhere

"Today we've had No Litter Day, when we helped clean up our area. Some parts of the town are very dirty. Paper, nappies, glass bottles, plastic bottles and old beer cans are lying about everywhere. The litter makes a lot of people sick and many children injure themselves on broken glass bottles. You can get cholera and tetanus, and you need to get good treatment or you might die. But lots of people here can't afford to go to the doctor. If us children were in charge, there wouldn't be any litter at all outside!"

"I dream of becoming a pilot and seeing the world."

Lee, 12



Right to a clean environment!

"I've learned that all children have the right to a clean and healthy environment. The WCP programme teaches us about our rights and how to protect ourselves. Lots of girls are subjected to assault here, but it's often hushed up. But now we know that these assaults are a violation of our rights and something that we need to report to the police. WCP is really important!"

"I dream of being a judge and specialising in cases where children have been sexually abused."

Ruvimbo, 12

No Litter ambassador

"I specialise in the environment and environmental contamination because for me it's the most important child rights issue. Before No Litter Day, I was interviewed on Radio Zimbabwe and Good Morning Zimbabwe on the TV. I explain to everyone, children and adults, that the environment is a children's rights issue!"

Natalie, 17, elected Zimbabwe's No Litter Ambassador



ZIMBABWE'S NO LITTER AMBASSADOR:

We're going to make the world better!



“Previous generations have ruined our planet. But those of us who have joined the No Litter Generation are going to make the world better. And if the generation that comes after us gains even more knowledge about the environment, it will make the planet a fantastic place to live again. That’s why my job is so important!” says Natalie, 17, who is Zimbabwe’s No Litter Ambassador.



“I’m lucky to have been chosen to have training in children’s rights and the No Litter Generation through the World’s Children’s Prize. Now I’m a WCP Child Rights Ambassador and I’ve decided to specialise in the environment and environmental contamination because for me it’s the most important child rights issue. All children have the right to a clean environment and the right to good health. And the right to play!

“But how can children play when there’s litter, glass bottles and splinters everywhere that they can hurt themselves on? One of my friends died four years ago from the disease typhoid, which was caused by littering and a contaminated environment. He was just 14 years old. It’s sad and wrong, and was the reason why I started getting interested in environmental issues.”

UN development goals

“I’ve learned a lot about the environment through WCP and The Globe. I now know that the UN has made a cleaner environment one of its major global sustainable development goals for 2030, and I think that’s really good and absolutely essential.

“Previous generations have ruined our planet with emissions and littering. Plastic and other toxic waste ends up in



“We use the media to tell people about our work for the environment and to combat littering. We want to increase people’s knowledge,” explains Natalie.

our rivers, lakes and oceans and contaminates our drinking water, and we become ill and die. It happens to animals

on land and in the sea too. If our generation doesn’t start looking after the environment and stop contaminating it and littering, there’ll be no future for us at all. The whole planet will be destroyed. I want to fight for our future!”



Talking on TV

“My commitment has meant that I’ve been elected the No Litter Ambassador for the whole of Zimbabwe, and I’m very proud to have this role.”

“My mum always says ‘Cleanliness is next to God!’” says Natalie, laughing.

Demonstration against littering and in support of the No Litter Generation in Mbare, the oldest township in the capital Harare.



My job is to explain to everyone, children and adults, that the environment is a children's rights issue. And as No Litter Ambassador, I've had the opportunity to talk on the radio and TV during prime time.

"In the run up to our No Litter Day in the capital Harare's township of Mbare, I was interviewed on Radio Zimbabwe and on the TV pro-

gramme Good Morning Zimbabwe. When I saw all the microphones and cameras and realised that everyone across the whole country would see and hear me, I got really nervous. But then I had more of a feeling of 'wow, now everyone can hear me!' It felt so important.

"The journalists asked me what it means to be a WCP Child Rights Ambassador and



"I think that a cleaner environment is the UN's most important sustainable development goal for 2030 because otherwise our planet is going to be destroyed," says Natalie.



what I think the government should be doing when it comes to children's rights and the environment. It was an amazing opportunity to tell millions of listeners and viewers what us young people want for our future, that the government should defend our rights and stand up for the environment. It was the best platform we could have hoped for!"

Registering to take part in No Litter Day in Mbare.

No Litter Day

"We got fantastic coverage when we used the radio and TV. Lots of people, adults and children who wouldn't otherwise have been aware of our cleaning day, turned up on our No Litter Day.

"Several adults who came told me they were ashamed that it was us children and young people who were pointing out serious problems and taking the initiative for change and doing something





Own clothes made of plastic

“We’ve made our protective clothing out of rubbish bags to protect our normal clothes from dirt, but also to look really good on this important day!” say friends Selma and Samantha, laughing.

good. Having heard me on the radio they just had to come and help out!

“We purposefully chose to have our No Litter Day in the township of Mbare. It’s a very poor area with lots of litter. None of the decision-makers, neither the City Council, the government nor the president, seem to care. And the city’s cleaning and rubbish collection services don’t work out there. The mountains of rubbish are just getting bigger all the time. Even the children’s play areas are covered with litter. In richer parts of the city they have functioning cleaning and rubbish collection services. I don’t know why it’s like this, but it’s wrong!”

Own rubbish truck

“Before No Litter Day, we contacted Harare City Council and asked whether they could provide a rubbish truck

because we realised that when we started cleaning up in Mbare there would be huge amounts of rubbish. They were willing to help, which was lucky for us! We collected so much rubbish that it was completely impossible to weigh it. I think I heard that the truck took 10 cubic metres of rubbish, and it was full to the brim!

“I hope that the rubbish

truck will now continue to come to Mbare and collect people’s rubbish. The politicians who make decisions in the city should be so ashamed that they just have to do something!

“But even if the rubbish truck comes, I suspect that the city’s rubbish recycling isn’t working that well. Some rubbish is recycled, but far from all of it. They’ve started a bit with plas-

tic, but compostable waste, for example, isn’t used at all. As a WCP Child Rights Ambassador, I have an important job ahead of me here. Making the politicians who make decisions in our city aware and influencing them.”

Hello and thank you!

The city provided a rubbish truck, which came and collected all the litter the children had collected on No Litter Day.



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