## Communities Need to Recycle

Do you really want your children growing up and having to clean up the mess you have left them? Why should we sit back and let our precious earth be filled with mass waste when there is a simple answer lingering at our fingertips? Recycling. Communities must be obligated to change their damaging habits that are causing unnecessary landfill, pollution and a waste of our precious natural resources. Therefore, it is imperative that communities recycle.

Our natural resources will soon run out if we don't begin to recycle. Recycling paper is one undeniable way to save our precious forests. Recycling one tonne of paper saves 17 trees, two barrels of oil (which is enough to run the average car for just over 2000 kilometers), 4100 kilowatts of energy (enough to power the average home for six months), 3.2 cubic meters of landfill space and 28 kilograms of pollution. The 17 trees saved by recycling one tonne of paper can absorb a total of 120 kilograms of carbon dioxide out of the air each year. If all of our newspapers were recycled, we could save about 250 million trees each year! By getting communities to recycle we would be saving our scarce resources.

By not recycling, we are filling our earth with an abundance of unnecessary landfill when really we could use this land for many other beneficial things. Each year an Australian household produces a massive 400 kilograms of waste which is equivalent to two baby elephants. We don't need all of this extra accumulated waste. All we need to do is recycle.

Plastic bags are also a big contributor to pollution and mass landfill. Plastic bags that are thrown away or just left on the side of the road usually end up in the ocean via drains and gutters. This process results in one hundred million sea creatures being killed each year. EACH YEAR! That is too many being killed: soon there will be none left! By recycling our plastic bags in the recycle bins located in supermarkets, we can stop the unfortunate killing of our helpless sea creatures.

Recycling saves energy resources. It is more energy efficient to recycle aluminium cans rather than produce new ones. Creating twenty cans out of recycled material uses the corresponding amount of energy that it takes to make one new can. Therefore, it makes a lot more economic sense to recycle rather than produce new products.

Communities must be compelled to take action by recycling to save our much needed resources, energy and creatures. Just think how the minimal effort of putting things in the recycling can result in a much more livable earth for generations to come. All you need to do us recycle.

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## Year7

