

## Save the Forests

Classmates – I need your attention. When trees are being cut down in great numbers; when plants are being destroyed; when animals are losing their habitats, then something must be done to change human behaviour. In this speech I will show you that we need to save our magnificent forests across the world.

Now, you may think that this is a topic that doesn't interest or involve you, but the bottom line is, you're wrong! It involves all of us who live on this precious planet called earth. You see, we are the ones responsible for putting our world in danger. Every year, every month, every day, our planet is getting warmer because of the build-up of carbon dioxide in the air. And guess what? 30% of the carbon dioxide is put into the air by humans. It is our irresponsible behaviour (such as burning so much fossil fuel) that is placing us at risk of extreme weather such as heatwaves, droughts, heavy rainfall and flooding. Not just us – we are endangering many species of wildlife and plants because their habitat is being destroyed by these abnormal weather patterns. Have you thought what a world without our wonderful wildlife would be like? Do we want empty, barren woodlands, or do we want full, flourishing forests?

When was the last time you went for a walk in one of our amazing forests? Everyone knows that the forests are the lungs of the earth. They absorb billions of tonnes of carbon dioxide, making the air cleaner for us to breathe. They are rich in flora and fauna, home to thousands of species of plants and animals, some of which are very rare. The trees are their life support system – their shelter, their food, their protection. Without our fabulous forests so many species will simply die out. That is a terrible prospect.

However, across the world, reports show that vast areas of forests are being cut down. This shocking process of deforestation not only means that our forests cannot help to keep the levels of carbon dioxide down, but millions of species also lose their homes and their food supply. Furthermore, where enormous areas of tropical rainforest are being destroyed, the plants and animals that depend on the protective canopy those trees give, perish because they are being cruelly exposed to the harsh sunlight.

Friends, this is serious! Are we young people who choose to destroy? Are we young people who choose to endanger? No, we choose to protect our forests so that they can protect our future.

We are all responsible. We can all do our bit. Take action – NOW!