



Creation Care Problem Solvers

Kid Fixers

by Anne Neuberger

There is no age limit on who can do creation care. Many young people have become problem solvers themselves and accomplished great things.

Read the amazing stories here. Talk about how the work they have done has benefited the world. Do some research if you are especially interested in the topic.

Consider how you too can contribute and then start dreaming!

Catholic Social Teaching

We encourage you to identify which main areas of Catholic Social Teaching each child or group is applying in their work. Here is a list with descriptions:

- 1. The Dignity of the Human Person** - Every human being is created in the image of God and worthy of respect. Human dignity comes from being human, not from what the person does or who the person is. This is the core foundation of Catholic social teaching.
- 2. Living as Family and Community** - Humans are inherently social. The way we organize society has a direct affect on human dignity and the common good (what is best for everyone). Family is the most basic form of association and must particularly be promoted and protected.
- 3. Rights and Responsibilities** - As children of God, we all have rights and duties. For example,

all people have a right to participate in society, in order to work together for the common good. Democratic participation in decision making respects the dignity of all.

- 4. Stewardship of Creation** - We are called to be good caretakers of everything from God's creation to our talents, property, and other resources. We must take care of the planet not only for the planet's sake, but also because neglect of creation usually has the largest impact on those who are the most vulnerable in the world.
- 5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable** - The needs of the poor and powerless have to come first. This is necessary to hold society together, promote the common good, and make sure everyone's needs are met.
- 6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers** - Work and the economy serve people, not the other way around. Everyone has a right to work. Everyone also has a right to work with dignity: productive work, decent and fair wages, the organization and joining of unions, private property, and economic initiative.
- 7. Solidarity** - The principle of solidarity holds that we are all children of God and members of the same family. Despite all differences and distances, we are called to love our neighbors and fight for what is best for them.

Note: An adult should oversee all online research done by children.

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Adeline Tiffanie Suwana

Restoring Protection by Reforesting Mangrove Trees

Indonesia • 12 years old

When Adeline was 12 years old, her entire town was evacuated because of a flood. Curious, Adeline learned that flooding and other natural disasters are often caused by widespread environmental problems.

Adeline then found out that many mangrove trees had been destroyed. These amazing trees live on or near the shorelines in tropical areas. They protect coastal areas from big waves. Part of the reason for flood in her area was due to the lack of mangroves.

Adeline learned much more, and decided to act. She asked her schoolmates to help reforest the mangrove swamps. They formed an organization call Sahabat Alam (Friends of Nature).

The 150 students planted trees, restored coral reefs, and cleaned up beaches. They became involved with turtle protection and fish breeding. They also worked on energy development and sustainability, finding ways to bring electricity to remote villages with renewable energy.

Their numbers grew to over 1,000, and Adeline's ideas were presented in schools and on a television program.

Now Adeline is in college. She has represented her country as a youth delegate to several United Nations Conferences. She won the Malaysia-China Gold Green Award.

Adeline believes that when young people act as "environmental ambassadors," it helps her generation and those to follow to have respect for and an understanding of our planet.

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings does Sahabat Alam work support?

8. The Dignity of the Human Person
9. Living as Family and Community
10. Rights and Responsibilities
11. Stewardship of Creation
12. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
13. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
14. Solidarity

- Learn more about mangroves and other coastal plants or animals that protect the coasts. Also learn about why some of these resources are being destroyed.

What is unique about a mangrove tree that makes it such a good protector of tropical coastlines?

Name four species that mangroves help.

Mangroves are unusual looking trees. Study one in detail by finding photos and then draw or paint a picture of one or several.

Where are mangroves found in the world?

Are corals plants or animals?

Adeline and her co-workers helped plant coral. How is that done?

- Suggestions for research:

ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2007/02/mangroves/warne-text

[Mbgnet.net/salt/sandy/mangroves.htm](http://mbgnet.net/salt/sandy/mangroves.htm)

Php.radford.edu/~swoodwar/biomes/?page_id=771

Kids.nceas.ucsb.edu/biomes/coralreef.html

OceanService.noaa.gov/facts/coral.html

CoralRestoration.org/education/

Saving Wetlands

Chelmsford, Massachusetts • 12 years old

Andy's home was near a wetlands area. His family often walked and played there. The three siblings jumped in and out of the stream playing tag or looking for flowers such as lady slippers. They collected beautiful autumn leaves from swamp maples and golden oaks and in the winter, they ice-skated. Andy helped a baby crow he found there until it could fly. Another time, he rescued a skunk caught in a trap!

He would sit quietly to enjoy the blue herons, red-tailed hawks, foxes and deer. He carefully caught salamanders, turtles, snakes, mice and moles to study, and then released them. He learned some of these many "neighbors" were on the endangered list.

One day, in 1987 when Andy was 12, his family learned a land developer planned to build 180 condominiums on top of the wetlands. Andy went into action!

He researched many topics and learned:

- The condos would destroy ½ of the wetlands.
- Besides the building, a sewage treatment plant, oil from driveways, and fertilizers would pollute the remaining water and land.
- It was very possible that the development could contaminate the town's drinking water.

He wrote letters to the town's zoning board and to the Board of Health. He also contacted his senators and representatives, the Audubon Society, and a television anchorwoman.

Andy spent hours talking with neighbors about signing the petition he had written to stop the building. He convinced many to come to a town meeting. He also got his classmates to sign the petition. But while many people agreed with him, they didn't often help him.

He and family members attended meetings for months. Little by little, all his work resulted in others joining in the fight. After 10 months, the developer was denied the use

of the land, and the Zoning Board made it impossible for any other building to happen on the wetlands.

Andy was given the 1988 Environmental Merit Award by the US Environmental Protection Agency. Since then he has given speeches and presentations about preserving the natural environment to many groups across the United States.

And because of Andy's work, the wetlands of his town can never be destroyed.

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings does Andy's work support?
 1. The Dignity of the Human Person
 2. Living as Family and Community
 3. Rights and Responsibilities
 4. Stewardship of Creation
 5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
 6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
 7. Solidarity
- Learn about the US Environmental Protection Agency. What does it do? What has it accomplished? What are its current concerns?
See EPA.gov and EPA.gov/students
- A "deep-hole test" was conducted on the wetlands as part of the process to allow or not allow building on it. Learn what this test can determine.
- Research and list what can happen when wetlands are paved over or drained.

- Andy enjoyed reading books by Gerald Durrell, a naturalist, a conservationist, and writer. Learn about his work:

PBS.org/wgbh/masterpiece/myfamily/durrell.html

- Andy contacted the Audubon Society. What kind of organization is it? Audubon.org

Who was John James Audubon? PBS.org/wnet/americanmasters/john-james-audubon-drawn-from-nature/106/

Books about Audubon:

[*The Boy Who Drew Birds*](#) by Jacqueline Davies and

Melissa Sweet (Grades PreK-3)

[*Into the Woods: John James Audubon Lives His Dream*](#) by Robert Burleigh and Wendell Minor (Grades 4-8)

[*This Strange Wilderness*](#) by Nancy Plain (Grades 7 and up)

Some books by Audubon:

[*The Birds of America*](#)

[*Audubon's Masterpieces: 150 Prints from the Birds of America*](#)

Turning Jeans into Insulation

Ohio • 9 years old

When Erek was nine years old, he read that denim jeans could be recycled. They were made into insulation for keeping houses warm. Some of this kind of insulation was donated to places where homes needed to be repaired after natural disasters.

Erek liked this idea and his family agreed he could hold a denim drive in their driveway. Many people brought old jeans. It was a big success and Erek has been organizing these drives ever since. Many more people are involved now, through schools, churches and companies.

In the first 3 years, Erek's organization kept 9,758 pairs of jeans out of landfill. That number adds up to 10 tons of cotton, and enough insulation for about 20 homes!

Two years after the first denim drive, Erek added shoes to his collecting. Shoes that were still wearable are sent to people who need them. Worn out shoes are ground up and made into sidewalks, running treads, carpet pads or playground mulch.

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings does Erek's work support?
 1. The Dignity of the Human Person
 2. Living as Family and Community
 3. Rights and Responsibilities
 4. Stewardship of Creation
 5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
 6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
 7. Solidarity
- Learn more about recycling denim:
 - What materials are used to make other kinds of insulation?
 - Does the process of turning jeans into insulation have a higher or lower carbon footprint than fiberglass insulation?
 - How is denim insulation better for people's health than other kinds of insulation?
 - What are some other ways you could recycle your jeans?
 - What problems are caused by throwing clothing and shoes into the garbage?
- Websites for more research:
 - GoGreenOhio.org/about-erek.html
 - Inhabitots.com/9-inspiring-kids-who-are-saving-the-world/erek-hansen/
 - BlueJeansGoGreen.org
 - BobVila.com/articles/denim-insulation
 - Hgtv.com/remodel/mechanical-systems/the-benefits-of-recycled-denim-insulation
 - Diys.com/recycle-your-old-blue-jeans/
 - Nike.com/us/en_us/c/better-world/reuse-a-shoe
 - <https://usagainblog.com/2013/05/17/the-shoe-waste-epidemic/>

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

Malawi • 14 years old

William grew up in a village of 60 families in Malawi. Everyone farmed. There was no electricity or running water in any of the homes. When William's family could not afford the \$80 school fee for him, he had to leave school. But his education didn't stop there. Though he spent much time working with his family in their fields, he also read library books.

William often wondered how he could help his family more. Frequently it was windy. Could the wind help create electricity, William wondered? He found a library book on windmills—no directions but lots of pictures. After studying those, William gathered bits and pieces of things—an old tractor fan, parts of a bicycle, etc. He began to build one. It took two months. Some people who watched thought William was crazy. But he didn't give up. He got some things right, some things wrong and little by little, he built a windmill!

He generated electricity with it! The first thing he tried was a radio. Music came from it!

Now those who had wondered about this crazy tower thought differently. Maybe they should give William some help from now on!

William built another windmill that allowed him to wire up a light bulb in his home. He even had to make the light switch!

The librarian was interested in William's windmills and brought many reporters to see them. Soon, the impressed reporters had William's story posted all over the world on the Internet.

That led to William being given a trip to the United States where he visited wind farms. He gave a talk, and was interviewed for television and radio. William wrote a book about his ideas and work. He now goes to college.

Back at home, he was able to add solar panels to his

family's home, bright lights, and a deep-water well! For the first time, his family can work, read, and study after dark. In the daytime, they can irrigate their crops too. He hopes to help others in their village now, and plans on finishing his education and start his own windmill company.

"Most people want technology, but they cannot use the Internet technology without electricity. That is what I'm planning to do, to come up with reliable electricity," says William.

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings does William's work support?

1. The Dignity of the Human Person
2. Living as Family and Community
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Stewardship of Creation
5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
7. Solidarity

- Learn more about William and the work he continues to do:

WilliamKamkwamba.com

[YouTube.com/watch?v=arD374MFk4w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=arD374MFk4w)

- How did William's family's life change with electricity? What would your life be like if you did not have electricity in your home?

- Learn about electricity in Malawi:

[Hivos.org/sites/default/files/malawi_profile.pdf](https://www.hivos.org/sites/default/files/malawi_profile.pdf)

- Is the energy William brought to his village sustainable? Learn about wind energy:

AlliantEnergyKids.com/energyandtheenvironment/renewableenergy/022397

ClimateKids.nasa.gov/career-wind-energy/

AlliantEnergyKids.com/energyandtheenvironment/

renewableenergy/022403

- Get creative:

AlliantEnergyKids.com/FunandGames/CoolProjects/index.htm

An Artist for the Birds

New York • 11 years old

Olivia loves animals, and birds in particular. “They are beautiful. They all have personalities,” she said. “I think the reason that a lot of people have chosen birds as a symbol of the environment is because they have a sense of freedom. They can fly. They own the air.”

She not only knows all about the birds that live in the forest near her home in New York, but is also familiar with birds and other animals on the beach near her grandparents’ home on the Gulf of Mexico. “The animals there were amazing,” said Olivia. “The crabs that would pop out of a hole then scurry and pop back in, the sanderlings that would go and hunt after them, and the brown pelicans and a certain great blue heron, who I think has become one of my best friends.”

So when an oil rig spilled millions and millions of gallons of oil into the Gulf of New Mexico, Olivia feared for her friends. Thousands of birds, marine animals, and insects, all vital to the area, were injured or killed. Olivia was heartsick, and she wanted to do something about it.

An avid painter, Olivia wrote to the Audubon Society offering to paint pictures of birds. These painting could be offered to people who donated money to help clean up the birds and other animals. “I am 11 years old and ready to help,” she said in her letter.

She volunteered to contribute 500 paintings, thinking her paintings would perhaps help raise \$200.

The society gladly accepted her offer, and Olivia got to work. A couple of weeks later, donations started pouring in. Then different media learned about her project. Soon it was news in Belgium, England, Italy, and the United States.

By the time all this settled down, Olivia’s work had helped raised \$200,000!

“I can make a difference,” Olivia said.

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings does Olivia’s work support?

1. The Dignity of the Human Person
2. Living as Family and Community
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Stewardship of Creation
5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
7. Solidarity

- Learn more about Olivia’s artwork, which can now be seen in a book she wrote:

[Amzn.to/1XWz5mS](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01XWz5mS)

[Amzn.to/1VBXM86](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01VBXM86)

[MyHero.com/hero.asp?hero=Olivia Bouler 2012](http://MyHero.com/hero.asp?hero=Olivia+Bouler+2012)

- The Audubon Society works to protect wildlife, especially birds. It is named for John James Audubon (1785-1851), an artist who studied birds. He wanted to catalog every species of bird in the United States. He created a book, *The Birds of North America*, with over 1000 drawings of birds.

Audubon.org

PBS.org/wnet/americanmasters/john-james-audubon-drawn-from-nature/106/

- Learn about the Gulf Oil Spill of 2010:

Ocean.si.edu/gulf-oil-spill

NWF.org/What-We-Do/Protect-Habitat/Gulf-Restoration/Oil-Spill.aspx

Fighting Hunger with Food

San Diego • 12 years old

Gabrielle Posard was 12-years-old when her older sister, Camille, started working on a documentary film. It was about hunger.

She learned that one fourth of all people in the United States experiences hunger. Gabrielle was upset about this. Then she learned that about 40% of food is wasted. She couldn't ignore all that information.

She started talking to grocers about donating food that was near its sell-by date. She told grocers that a law, the Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, protected them so they could donate food without worry. Immediately, people began donating fresh fruits and vegetables.

Then she started a project she named Donate Don't Dump. It is run by teens, and is entirely volunteer. They now work with grocers, restaurant owners, growers, and food companies. They rescue food that is still good. It may not have been eaten because it wasn't needed, or past its sell-by date.

A local food bank group's truck is used to collect the food, and take it to various places where anyone in need can come to get food.

In a few years, Gabrielle and her group had kept 800,000 lbs. of food from emitting greenhouse gases! The network of volunteers picks up and distributes 20,000 pounds of food every month! There are over seventeen chapters of Donate Don't Dump in four states.

How did someone who was only 12 years old start a project like this? Gabrielle says, "I'm pretty stubborn."

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings does Gabrielle's work support?
 1. The Dignity of the Human Person
 2. Living as Family and Community

3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Stewardship of Creation
5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
7. Solidarity

- Learn more about Gabrielle, Donate Don't Dump and food rescue:

DonateDontDump.net

Speakers.youth-leader.org/gabrielle-posard-donate-dont-dump/

- Learn more about world-wide hunger and how you can help:

WFP.org/hunger/stats

CRS.org/get-involved/learn/hunger

Bread.org/library/nourishing-effect-2016-hunger-report

- Thoughts and prayers:

The next time you have a round pizza, cut it into fourths. Put one-fourth onto a separate plate and look at how big it is. Think about the statistic of ¼ of people in the United States experiencing hunger. Pray for them, ask for guidance for what you can do, thank God for this pizza, and then enjoy eating it. Don't let any go to waste.

Why do you think the law encouraging stores to donate food is called the "Good Samaritan Food Donation Act"? See Luke 10:25-37.

- Prayer inspiration and commitment:

CRS.org/resource-center/prayer-hungry

Bread.org/library/biblical-basis-advocacy-end-hunger

Bread.org/pray-end-hunger

Testing the Waters

Fallon, Nevada • 12 years old

When the school science fair was coming up, Kevin Bell decided to test water. In a nearby wildlife refuge called Stillwater, fish and other animals were dying. It was thought that some of the water was contaminated. Kevin was curious.

The refuge was near 67,000 acres of farmland, which was watered regularly. The water then seeped down into the water table. There, 20 huge drains carried the water to the Stillwater Refuge. Could it be that one of those drains was contaminated?

With help from workers at the refuge, Kevin got samples of water from the drain most likely to be contaminated and also from a clean reservoir. In his experiments, he used A) only drain water, B) 50% drain and 50% clean water, and C) 25% drain and 75% clean water.

Then he planted bean seeds in 3 pots. The seeds watered with A never sprouted.

Next came water animals. In the containers having only drain water, one fish lived 96 hours; a different kind of fish lived less than 5 hours; pond snails lived 5 minutes; and water fleas lived 5 seconds!

Kevin's project won first place in his state. Then his notebook was shown to the US Secretary of the Interior! It was put into the Congressional Records in May 1990.

His work was used to help pass laws to close the drain, bring clean water to the refuge, and to settle fights over water use in Nevada.

Kevin received the Conservation Award from the governor of Nevada. Then he flew to Washington, D.C., where President George H.W. Bush presented him with the President's Environmental Youth Award!

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings does Kevin's

work support?

1. The Dignity of the Human Person
2. Living as Family and Community
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Stewardship of Creation
5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
7. Solidarity

- Interested in the creation care issues in this story? Here are questions and suggestions for research:

Why are wetlands so important?

How does some development hurt wetlands?

What is a water table?

What is an aquifer?

How can water get polluted?

- Websites for more research:

Education.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/water-table/

LiveScience.com/39625-aquifers.html

Geography4kids.com/files/water_groundwater.html

EHow.com/info_8509843_difference-between-aquifer-water-table.html

EHow.com/info_12324288_polluted-soil-disturb-water-table.html

Ducksters.com/science/environment/water_pollution.php

WWF.panda.org/about_our_earth/about_freshwater/intro/threats/

WorldWildlife.org/habitats/wetlands

NWF.org/What-We-Do/Protect-Habitat/Waters/Wetlands-and-Watersheds.aspx

EPA.gov/wetlands/may-american-wetlands-month-learn-explore-take-action

● Books for more research:

[*A Drop Around the World*](#) by Barbara KcKinney
(Grades K and up)

[*Did a Dinosaur Drink This Water?*](#) by Robert E. Wells
(Grades 1-5)

[*One Well: The Story of Water on Earth*](#) by Rochelle Strauss (Grades 3-6)

[*Pitter and Patter*](#) by Martha Sullivan, illustrated by Cathy Morrison (Grades PreK-4)

[*The Snowflake: A Water Cycle Story*](#) by Neil Waldman (Grades 1-5)

[*Where Do Puddles Go?*](#) by Fay Robinson (Grades Preschool-2)

Turning Cooking Oil into Fuel

Westerly, Rhode Island • 10 years old

Fifth grader Cassandra Lin kept hearing about climate change. A big cause is burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas). This warming causes the polar ice caps to melt, causing the oceans to rise. Cassandra's town and coastal towns around the world would be affected!

Cassandra decided to act with her friends. They learned:

1. using different fuels, such as wind, solar and biodiesel, could slow global warming
2. used cooking oil can be made into biodiesel fuel
3. local restaurants poured their used cooking grease (oils) down their sinks, clogging up sewage lines
4. there were families who could not afford to pay their winter heating bills.

The fifth grade friends decided to turn used cooking oil into fuel for people without heat in their homes! They named their work "Turning Grease into Fuel" (TGIF)

This is what they did:

1. asked grease collectors, biodiesel refiners, and biofuel distributors to work with them
2. asked charities to contact families needing heat
3. handed out 6,300 flyers and 4,500 calendars, and made presentations so others knew about TGIF
4. asked local restaurants to donate their grease
5. asked their town council to set up stations to collect the oil before it went to the refiners

Six years later:

- 132 local restaurants donate 4,000 gallons of grease each month
- there are 25 recycling collection stations in town
- TGIF is in other cities and three states, with more interested
- TGIF created new jobs
- all school busses in town now run on biodiesel

- 400 families received 40,000 gallons of donated Bioheat
- estimates by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) show this group's efforts may have offset 3 million tons of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere!

They didn't stop there!

- The kids wrote up a bill for their state, requiring all businesses to recycle their grease. Their legislatures took it to the governor, who signed it into law. It went into effect on Jan 1, 2012!
- Hurricane Sandy damaged beaches. TGIF started a program to raise money for the "Bring Back the Beach" fund. It was called "You Eat, We Donate." With contributions of money from some corporations, TGIF pledged that for every customer who ate at restaurants that recycled grease, they would donate \$20. TGIF was able to donate \$11,000!

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings does TGIF's work support?
 1. The Dignity of the Human Person
 2. Living as Family and Community
 3. Rights and Responsibilities
 4. Stewardship of Creation
 5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
 6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
 7. Solidarity
- Learn more about alternative fuels. Here are suggested topics for research:

The TGIF program makes "Second generation biofuel". What does that mean? What is first generation biofuel? Are there more generations of biofuel?

Compare biofuel and fossil fuel for cost in money and cost to the environment

Learn about other sources of energy such as wind and sun.

Are there other renewable energy sources too?

What happens when used cooking oil is not recycled: how is it disposed? What happens to it after it has been thrown away?

What kinds of cooking fats can be used for making biofuels?

What is the process for turning used cooking grease into fuel?

- Websites for more research:

Biofuel.org.uk/biofuels-for-kids.html

Kids.esdb.bg/biomass.html

AlliantEnergyKids.com/EnergyandTheEnvironment/

w-i-n.ws/index_files/Page391.htm

A School for Recycling

Sixth Graders and Teachers of Sherman School

Westerly, Rhode Island

Located in the same town as Cassandra Lin and her school, Sherman Elementary School joined TGIF, becoming a receptacle centers for used oil. In one year, the school and nearby community collected 700 gallons of grease, which would be converted into biodiesel fuel to heat the homes of people in need.

But they didn't stop there:

As their school had to pay for a recycling truck to come to the school for paper, cans and plastics, teachers started asking sixth graders to sort and set out the recycling. They arranged to have the garbage truck also take recycling on their regular route. Besides recycling, this plan saved money and used less fuel for trucks.

Next, the sixth grade and their teachers went to a landfill in a school bus. The bus was driven up onto the huge pile of trash! Amongst the garbage they especially noticed plastic bags. One person said, "All you could see were plastic bags flying around."

So, they began a community effort to collect stretchy plastic bags (shopping bags, food storage bags, dry cleaner bags). They have accumulated about 3,000 bags, which are then given to a local farm that sells garden produce, bagging them into these reused bags.

Then they tackled another kind of waste: every day after school lunches are eaten, any apple cores, carrot tops, and peelings from oranges, bananas and potatoes are put into compost bins. Now the school has a garden of roses flourishing because of the compost added to the soil.

But they didn't stop there:

With all their experiences, the sixth graders now educate the younger students about recycling. When these

students reach sixth grade, they will be ready to be in charge. There is no stopping this school!

For Curious Creation Care Kids

- Which of the Catholic Social Teachings do Sherman students' and teachers' work support?

1. The Dignity of the Human Person
2. Living as Family and Community
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Stewardship of Creation
5. An Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
6. The Dignity and Rights of Workers
7. Solidarity

- Think about the ways you use plastic bags.

Name five ways you use plastic bags.

Name five ways plastic bags cause problems.

Now go back to your list of how you use the bags and ask:

1. Which of these ways could you change right now?
2. With a little planning, could you make more changes?
3. Learn about how some wild animals are sometimes hurt by plastic bags

- Websites for more research:

Cleanup.org.au/au/LiveGreener/plastic-bags-in-schools.html

Kinooze.com/why-is-plastic-harmful-for-environment/

TheWorldCounts.com/stories/interesting-facts-about-plastic-bags

How are some wild animals hurt by plastic bags?

SeeTurtles.org/ocean-plastic/

EndangeredSpeciesInternational.org/plastickills.html

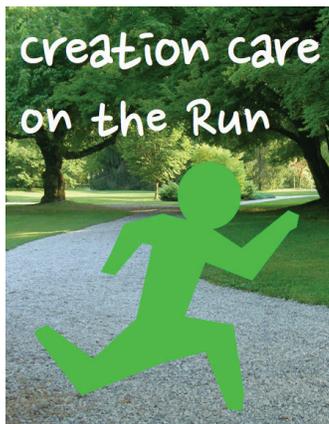
[HumaneSociety.org/news/magazines/2009/07-08/
the_deadly_truth_about_trash.html](http://HumaneSociety.org/news/magazines/2009/07-08/the_deadly_truth_about_trash.html)

● Books for more research:

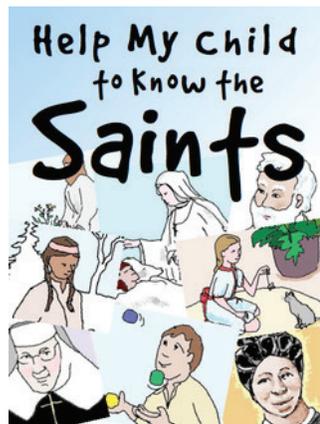
[*Bag in the Wind*](#) by Ted Kooser (Grades K-3)

[*One Plastic Bag*](#) by Miranda Paul (Grades 1-4)

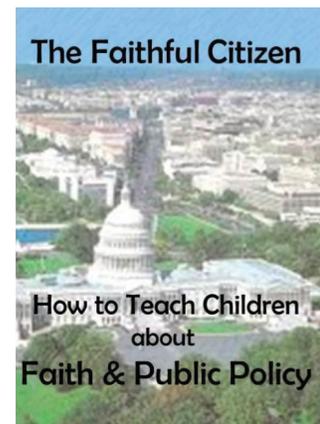
Find more resources for teaching children
how to care for our common home at
CreationCareKids.com



Handouts for Busy Parents



Creation Care Saint Stories



Help Kids Take Action