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## **Earth Day Essay**

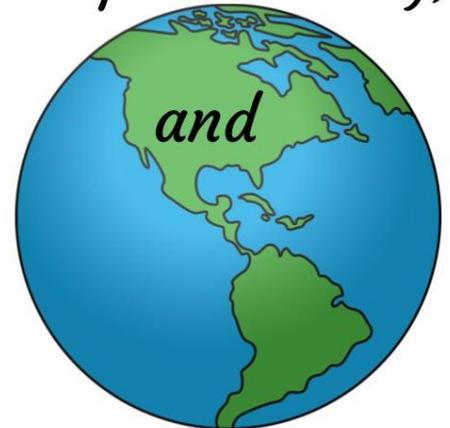
Waves crash on a beach, So beautiful yet poisoned, Help save the oceans. All organisms need water to survive. Ecosystems need water to continue in the life cycle. An example is in the ocean ecosystem, algae gives to fish and coral, the fish give to the coral, sharks, hawks and back to algae, the hawks and sharks give to the algae as well. A major problem that we are facing is plastic in the ocean. Because we need water to live we need to protect the oceans, lakes and rivers. Focusing specifically on saving the oceans, all the macro and micro plastics polluting them is bad for the ecosystem in the ocean.

We need to stop polluting the oceans. If we continue to throw rubbish in them, we are making our water dirty.

For the record we would like to keep clean water. If we continue to throw trash in the oceans the problem isn't going to get better, it's going to get worse. To elaborate we need to, as my slogo says, "stop producing and start reducing." That is, man made plastic. We can start reducing the amount of microplastics in the oceans by stopping using some things. To elaborate, some of the things we should stop using, or use naturally made; toothpaste, clothes, tea bags, paint, wet wipes, glitter, tennis balls, laundry and/or dishwasher pods and/or tablets, cigarettes, and tires because they contain micro plastics. I hate to say who caused this problem but us humans did. We were so silly and we started making plastics and once we realized they were bad for the environment, we kept making them. We need to realize how horrible this is.

In order to return the ocean to a healthy state, we need to stop putting trash in the ocean on purpose. For example, there are some machines that are going out and collecting trash from the ocean; but to regain the ocean's natural beauty and health, we need to end the dumping of rubbish in the ocean. So, if we try to clean it up; but we continue adding trash, it's not going to get better. - It may even get worse. Another solution to improving the health of the ocean is a process called "System 001/B." - A trash collecting machine designed recently by Californian Scientists. For example, System 001/B is a collecting process for plastic debris that has proven successful. It is

*Stop Producing,*



*Start Reducing*

well known that floating trash is harmful to many species residing in the ocean. (Whales, dolphins, seals and more!) A giant floating strainer, System 001/B, can help clean up the ocean. This incredible mechanism was designed through the Ocean Cleanup Project. A 2,000 foot machine, the System 001/B includes floating pipes, as well as proficient netting that resides just under the water. The System 001/B will be able to gather literally tons of trash from the currently known area referred to as “The Great Pacific Garbage Patch.” This layout allows for ocean trash to be scooped up into the middle of the nets; much like a fisherman would do! The project, based out of San Francisco, California has the scientific population hopeful about the ocean’s cleanup; with testing slated for the near future along the California coast. A long “Floater” system is another option for collecting trash from, and improving the ocean’s environment. For example, within the Floater system are mechanisms allowing the machine to rest atop the surface of the ocean; with a long skirt-like net hanging just below. Much like the System 001/B, the netting of the Floater system collects debris; capturing and securing it in a “retention” sub-system. Thus, the debris is prevented from leaking out. - All the while, the Floater mechanism remains buoyant atop the water!

We need water to live so therefore we need to protect the oceans, lakes and rivers. Focusing on specifically saving the oceans, all the macro and micro plastics polluting the oceans is horrible. To summarize my essay, it is important to take action because if we don't then we are leaving a horrible world to the next generations. All of the above paragraphs prove why we should “stop producing, and start reducing.”