

To make this booklet, I picked things kids could do from tips given by the Sierra Club, Greenpeace, the Union of Concerned Scientists, the website of the movie "An Inconvenient Truth," and other sources.

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Illustrations are by JJP (age 10) and HJP (age 7).

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Thank you for telling others about positive things they can do for our environment.

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Joanne Poyourow is a mom, a gardener, an author, a community activist and educator. She leads the Environmental Change-Makers group in the Westchester area of Los Angeles. Your parents can read more about this group at [www.EnviroChangeMakers.org](http://www.EnviroChangeMakers.org)

Joanne wrote a book for adults, *Legacy: A Story of Hope for a Time of Environmental Crisis*. This book explores what life will be like over the next four decades as kids like you are growing up. How will global warming and climate change affect us here in the city? How will our lifestyles change as everyone starts to use greener habits and ideas? *Legacy* shows what leading environmental thinkers believe are the best solutions, and puts it all into an inspiring novel so Mom and Dad can read about your future.

Joanne Poyourow

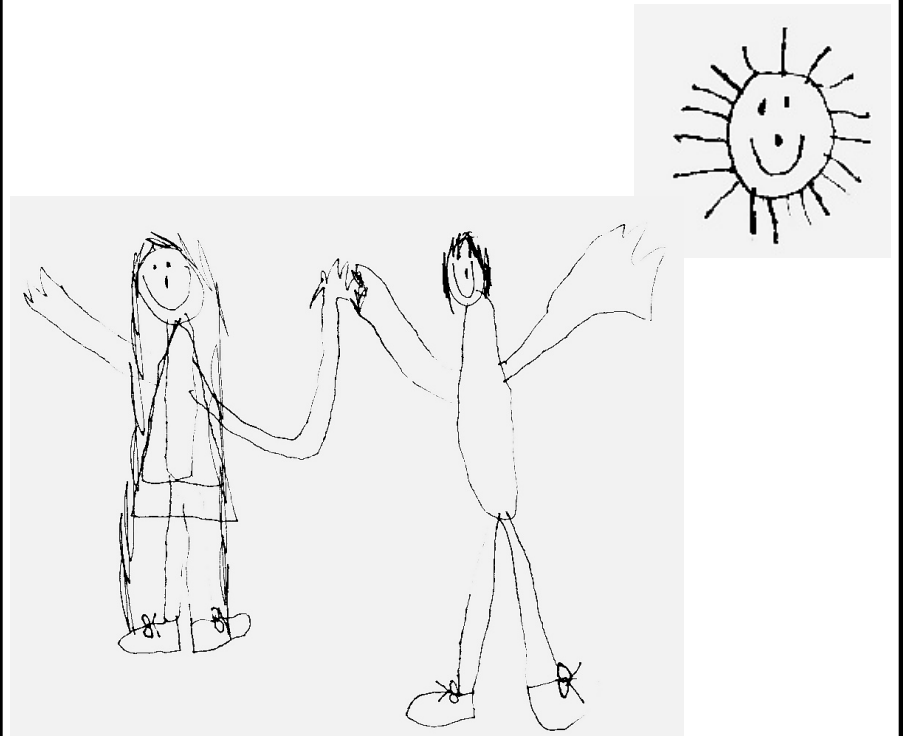
Author of *Legacy*, the visionary environmental novel

[www.LegacyLA.net](http://www.LegacyLA.net)

"What Can I Do?" ♦ Positive Environmental News ♦ Resources

# 10 Things You Can Do About Global Warming

*(Yes, even if you're not yet an adult)*



## Words to understand

**Climate:** The weather. We usually say 'climate' when we're talking about a big part of the world, and when we're trying to talk about rain and snow and winds and many other things in addition to how hot it is outside.

**Efficient:** Something that is efficient is working in the best possible manner with the least amount of waste. Examples: If you do your homework efficiently that means you don't waste time in getting it done. A light bulb is more efficient if it uses less electricity.

**Fossil fuels:** Fuels are something we burn to make heat or power. Fossil fuels are fuels that are made from oil, gas, coal. Fossil fuels are not renewable – the earth cannot make more of them during your lifetime.

**Greenhouse gasses:** A gas is something you can't see, like the air we breathe. When we burn fuels, the burning makes gasses. Some of these gasses are changing the way the earth protects itself from the rays of the sun. These changes are making our planet get warmer. We call this warming "Global Warming." **Carbon dioxide** is the name of one of these greenhouse gasses. Our cars make lots and lots of carbon dioxide.

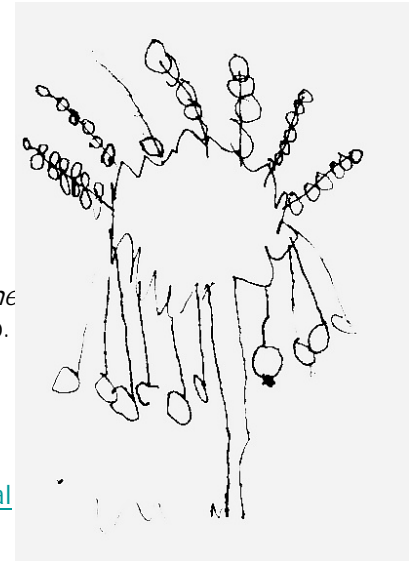
**Reduce:** To make less or smaller. Example: To reduce your scoop of ice cream means to make it smaller. We need to reduce greenhouse gasses if we're going to slow down Global Warming.

**Release:** To let go. Example: if you release your balloon it will float away. When we release greenhouse gasses, they float up into the very high parts of the sky (the atmosphere) and change how the earth keeps itself warm or cool.

**Renewable resources:** The earth can make more of things that are renewable resources. Example: Trees are renewable resources because the earth can grow more trees. Oil is not a renewable resource because it takes a very, very long time for the earth to make oil.

## Learn more about what you can do:

- *How To Save the Planet*, by Barbara Taylor. My son highly recommends it!
- *50 Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth*, by The EarthWorks Group. My son says to read the Taylor book first.
- Global Warming Kids Page, Pew Center on Global Climate Change <http://www.pewclimate.org/global-warming-basics/kidspage.cfm>
- Tiki the Penguin's climate page on OneWorld.net [http://tiki.oneworld.net/global\\_warming/climate\\_home.html](http://tiki.oneworld.net/global_warming/climate_home.html)



Apple Tree

## Ask your parents to read these:

- "How Will Global Warming Impact California", Union of Concerned Scientists, [http://www.ucsusa.org/clean\\_california/ca-global-warming-impacts.html](http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_california/ca-global-warming-impacts.html) Video at <http://www.climatechoices.org/ca/index.html>
- "25 Things You Can Do About Global Warming," by J. Poyourow <http://legacyla.net/documents/25Thingsgw.pdf>
- "Raising Children to a Climate Change Future," by J. Poyourow <http://legacyla.net/documents/RaisingChildrCC.pdf>
- Jeffrey Hollander, *How To Make the World A Better Place: 116 Ways You Can Make a Difference*
- *Legacy: A Story of Hope for a Time of Environmental Crisis*, by J. Poyourow. See how our children's future will unfold, and learn what we can do about it. [www.LegacyLA.net](http://www.LegacyLA.net)
- For younger siblings: Kids' Environmental Booklist, by members of the Environmental Change-Makers of Westchester <http://www.envirochangemakers.org/pdfs/ChildrBooklist.pdf>