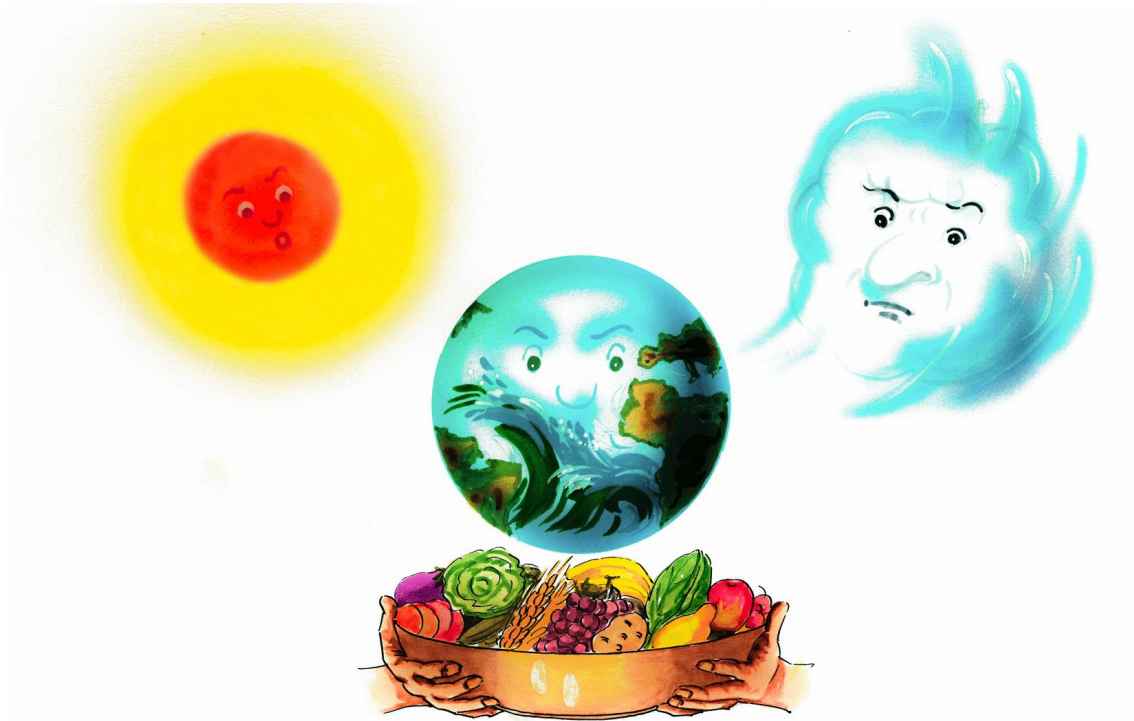


Who Gives Earth Its Life?



Once, the Sun with Water and Air
Decided to hold a meeting.
Each one of them wanted to share
How good the Earth they're treating.

They forgot to invite food
Who is a basic source, too.
He said, "That's really no-good!
It's me that creates woo!"

The Sun said, "Without me there's no life on Earth.
I'm the main source for this universe.
No plant, no animal, no man can thrive.
I'm the one who gives Earth its life."



"I give the Earth the light and warmth.
I let it get the energy it wants.
Without me, no one can survive.
I'm the one who gives Earth its life!"

"Wait, wait. What do you say?" the Water said.
"The world fights for me. Haven't you read?
No plant, no animal, no man can thrive.
I'm the one who gives Earth its life."

"You find me on Earth and in the air.
For creatures to live I should be there.
I'm the one who gave life its birth.
I'm the one who's of real worth."

Air quickly stood to his foot and fluttered.
"H-H-How dare you forget about me?" he stuttered.
"No plant, no animal, no man can thrive.
I'm the one who gives Earth its life."

"I'm everywhere in the atmosphere.
No one can see me, but I'm there and here.
Without me no one can survive.
Creatures breathe me to stay alive."

Food who was waiting to be served
Remarked on the hustle and the bustle he heard,
"That's really no-good of any of you!
All creatures on earth for us they woo!"



“We’re all important, there is no doubt.

No one of us should be left out.

No plant, no animal, no man can thrive.

They need us all to stay alive.”

1. What does the Sun give Earth?

- a) Food and animals
- b) Light and warmth
- c) Pink cheeks and a tan

2. Who needs air?

- a) People only
- b) People and animals
- c) People, animals, and plants

3. Which ones are the most important?

- a) Water and food
- b) Sun and air
- c) All of them



A Difficult Landing



Jad was playing on his computer when he suddenly heard the slam of a door. He knew it was his father coming back from Dubai. "Welcome back, Dad! How was your flight?" Jad asked.

"Everything was fine, but it was difficult to land in Dubai, Jad. The smog was thicker than usual, and that made visibility poor," answered Dad.

"Smog!" exclaimed Jad. "What does smog mean?"

"Smog means smoke mixed with fog. Smoke from factories and vehicles' exhausts sometimes mixes with fog," Jad's dad explained. "Together they form smog which rises up in the air and makes it difficult for pilots to see."

"It seems you were in great danger," remarked Jad.

"No, I managed to land the plane safely, but pollution is becoming a problem in our environment," Jad's father responded.

"Air pollution is affecting almost all living things; people, flowers, trees, and animals. Even the walls of some old buildings are becoming dark and shabby."

"Can people do something to stop it?" asked Jad.



“Sure! In cities where many people live, hundreds of buildings use solar panels instead of coal or fuel engines. They take the energy from the sun to heat their houses and water,” Dad explained.

“That’s a good idea. We love our world, Dad. We should care for it. We all have to work hard to make it a better place. This is what we learn at school,” Jad said.

1. Why was it difficult to land?

- a) Because the engine stopped working
- b) Because the smog made visibility poor
- c) Because it was late at night

2. What does “exhaust” mean?

- a) Pipe on the back of a car that that expels the smoke.
- b) Glass at the front of the car that stops the wind from coming in.
- c) Smoke from the factories after it mixes with fog.

3. What does the word “shabby” mean?

- a) New and in good shape
- b) Sound of shutting a door
- c) Old and faded



Where Can We Have a Picnic?



Jana, Walid, and Samar are friends. They wanted to go on a picnic together.

“Let’s go have our picnic on the riverbank!” said Jana.

“I like to sit next to the river, but it smells bad. The factory built along the river dumps its waste in the water,” Walid responded. “How about going to the beach?!”

“I like to sit on the sand under the sun,” he added.

“Ew! Not the beach!” exclaimed Samar. “People keep throwing garbage there. I don’t like to get my shoes dirty.”

“You’re right, Samar! Do you want to have the picnic in the park then?” asked Walid.

“Well, I don’t really like going to the park. It’s not always clean,” answered Jana.

The three friends were sad and couldn’t think.

Then Walid jumped and said, “I have a great idea! Let’s take some trash bags and go pick up the garbage from the beach. Then we can play there!”

“I love this idea!” said Samar. “This way everyone can enjoy having picnics and spending time on a clean beach.”



1. Why does the river smell bad in the story?

The river smells bad because _____.

- a) people throw garbage in it
- b) no one cleans it
- c) the factory throws waste in it

2. Why did Samar think her shoes would get dirty?

Samar thought her shoes would get dirty because _____.

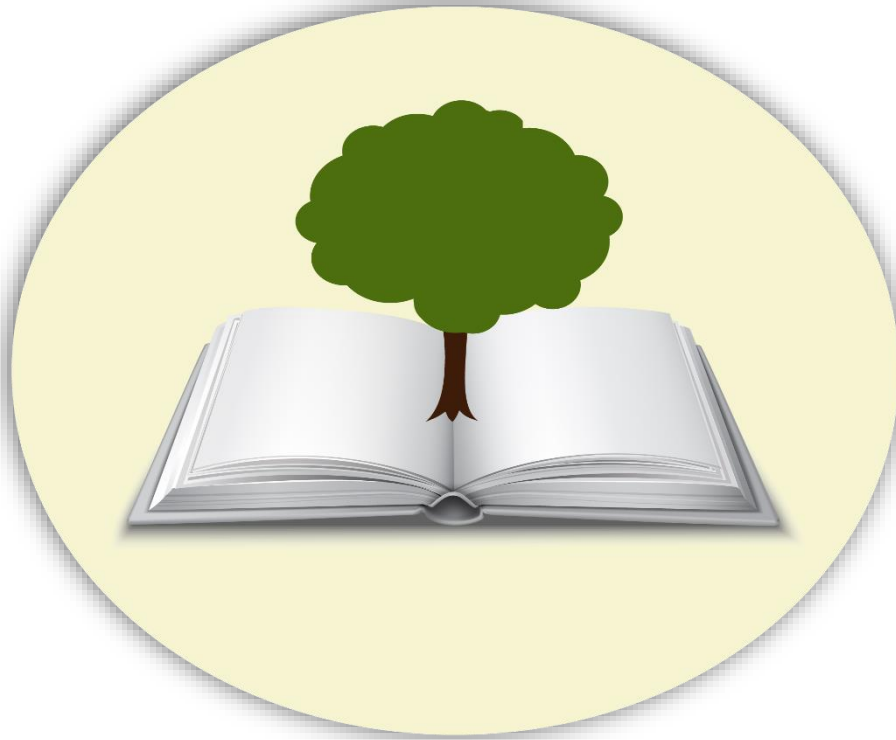
- a) of all the sand on the beach
- b) there's garbage on the beach
- c) it might get wet from the sea water

3. Who came up with the great idea of cleaning the beach?

- a) Walid
- b) Samar
- c) Jana



Saving Paper, Saving Trees



On the first day of third grade, all the students were excited to be back at school, to see their friends, and learn new things. They were only worried about one thing: seeing Jamal.

Jamal was a boy who joined the school in second grade. At first, he seemed like a shy little boy. He was short and thin; he had big beautiful brown eyes and short brown hair. But as students got to know him, all of his classmates were annoyed by him and stayed away from him all the time.

That's because Jamal liked to play paper tricks on his friends and teachers. All day long in class, Jamal would make paper planes and throw them out of the window.

Then, he would crumple more papers into balls and throw them at his classmates' heads. When the teachers weren't paying attention, Jamal would chew small pieces of paper then blow them out of a pen's tube on the board.

In the playground, Jamal would write silly nicknames on pieces of paper and tape them to his classmate's backs.

The only time during the day when Jamal would stay calm and not bother anyone was when they went out during recess. They used to eat in the small pine forest behind their school. Jamal loved trees. This gave his teacher an idea!



One day, the English teacher gave them a text to read about papers. They learned from this text that every ton of paper you recycle saves seventeen trees.

“What does recycling paper have to do with trees?” Jamal asked with complete shock.

“Well, papers are made out of trees. And if we keep on wasting papers, we will lose more trees. But, if we save papers, we save trees. It is this simple.” Then, the teacher turned on a video that showed the process of paper production.

Jamal sat there surprised, shocked, and sad. He realized how much paper and thus trees he had wasted since last year playing all these tricks on his classmates and teachers.

After the session, the teacher asked Jamal to stay in class. She wanted to talk to him about his behavior and how he felt during the movie.

Jamal explained that he was not like that before, and that this behavior just started last year. He was a new student and wanted to impress his classmates. He did not know how make friends, so he thought by being funny, he would attract them.

He told his teacher that he was sad and regretted all what he had done.

His teacher shared this with his friends. They promised to forgive him if he promised to stop being so annoying in class and help them plant more trees in the pine forest.

And so, they did.

1. What were the students in Grade three worried about?

- a) Seeing their teachers
- b) Seeing Jamal
- c) Being in Grade three

2. Where would Jamal stay calm and not bother anyone?

- a) In the classroom
- b) In the pine forest
- c) In the gym

3. What are papers made of?

- a) buildings
- b) vegetables
- c) trees



4. Why was Jamal quiet and sad?

- a) He realized that his friends are mad at him.
- b) He realized he was hurting the trees.
- c) He realized that his teacher is mad at him.

5. How did his classmates react after they learned the truth?

- a) They decided to punish him.
- b) They decided to walk away from him.
- c) They decided to forgive him.

