

## Great Losses

The environment is one of the most essential parts of our lives. It has a major contribution to the way we live. Today, our environment is changing drastically and it's creating negative effects. This is happening because people are not cherishing and protecting nature and that needs to change. We can start by protecting our forests, protecting our animals, and decreasing the amount of pollution.

We can change our environment for the better by protecting our forests. Forests produce oxygen and contain various species of animals. Currently, many of them are being cut down and destroyed to expand business. This is creating a major problem for the survival of many animal species. The article "Deforestation" by National Geographic states, "Seventy percent of Earth's land animals and plants live in forests, and many cannot survive the deforestation that destroys their homes." Animals are dying from losing their habitats and production of oxygen is decreasing, which allows air pollution to take a higher toll on the health of humans. If we started saving the forests, we would create an environment that is healthy and able to sustain humans, animals, and other living creatures, so everyone could enjoy the beauty of it.

Another way to save our environment is by saving the animals that live in it. Animals help maintain a food cycle that provide food for humans and have "jobs" that keep things balanced in the environment. Today, animals are having their habitats destroyed, which causes them to find new homes or die trying, and they're being killed for their body parts that are considered valuable. This is causing many species to go extinct and it's upsetting the balance our world needs to stay alive. In the article "The Extinction Crisis" by the Center for Biological Diversity, it states, "Scientists estimate we're now losing species at 1,000 to 10,000 times the background rate, with literally dozens going extinct every day." We are losing our animals at an incredibly rapid pace and disturbing nature's balance. We need to save our animals by fighting for their protection so we can have a healthy environment that's full of life.

Another factor that we should change is the amount of pollution that is released into our environment. Pollution contaminates our planet. The article "Pollution" by the World Wildlife Fund states, "Human activities contaminate ecosystems around the world—from pole to pole, from the highest mountains to the ocean deep." We are surrounded by the wastes of industries. It directly affects our land, water, and air. On land, it affects the growth of plants and it puts animals in danger if they come in contact with it. In water, it also threatens the safety of animals by contaminating them and any other organism that eats it, including humans. In the air where it's in the form of a gas, pollution makes the air harmful to those who breathe it, causes the climate to drastically change, and makes water more acidic through chemical reactions, which

makes it difficult for marine animals to survive and reproduce. Pollution alters the environment so it becomes contaminated and unfit to live off of. We need to reduce its production to create a stable environment that can sustain life everywhere.

Every living creature is interconnected and one change can cause a series of events that affect everyone. Our world has become desensitized to the preservation of our environments because they care more about the profits they make than the damage they cause. If we continue like this, we will create a mass extinction and there will be no world to live in. We need to learn to value our planet because it keeps us alive and it's a beauty that can never be replaced. We need to save our world so it stays full of life and wonders.