



1st Place Winners

Taylor Cook, 3rd Grade, "We Can Help"
Alexis Long, 4th Grade "Kat & Dawg"
Evan Kuehn, 5th Grade "The Recycle Team"
Sarah Gasdick, 6th Grade "The R Club"

"We Can Help"

April 22, 2007

"My name is Penny, Penny Jones, that is. It is Earth Day here on Hilton Head Island. My friends and I want to celebrate. First, we are going to the park at 12:00 to plant a tree. Second, we are going to the woods at 1:00 to look for any animals in need of help and we will take them to the vet. Finally, at 3:00 we will go to the beach to clean up litter.

"Okay guys?" "Ok Penny. We forgot to introduce ourselves, I am Penelope Hoover, and this is my friend Jonah Weasley. What tree do we want to plant? We have three choices: (1) an Apple tree (2) a Maple Tree and (3) an Oak tree. I want a Maple tree, what about you, Jonah?" "I want an Oak tree, and I think Penny picked the Maple tree as well," said Jonah. "Let's flip a coin," he says as he pulls a shiny new coin out of his pocket. "Heads for Maple, tails we plant an Oak," yelled Penny. "Head's it is", said Jonah feeling kind of mad, but on the outside, he hid his anger with a weak smile. "Okay Penny, lets get planting"! Said Jonah. When he took the see out of the bag, he secretly grabbed an Oak seed and said, "Here, let's plant this and go. It's already 12:45!" The tree was planted, watered, and the kids headed off for the woods.

As soon as they entered the woods, they saw an injured baby deer, a fox, a baby bird, and a chipmunk. They used their special gear and safety equipment to help these animals to the vet.

"We still have thirty minutes, let's go eat lunch," said Jonah. So they went to Big Burger, for chocolate milkshakes and veggie burgers." "Yum that was good. Let's go, it's 3:00, time to pick up litter," said Penelope. When they got to the beach, there was a lot of trash. "Okay guys, let's clean," said Penelope in a weird way. "There is a lot; I mean a lot of litter. "Let's take it to the Recycle bin when we are done," said Penny.

EARTH DAY, April 22, 2009

"Let's go look at the tree we planted two years ago today," said Penny. "Aaah, no", said Jonah. "Why not?" asked both girls at the same time. "Because I said so," said Jonah. So the girls pushed him out of the way and went out the door. "What is this?" asked Penelope. "Um, it's an Oak tree," said Jonah in a shy voice. "This must not be the right tree," said Penny. So the girls looked all around the park for their tree, but they could not find it. When they returned to Jonah, still standing at the Oak tree Penny said, "Jonah you must have given me an Oak seed by mistake." "It was no mistake," said Jonah. "I gave it to you on purpose. I was sneaky. Yes, yes it was me." "It's ok Jonah, you did want an Oak tree," said Penelope. "Well, the point was to plant a tree for Earth Day, it doesn't really matter what tree we planted", said Penny. "At least we helped the environment!" Jonah smiled and said, "Let's go get some ice cream to help our stomachs, our work is done here!"

Story by, Taylor Cook, 3rd Grade

“Kat and Dawg”

“Boy was the April Fool’s Day party fun or what?” Asked Kat for the millionth time. “Yes Kat very fun.” Said Dawg reluctantly as he continued, “You do know what day it is tomorrow, right?” “Yup, Wednesday, April 22nd” she replied. “Yes, but what celebration? Oh I’m not taking the time to discuss it with you, it’s Earth Day you silly goose!” said Dawg.

“Uhh…” Kat paused “OH! OH! My bad! I totally forgot! Oh forgive me, Mother Earth, Please!” Kat sat down on the couch as she finished, “I got my mind whirled up – again. You know that happens. I know you know.”

“I know Kat. It is obvious when you forget something. Now just calm down. Calm down.” Said Dawg. Soothingly. And all night they stayed up to think of something to do to help the place they call their home (A-Z Animal’s House) and everyone’s home-Mother Earth.

Sadly, it was 12:00 o’clock am, and Kat and Dawg still did not have an idea of what to do for Earth Day. “Oh my gosh.” Said Kat, aggravated. “There’s nothing! Nothing I tell you! Nothing!” Kat yelled at Dawg-who was asleep lying over the kitchen table. “Wake up,” yelled Kat as she shook Dawg. Kat gave up and decided to get a blow horn. She blew it in his ear.

“Ah! What the?! Oh, I think I am deaf thanks to you Kath!” scowled Dawg.

“Sorry,” said Kat as she changed the subject, “we need to think of something to do-and fast!” “Oh, ya. Now how are we gonna do that?” asked Dawg in a stern voice.

“Okay, let me explain it to you.” Said Kat as she got some index cards. She continued. “Give me a pencil and I’ll write things down.” Dawg gave her a pencil.

“I don’t get it.” Said Dawg confused. “Here, I’ll write ‘clean animal’s yard, the elderly’. Put it in a box and write down another idea on another card.” Kat explained. They drew a card, and it said ‘clean up litter on road’. “So this is what we do?” asked Dawg. “Yup,” replied Kat. And they finally went to bed.

The next day Kat the young and silly cat and Dawg the funky puppy that sometimes chewed the furniture were walking down the sidewalk. They had their garbage pick uppers (that looked like enormous tweezers). They picked the garbage up very thoroughly. They were on opposite sides of the road cleaning ditches. “Ewe! Look what I found!” Kat yelped. When Dawg heard her, he rushed over to her side of the road.

“Gross it’s an old shoe someone pitched!” Said Dawg holding his nose. “Okay put it in the bag and let’s finish what we started.” He finished.

“But it smells so bad! I don’t wanna carry this around all day!” Kat whined. “Well I got a dirty diaper. Wanna smell?” “ Eek! No way!” “ Then suck it up, we got a whole day ahead of us.” Said Dawg, sternly.

Kat and Dawg finished up for the day. Besides, they were already done cleaning up their neighborhood. “Think we should go home now?” Asked Kat pooped out from working so hard. “Well its past 8:00 o’clock. That’s way past our dinnertime.” He replied. So they went home, looked through the garbage, and put it into groups (like what can be reused, recycled, or thrown away because it is worthless, like the dirty diaper Dawg found). After they did that, they ate and decided to go to bed. While they walked upstairs Kat asked, “Maybe we could get a whole bunch of friend. We could pick up trash together. It will be a lot easier with more animals! What do you say Dawg?” asked Kat. “Yes, Kat that would be nice, but just one problem, Earth Day was today.” He told her. “We could call it the Earth Day party. So what do you say, Dawg?”

“Sure but why a party? All we are gonna do is pick up trash and do what we did today. Because I do not call that a party. He said. “You’ll see Dawg. You’ll see.” Dawg stared at Kat

with his beady eyes and she said, “Okay, okay. Say it is a party and the party animals will come. You know the ones that go way over the party limit, the ones at the April fool’s Day party.” Kat explained.

“Ya, I know em” Dawg paused. “Nice trick, I like it.” And the two friends laughed all the way to their bedrooms.

Story by, Alexis Long, 4th grade

The Recycle Team

One day Joe, Tim, George, Jim, and Henry were hanging out at Joe’s house. They were watching “Man vs. Wild” when breaking news came on. Fox 8 was warning everyone in the world about the dangers of trash piling up in the community. The guys all started talking and decided to go to the recycle center to check it out. They hopped on their bikes and rode about a mile and a half to the recycle center.

The ride was refreshing, there were spring flowers that smelled spectacular, and the grass was so green. Sadly, there were tons of trash in the ditches and they could not understand why people just threw their garbage wherever they wanted.

When they arrived at the recycle center, Mike, the supervisor was there to greet them. He asked them if they would like a tour of the recycle center. It was so cool, there were conveyor belts, and all kinds of plastic, glass, cans, and paper were sorted in different areas. He showed them how the recycle center melted the glass, plastic, and metal into a liquid to be reused and how the recycle center recycled the paper. It made them realize how important it is to recycle. They decided to become “Recycling Warrior.” They could all spread the news about reusing, reducing, recycling, and really making a difference.

The next day the team decided to go pick up trash in the ditches. Just then, a person threw a can in the ditch. They were all furious they yelled at him! Much to their surprise with the anger they had, it blew up his truck with laser beams. They could not believe it! It kind of scared them and they did not know that they had any powers. That is how they found out they had super powers.

From that day on, they would use their powers to help clean the Earth. They turned plastic into grass, glass into soil and paper into trees. All of the townspeople called them “superheroes.” They were the most popular group in the world.

Since they were so popular, they designed superhero costumes. Joe wore a midnight blue suit with a green recycling symbol on his chest he loved recycling everything. Tim’s suit was dark green with a glass bottle on his chest it was his specialty. George wore a bright red suit with a plastic bottle on his chest he loved recycling plastic. Jim’s suit was orange with metal cans on his chest, metal was his favorite to recycle and Henry wore a yellow suit with newspapers on his chest he was in charge of recycling papers. Companies made posters with them on it, action figures that kids played with and a soda named after them. The Recycle Team knew they were a big hit and did not want to let the people down. They were role models to kids and the kids of the community were acting just like them and recycling all around the world.

They were rewarded with money for all their work and it made them rich. The team was not doing this for the money though, so they gave half of their money to charity. They were using their powers for good not bad. However, not everyone was happy with the Recycle Team. An Ultimate Garbage Monster was upset about the Recycle Team cleaning everything up. He

liked trash and the mess around town. So as the Recycle Team would clean up, he would destroy the town after they would leave. The Recycle Team got the news about the monster.

The next day, they set off to find the monster and stop him from destroying the towns. They traveled through meadows, wetlands, mountains, and rivers. It took them many months and hundreds of miles searching for the monster. They were all exhausted and were starting to think that they would never find it. They realized it was the most powerful creature on Earth. The thing that kept them alive was determination.

Just then, some people told them they had seen the monster up in the mountains in a cave. The Recycle Team went up the mountain and surprised the monster. It was like something they had never seen before in their lives. It was made of dirt, cans, plastic bottles, fuzz balls, paper, and all kinds of trash – it was the craziest thing they had ever seen. It was huge, at least 15 feet tall and 5 feet wide. It was making weird clanking noises and none of knew what to expect. They were pretty sure they could defeat it since it was blocked inside the cave, but they were not expecting it to be quite so big.

Unfortunately, the monster was much stronger than they had thought it would be. Determined to win they battled with it but were unable to defeat the monster. The Recycle Team decided to give up and go back to their hometown. They needed to train for another battle so the next time they would win for sure.

When they got back to their hometown, it had been trashed while they were gone. The Recycle Team called the mayor for help in cleaning up the town. They cleaned and cleaned and cleaned and it seemed like it took them forever. When they were finished, they were so tired they slept it seemed for two days. When they woke up, it was time to begin their training. They lifted weights, jogged for miles, jumped fences, and watched what they were eating. They grew stronger everyday. Finally, they all felt they were ready to challenge the Ultimate Garbage Monster. The people of their town were so inspired by them that they wanted to help them on their mission.

The next day they went to hunt it down. They all traveled for days and days hoping to get a clue as to where it was hiding now. Then one day they came across a town that had been destroyed, the people said it was the Ultimate Garbage Monster who had ruined their town. They tracked it down in the middle of a forest but were unable to catch up with the monster.

The Recycle Team and townspeople were not going to give up. This monster had caused so much damage and ruined so much of the Earth that they had to get it. They continued looking from town to town, as they knew that it could not hide from them forever.

A few weeks later, some people came running up to the Recycle Team – the Ultimate Garbage Monster had been spotted up in the hills in a cave. Yes, the Recycle Team knew they would have him trapped again and that this time they were much more prepared for battle. Everyone crept up the hill, so they could catch the monster by surprise. It looked like it was sleeping, so the Recycle Team got in a line and took their anger out on this beast. They laser beamed it and turned all of the garbage into environmentally friendly items. The plastic bottles turned into grass, the paper turned into trees and the glass turned into soil. All that was left were fuzz balls and dirt. It was destroyed.

Everyone in the world was grateful for everything the Recycle Team did for the town. The Recycle Team were heroes to all and continued to help today. They have recruited new people from all over the world who help save our planet by teaching everyone to reuse, reduce, and recycle.

Story by, Evan Kuehn, 5th grade

The R Club

“All right, all right. Quiet.” Kayleigh was just about to take attendance for the R Club. “Sarah?” “Here”. Sarah is the Vice-President for the club. Kayleigh and Sarah started the club together. Sarah named it the R Club because it is all about reducing, reusing, recycling, and ways to help the environment.

Let’s take you back to the first project they did together. It takes place on Highway 271. Kayleigh and Sarah were picking up trash, litter, and cigarette buds. They used ski poles and sticks to pick the items up. They stuck the trash and emptied them in garbage bags. Green for paper, blue for plastic, white for glass, and black for anything else. They picked up a total of 654 pounds of trash.

Their next adventure took place at a forest in Pennsylvania. It is a protest against cutting down trees in the forest. Together everyone was chanting “SAVE THE TREES.” They held up signs reading, “STOP!” “CUT DOWN TREES YOU CUT LIVES DOWN!”

After about fifteen minutes, the authorities showed up. They saw what the kids were doing. They told the bulldozers to back down. They saved the forest. They gave hundreds of animals back their homes.

An animal rights rally they held was against people testing toiletries in animals. “They are putting these animals, big and small, through pain and suffering. I do NOT want to wear any product that puts animals in pain,” Sarah protested. Kayleigh chimed in with “All of these products...” She and Sarah held up bags full of makeup “... are tested on animals. We refuse to wear them.” With that, they threw the two bags away. Then they took wipes and wiped their faces off. For the next two weeks at school, they did not see ANYONE wearing makeup. Not even the popular girls.

Now back at the club Kayleigh was asking for ideas about what they should do for reusing stuff. Ally shouted out “We could use paper towel and toilet paper rolls as pencil holders on desks.” Max threw in “Reusing plastic forks, knives, and spoons from the cafeteria.” “And that would work how?” Sarah questioned. “Oh I know what he is talking about. He means that when you are done with your silver or in this case plastic ware you put it in a bin or other. Then we come in and wash them the next day.” Kayleigh explained. Max nodded.

For the next two months, they did those ideas. The most successful was the one Max’s idea. Some other ideas were using paper that was only printed or drawn on one side again. Also using tin and plastic bottles for carrying and holding money.

During recess, the group got together and discussed recycling. Some ideas were to do a fundraiser where you pay \$1.00 to crush a can. All the money goes to Rainbow Babies. The crushed cans would be recycled. In addition, the teachers should take away trashcans and only have recycling bins. But if not supposed to be recycled they would give it to the teacher.

The idea of the fundraiser worked really well. They raised \$200. The recycling bins saved the school \$235 in garbage expenses.

Together we kids and parents can make this a healthier world. Just by reducing, reusing, recycling, and caring for wildlife. Let us make this a better world for our future children and us. The little things can make a big difference in the world today and everyday.

Story by, Sarah Gasdick, 6th grade



2009 Earth Day Story Contest!

2nd Place

2nd Place Winners

Nolan Brill, 3rd Grade “Save our Earth”

Lexy Gruver, 4th Grade “Mother Nature”

Melanie Gross, 5th Grade “Diary of a Duck” (By me Padywack!)

Kristin Sampson, 5th Grade “Let’s Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle!”

Save Our Earth

Once there was a kid named Billy, James Billy loved to recycle, cleanup litter, and save nature. But his twin brother David James hated everything Billy did. Everyday Billy tried to make David do all the things he did but he would not do it. All David wanted to do was sit around all day eating on the couch and watching TV all day after school. One day Billy had the idea of planting a tree in the backyard to save the rainforest. David loved animals and when he found out animals were dying he joined in with Billy. They planted so many trees, they were on the way to saving the rainforest. But David still did not want to recycle or cleanup litter. He would just sit on the couch all day doing nothing.

Then one day at school, Billy announced they had a new neighbor Zack who lived next door. He said the new kid in school was named Zack Miller. Zack liked to save the Earth too. Zack and Billy became best friends. They liked spending time together picking up trash. David became jealous of their friendship; David asked them to watch TV with him. They said, “Turn off the TV and save some energy.” David asked how he could help save our Earth. Billy said, “If you don’t recycle and save energy our Earth will be destroyed, David never knew that was happening, Billy and Zack said, “Please join and help our planet Earth, David.” David said, “Yes I will!” He started to recycle and cleanup litter. They got older, Billy, Zack, and David traveled around the world trying to teach people how to recycle, cleanup litter, and save nature. They taught over 1,000,000 people to recycle, cleanup litter, and save nature. The three friends did everything to save the Earth. Have you? The end.

Story by, Nolan Brill, 3rd Grade

MOTHER NATURE

Once there was a little girl by the name of Lisa. She was nine and she lived in a place called Clearview. That was a terrible name for the place. It was the most polluted place in the world. Lakes were dark green slime, grass was dead, and animals were few.

But if you were to visit Clearview today you would find cute frogs splashing in the mud, ducks flying in formation, deer prancing carelessly, and bears sleeping deep in their caves with their cubs. If you wonder, how Clearview went from a mess to a place full of wildlife, it did not happen on its own. Little Lisa did it here is how...

Lisa was a student of Gregmore Elementary. It was Earth Day at her school, and each student had to do something for Mother Nature. She decided that she would plant a tree right in front of the school. She did. But when she was digging the hole big enough, she found many things (pop bottles, cans, and plastic wrappers). She was disgusted. Lisa knew she had to do more than plant this tree. She sat down and wrote a letter to the Mayor asking the city to help cleanup Clearview. In the following days, she had awaited a letter back, but it never came. She was very disappointed. She decided to ask her teacher if they could go on a field trip around Clearview to clean it up. She thought it was a great idea and got the whole community together. They started by cleaning up the lake. It was an enormous job for just one community. Everybody grew tired as the day grew long. Then they heard a thunderous roar. From a distance, bulldozers were coming from everywhere and boats were coming from the other side of the lake. Then the Mayor came to Lisa and said "Lisa, you have gotten this whole town together to cleanup this park. I am very proud of you. I was afraid that we would become a wasteland. I thought you guys could use some help. The people made Clearview a beautiful place for wildlife to live!

Story by, Lexy Gruver, 4th grade

Diary of a Duck
(By me, Padywack!)

April 3, 2009

I Padywack (the ravishing mallard), have made up my mind! I will not live in this pond anymore if it means that I have to swim among pop cans and hamburger wrappers, and eat among straws and ads for pie eating contests. Those dim-witted humans are destroying my home! The only thing keeping me here is the love of my life, Sophia. She has the looks of a swan, and you should see her fly! Oh, she is an angel with webbed feet I tell you! She has big blue eyes that sparkle when she laughs. Her laugh is like listening to a thousand fairies dance in the moonlight. Her feathers are the color of cinnamon, and her eyes are like big blue pools of rippling water. If it were not for her, I would have packed up my things and left by now! I wish I had enough courage to propose to her, but I do not. I do not think I ever will. Maybe one day I will truthfully be able to look into those exquisite, shimmering eyes that are always full of fascination, curiosity, and purpose. That would be a dream come true!

April 4, 2009

I hate living in this vulgar dump! Me, Padywack, the rather handsome mallard, if I do say so myself (which I do), has to live in the middle of a human garbage can! Those obnoxious humans think that they can just throw whatever they want, wherever they want! I have seen hamburger wrappers, straws, pop cans, even umbrellas! My dad is the leader of the pond and is on the committee of Quackers. He is the biggest recycle freak ever! He is always trying to keep the pond clean, which will never happen if those pitiful humans think they can just throw their trash wherever they want! What does my dad do with all of the trash he collects? He builds a nest out of it! He has a huge collection of old things. He has flattened pop cans hanging from strings above the nest, and the nest is made out of straws. The worst part though is the fact that he has those pop can connectors in a glass case inside the nest. The same ones that killed my mother many years ago. Everyday of my life, I have to look at the cruel hands that wrenched my mother's life away. The pop can connectors are concealed, and will do no more harm, but my heart still aches every time I look at them. Oh, it hurts my heart just to think of them taking another life!

April 5, 2009

Old Mrs. Pullet got caught in some stupid pop can connectors. I do not know all of the details, but it seems that no amount of gnawing at that persistent plastic will free her. Dr. Quack has all of his assistants working on her, but I do not see the use. The plastic pop connectors have taken another life. Of course, it has not been taken yet, it is about to be. Dad found a new type of trash today. He says it is some sort of cereal box (whatever that is). He uses it to store fish. Whenever there is a large quantity of fish, us ducks did not have anywhere to keep them for later. We would just eat as many as we could, and hope that it would last through times with no fish. I mean it is not as if we can put them in our nests! Would *you* like to sleep with dead fish? The only problem with the cereal box is that after a while the fish start to stink.

April 6, 2009

Mrs. Pullet died.

April 8, 2009

Wow! Things are going too fast for my little brain to follow! First, I do not know what came over me, but I swam up to Sophia, and asked her if she would go on a swim with me tonight. I just blurted it right out there! She said YES! That is what is incomprehensible to me. But this is the most exhilarating part! We went swimming by moonlight. Just me and Sophia, gliding along the surface of the pond. The night was silent except for the gentle splash of water accompanied by the soft swish of cattails. Then her graceful head ducked under the water. I followed her under. We were swimming and dancing in the moonlight. That is when the tragedy struck. She thought she saw something move behind the seaweed. She chased after it and was caught in a pop can connector! Those little devils have taken another victim! I could barely get her up out of the bottom of the pond, but by the time I did, she was barely breathing. I took her to Dr. Quack, and he has been trying to revive her, but you saw what happened to Mrs. Pullet! I do not want that to happen to Sophia! Now I see why dad is always trying to clean up the pond! The love of his life was killed from garbage, and he does not want that to happen to anyone else! Life is so fragile; if you grip it too hard, it will shatter!

April 9, 2009

I cannot believe it! Some young humans really *do* care! They came in their vests and neckerchiefs and started cleaning up the trash (they are called Cub Scouts I later learned). I wish all humans were like that! They came when I was sitting with Sophia in her last moments, thinking of all the good times we had together (though no many, they were good while they lasted). I thought she was almost gone. Then, one of *them* came and picked her up. He must have had some knowledge about us ducks because he took off his neckerchief, and wrapped it around Sophia so his grimy human hands would not affect her beautiful feathers. He took a device out of his pocket, and with one gentle click, the killing device was off her neck! (Later I learned that it was called a pocketknife. We need to get a couple of those!) The boy set her gently back down in the water and she gently nipped his hand as an act of gratitude. Everything was clean, and Sophia was alive! I never knew humans would care so much! I gently skimmed across the water, and looked deep into those big, blue eyes. If the dream of a clean environment could come true, so could this one. I summoned all of my courage and pulled out two pairs of aviator goggles, and a shiny fish scale. I asked her if she would marry me. She said YES! I tucked the scale behind her feather, and handed her a pair of goggles. We are going flying by moonlight for our honeymoon! Her eyes were sparkling again. Only this time because of me. I changed my views on the environment, love, and humans over the past days. (They are still ignorant though, but not all of them.) I learned that even just a little bit of effort can save a life. (Or an environment in this case!)

Story by, Melanie Gross 5th grade

Let's Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

Main Characters:

Maggie Mole, Sherbert Bunny, Ron Woodpecker, Larry Worm, and Erwin Duck

On the morning of April 21, it was foggy and cool with dew on the sparkling green grass. Ron Woodpecker was pecking away, (Peck, peck peck). Sherbert Bunny was playing with her new carrot ball. Maggie Mole was digging a tunnel through the park. Erwin Duck was taking his early morning soak in the pond. Larry Worm was scooting through the damp mud. The clock struck 12:00 and the five friends knew exactly what time it was. It was time to meet in Maggie Mole's tunnel to discuss their earth day projects.

Each one had good and different ideas. Maggie Mole wanted to clean up the park and Reuse the materials to build a new fort. Larry Worm wanted to try to encourage everyone to try to Reduce the amount of waste that they produce because it all goes to his home. Erwin Duck wanted to build a Recycling bin to throw recyclable materials in. Sherbert Bunny wanted to build a playground made from old tires so little animals can play on it. Ron Woodpecker came flying in late (as usual). He stated that the Home Beaver Association was going to cut down the trees to make a new development downstream. Whose project are they going to pick? Maggie Mole, the head of the bund, decided to try to combine the ideas to make the park environmentally friendly.

On the morning of April 22nd, Earth Day, they cleaned up the park and reused the cans, bottles, cardboard, and other materials to build their fort that would hold meetings for "The five Environmental Buddies." In the center of the park for all to see, they built the playground made out of old tires and recycled rope. Instantly there were youngsters sliding, squealing, and swinging from the black tire swings. Next, they build a recycling bin and attached it to the playground. They encouraged everyone to use it. As everyone gathered around Larry Worm at the podium, he began his annual Earth Day sermon! He explained that they would need to reduce the amount of garbage they produced because not only is it good for the environment but it is good for the worms' homes. As everyone was leaving, Ron Woodpecker came soaring through the air and landed on the podium. He told his friends that they had to hurry before the Home Beaver Association cut down all the trees. How could they forget the most urgent project? They grabbed a snack and hit the road.

They got there just in time to get their message across. Ron spoke up and said, "Nobody is going to cut down our trees."

Maggie and her friend said "Yeah! This is a house for many animals like my friend Ron the Woodpecker. You cannot cut these trees down!"

With much discussion, the Home Beaver Association agreed not to cut down any trees. They decided only to cut down dead trees and plant new trees to replace the old ones, so everybody benefitted.

"It was the best Earth Day ever!" exclaimed everybody in unison.

Story by, Kristin Sampson 5th Grade