





# The Green Guide

Tara was inspired to join the ranks of young people becoming "Green Guides" after reading about their mission to "Keep plants healthy and don't let them go to waste." She recognized the vital role that nature plays in providing the food we eat, the air we breathe, and the water we drink. Tara was struck by the fact that her grandmother had grown up in a time when there was no garbage to be found, unlike the piles of plastic waste that now littered the world.

In the 1960s and 1970s, people brought their own cloth bags for shopping, and waste consisted mainly of leftover food and vegetable and fruit peels, which could be eaten by stray animals or broken down by microorganisms in the soil. However, electronic waste had become a major problem today, as burning it released toxic gases into the atmosphere.

With so many people now owning multiple electronic

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gadgets that were frequently replaced, old devices were adding to the waste. A tonne of



laptops produced 10 tonnes of carbon dioxide when discarded. Tara's grandmother's generation did not have air conditioners or vehicles, which are now major sources of greenhouse gas emissions. People primarily walked or used bicycles for short distances and

took public transportation like

can also help

trains or buses for longer trips, resulting in far fewer pollutants being released into the air.

Tara reflected on all of this and concluded that there was much we could do to restore the environment, starting with reducing food waste. By only eating the amount of food we need, we can save water, energy, and money used in its production.

Buying seasonal and locally grown food

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reduce transportation costs and fuel emissions while providing better-tasting produce. Tara decided to start her green initiative by making a grocery list of seasonal and locally grown fruits and vegetables and recycling her old clothes.



### **New Words**

- 1. Incredible- Something that is difficult to believe
- 2. **Garbage-** Waste material, especially household waste
- 3. Electronic waste-Discarded electronic devices, such as phones and computers.

Find other new and interesting words for each other, and write their meanings in your notebooks.

### Comprehension

- 1. What is the message of the 'Green Guide'?
- 2. What all do we get from nature?
- 3. What seemed to be incredible to Tara?
- 4. What did garbage consist of in the

60s and 70s

- 5. How was leftover food recycled?
- 6. What happens upon burning electronic waste?
- 7. How can buying local food help our planet?

Take turns to make more questions like these above for each other and answer them.

## Prompts Pair up

## 1. Compost Challenge:

With help from your partner, create a compost bin using materials found in your homes or community. Once the bin is complete, challenge each other to see who can produce the most compost in a week. Make a list of the items that can and cannot be added to the compost bin and discuss the benefits of composting.

2. Zero Waste Lunch Challenge:

Challenge yourselves to pack a zerowaste lunch for a week. Use

reusable containers, utensils, and water bottles instead of disposable ones. Discuss the impact of singleuse plastics on the environment and ways to reduce them, such as using reusable items and choosing products with less packaging.

Watch the video on food wastage using the QR code.





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