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CLIMATE CHANGE HERO



CLIMATE
CHANGE
HERO
Paryoto
and the
Farmers of
**Gunung
Terang**

and the
Farmers of
Gunung
Terang

Climate Heroes

Paryoto and the Farmers of Gunung Terang

Tara pondered on ways she could contribute to control global warming. Eventually, she decided to read up about Climate Change Warriors – ordinary people who are working hard to alleviate the negative impacts of global warming. She discovered a group of farmers from Gunung Terang, a small village in South Sumatra who are true climate heroes.

Hi!
I am Tara



The once lush green village had been deforested by land and illegal logger's mafia, who employed poor and jobless farmers to chop down trees. Paryoto, Amir, and Subari were some of these farmers. Paryoto, after being caught by the police while working for illegal loggers, realized

that he was on the wrong side of the law. He then decided to acquire small pieces of land and turn



them into coffee plantations. Soon, other farmers followed his lead. With wooden caskets and rakes in their hands, they have transformed the deforested village into tiny farms. It's hard to believe that these were the very same people who once chopped down the trees. They now grow coffee beans and vegetables, and some produce brown sugar from coconut tree sap. They have become legal, small-scale farmers, paying their fair share of taxes and contributing to the local economic growth of the region.



Amir is another such farmer who works tirelessly to convince others to give up illegal deforestation. Subari, with the help of other villagers, managed to build four micro-hydroelectric power plants down the river that flows through the village, providing enough electricity for the light bulbs installed in their households.

"We feel a lot better now," says Amir, speaking for everyone in the village. While taking care of their fruits, brown sugar, and world-famous coffee, which shows notes of cocoa, tobacco, smoke, earth, cedarwood, and tropical fruits in a cup, they are true climate heroes.



New Words

1. **Pondered-** to think about something carefully.

2. **Mafia-** a group of people involved in organized crime.

3. **Alleviate-** lessen

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

Comprehension

1. Who are the Climate Change Warriors?
2. Where is Gunung Terang located?
3. Why did Paryoto start his own coffee plantation?
4. What did Subari and the other villagers build in the river?
5. What do the farmers of Gunung Terang grow now?
6. Why are the farmers of Gunung Terang considered climate heroes?

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

Prompts Pair up

1. Plant a Seed Activity

Pretend to plant a seed like the farmers in the story. Take turns pretending to dig a hole, place the seed in it, and cover it up. Talk about how planting trees and crops can help the environment and the community.

2. Share Ideas

Together, think of ways that people can help protect the environment and support their community. Share your ideas with each other and talk about why these actions are important.

3. Draw a Green Village

Work together to draw a picture of a village with lots of trees, plants, and a river. Talk about how the village can use nature to create a better life for everyone, like growing food and making electricity.



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