

IGCA Reflection

As an International global citizen, we take the environmental issues into consideration. My friends and I did different projects that aims in helping the environment and to have a better world. I believe that not all of us are aware that it takes about 450 years just for one plastic bottle to break down in the ground!

To start off, the first step was collecting the water bottles from our own school mates. As shown below each class from year 9 to year 12 have these boxes in their class cupboard.



Actually the collection of water bottles was a different project organized by my following batch mates: Mohamed Ahmed Almeel, Mohamed A.Nabi , Mahmood Ahmed, Mahmood Abdulaziz and Mahdi Saeed. They did an experiment that shows the amount of water being wasted.



At first the water bottles were collected from each class, then they were taken to the laboratory to measure the amount of water that's left out using measuring cylinder.

The data of their experiment for November is shown below:

| WEEK | BOTTLES | WATER/ml |
|--------|---------|----------|
| WEEK 1 | 221 | 10,310 |
| WEEK 2 | 180 | 5,500 |
| WEEK 3 | 218 | 7,500 |

After measuring and emptying the bottles, they were kept inside carboard boxes. Refer to the image presented below:



Here comes our project. Making use of these plastic bottles. Successfully, we used these bottles in making different things. The first thing we did was the use of the bottle cap. Where we did the IB logo.



DID YOU KNOW?

A million plastic bottles are bought around the world every minute.

Then we started doing a trash bin from the plastic bottles. Honestly, it didn't even cross my mind that we are harming the environment this much. Just thinking about the number of plastic bottles that are used daily is a breath-taking thing.



11% of household waste is plastic, 40% of which is plastic bottles.



Speaking out of facts, we were in a shock. How can we be so irresponsible towards our one and only planet? As a member of the IGCA program I decided to stop buying plastic water bottles. We are going to start a campaign that raises awareness regarding the risk of using plastic bottles. Hopefully by next term APG school will have an agreement with the cafeteria “The Eastern Bakery” and stop selling plastic water bottles. Moreover, we shall have a container for plastic bottles so we can collect them and use them for good.

Since we are entering the Christmas season, we did a Christmas tree out of plastic bottles. The base of the tree and the tree itself is made of plastic bottles. The star and other decorations were made from cardboard boxes.





We had a chance of presenting our ideas to the younger members of IGCA program. Where we gave them a background about the program itself, showed them some of our projects, shared ideas and raised awareness and facts about plastic.

We visited Sitra secondary school on 4th of December. We displayed some of our projects and ideas. We taught them how to make bags out of old pair of jeans. Gave them an idea about our program and what exactly we're doing. They were really impressed and amazed with our work and projects.



As an IGCA member, I do appreciate this chance given by my school APG. That allows us as students to be global citizens, and not only that but also be socially and environmentally responsible. The issues we tried to raise awareness about were global issues. But speaking out of facts and truths no one is doing something towards these issues. For example, the number of plastics is increasing dramatically year by year. We shall do something about it. Here in the IGCA program we had a chance to be creative and make other uses of these plastics and recycle them, but that's not enough to solve such global issue.

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