

# STOP WASTE

May the 4Rs Be With You Contest 2024

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### My 4Rs: Reuse, Recycle, Recreate, and Replant

#### My (Re)Generation Action Story:



My 4 R's are to Reuse, Recycle, Recreate, and Replant. The reason I chose to paint this artwork is because more than 14 million tons of plastic and micro plastics are found in the ocean every year. I drew this picture to make a change and to show people what will happen to our ocean if we continue to use single-use plastic water bottles and bags. My painting shows animals like turtles and fish wrapped up in plastic and a nest in the middle of the ocean representing a home like structure to the animals, but instead of a warm and enjoyable home a nest that is filled up with trash. This symbolizes the pain and suffering that these ocean creatures have to live through because of us and how many of the animals die each year because of us.

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As I thought about this I wanted to learn more and so I researched and spent my time to figure out how many animals we kill every year from plastic. Instead I found out that 80% of all marine debris and sediment is made up of plastic and micro plastics.

My picture shows the R Reuse because in the nest there is much reusable plastic that could have been reused and made into something new. To add on another r that is shown in my painting is Recycle. The R Recycle is my main goal to reach in my painting because that is what this is all about, how to reuse to save the planet. Last but not least my final two R's recreate and replant this is because when you don't recycle plastic and throw it away it grows into the ocean and doesn't just harm animals but the whole ecosystem including the plants. I chose Recreate because when you recycle plastic it makes a difference even the smallest one because companies can turn that small piece of recycled plastic into a whole other thing.