

# Joe's Pond

Joe made the world a better place. He got the idea to do that at school. He watched a video there. It was about a **factory**. This factory **produced** a lot of **trash** and put it in a river. The trash and water were a bad **mix**. People **populated** the area by the river and drank its water. This made them sick. Many of them needed **medicine** and made **regular** visits to doctors.

But the video wasn't all bad news. It showed ways to pick up trash and why it's important to do this. It said people can make a difference to their **environment**. The video's important **features** made Joe **associate** trash with hurting people.

One day Joe walked through a park. He **recognized** some of the problems from the video. One **instance** of these problems was the trash in the pond. It was full of plastic cups. There was too much trash. Joe didn't want it to hurt anyone.

He told his grandfather about the park. His grandfather said, "You know, it's a **tradition** in our family to help people. That's why we give food to poor people. Maybe you can help people by cleaning the park."

Cleaning the park would **involve** hard work. Joe decided to **organize** a group to help him. He chose a **wide** area of the park. It had the most trash. He asked his family and friends to come. On Saturday, he gave everyone a sharp stick. They wondered why. He said, "You use the stick's **tip** to pick up trash. This makes it easier." They worked for six weeks. Different people helped each time, but Joe was always there.

In that **period** of time, Joe saw a **range** of results. There was no trash in the water. People could swim in it. Joe knew that was a good **sign**. He was happy because he helped his environment.

