



LIVEABLE EARTH

SAVING
THE PLANET
ONE STORY
AT A TIME

WRITTEN & ILLUSTRATED
BY STUDENTS FROM

ȘCOALA GIMNAZIALĂ
NR. 56 • ROMANIA

AGRUPAMENTO DE ESCOLAS
ABEL BOTELHO • PORTUGAL

TURHAL BILIM VE SANAT
MERKEZİ • TURKIYE

ST AIDAN'S COMMUNITY
SCHOOL • IRELAND



LIVEABLE EARTH

Project Description

Blooming Digital is an Erasmus+ project with schools in Ireland, Portugal, Romania and Turkiye. The objective of this project is to improve the students' digital competencies in line with Bloom's Taxonomy. This eBook is a key target of the project. The end result is a testament to the skills and imagination of the students, the support of the teachers and Erasmus+ funding.



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Mira and the Trash Pirate

By Alex Costa, Diogo Santana, João Gomes,
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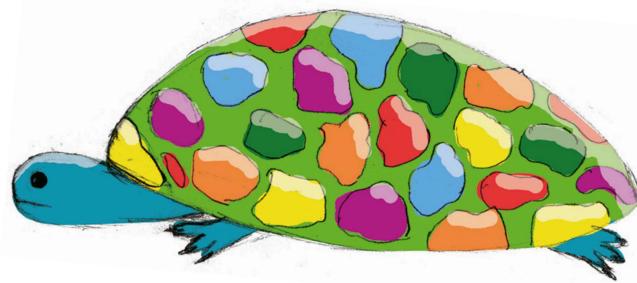


Mira was the daughter of the dreaded Captain Blackbeard, a pirate who sailed the seas throwing rubbish into the ocean.

But Mira loved the sea and was saddened by what she saw: plastic, bottles and fishing nets everywhere.

One day she found a turtle trapped in a net and had an idea.

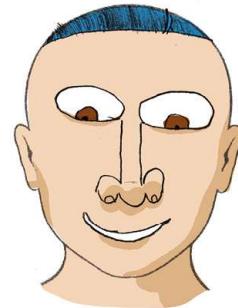
She used the rubbish from the ship to make a giant turtle sculpture on the beach and when Blackbeard, her father, saw it, he was frightened.



'Dad,' she said, 'if we carry on like this, the sea will get all dirty and the turtles will disappear!'

Captain Blackbeard became thoughtful.

The next day he gathered his pirates and announced, 'Let's stop polluting and start cleaning up the sea!' And so, their ship, *The Heart of the Sea*, became the greenest ship on the seven seas, with the pirates collecting rubbish and turning it into useful things.



Mira was happy, because she knew that, together, they could save the ocean!



Monkey Mayhem!

By Mathew Kalvin, Şoldea Ana Ilinca, Ioniţă Ariana Carla, Mărgărit Sebastian Marin, Dumitraşcu Ioana, Țiglea Şerban Alexandru & Nedelcu Alexandra

Rocky was babysitting his little cousin Vaiana. He was watching the news while Vaiana was reading *Matilda*.

A reporter on the news said, 'Rumours are circulating that billionaire CEO Mark Monet of Marka Logue is mistreating animals, so keep your animals safe!'

Vaiana blankly stared at the TV screen while Rocky looked confused and curious.

Suddenly a loud THUD! and a SCREEEECHHHHH! come from outside the house. Rocky jumped up, startled, and peered out the window. Vaiana followed and they saw a van parked at the sidewalk with a group of men loading monkeys into the back of it.



The van took off at speed and Rocky and Vaiana both bolted out of the door. They looked at each other and nodded, making a silent agreement to follow. They hopped onto Rockey's motorbike and gave chase after the van full of monkeys.

Soon they arrived at a mansion where the van was parked. They snuck around the back of the van. Vaiana noticed to company name emblazoned on the side of the vehicle – MARKA LOGUE.

Rocky told Vaiana to wait for the van to leave before they do anything.

Soon, the van left and the two of them snuck into the mansion.

On their way in they bumped into a humungous bodyguard. His nametag read, 'TIM'. He was a huge, bulky man carrying a ukulele, with a shiny, square-ish bald head. His face was smooth and child-like, and he had buck teeth, which added to his silly appearance.

Tim stared at them innocently. 'Nice ukulele,' said Vaiana, 'do you know any good tunes?'

'TUNES!' said Tim and started playing a Hawaiian tune on his instrument, all the while humming along in a deep voice and twirling around in circles.

After a few minutes the massive bodyguard got dizzy and had to sit down, his eyes spinning. Rocky and Vaiana saw their opportunity and slipped past him into the mansion.



As they walked down a dark corridor Rocky and Vaiana heard a muffled SCREEEECHHHH!! that seemed to drift up from the floorboards under their feet. 'The Basement!' said Rocky, 'Look for a stairs down!' Vaiana tried a couple of doors on the corridor until she found one that wasn't locked. Behind the door was a stone staircase leading downwards. 'C'mon, Rocky,' she whispered, 'let's go down!' Rocky shook his head. 'No way, Vaiana' he hissed back, his teeth chattering. But it was too late, Vaiana had already started down the stairs. Rocky reluctantly followed.

At the bottom of the steps they discovered twenty monkeys, all trapped in individual, tiny metal cages. Rocky looked at Vaiana – *what was this?*

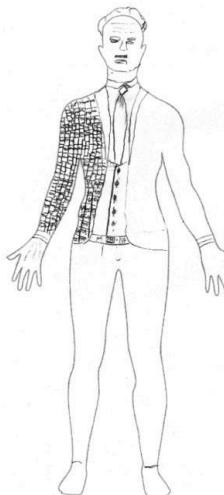
Suddenly a scientist in a dirty white lab coat appeared behind them, bellowing loudly. Rocky reached for a syringe that was lying on a nearby metal table and jabbed the sharp tip into the scientist's arm. The red-faced man slumped down onto the ground, completely out cold.

'Quick!' said Vaiana as Rocky looked down blankly at the syringe in his hands, 'Let's free these monkeys!'

She pulled on a big red lever on the wall and the door of each tiny cage



swung open with a quiet POP. Rocky and Vaiana had to put their fingers in their ears as a loud alarm siren sounded, AAAA-ROOOOOOO-GAAAAAAA! AAAA-ROOOOOOO-GAAAAAAA! The monkeys shrieked as they scrambled out of the cages.



Two of the small monkeys pointed towards a hidden door in the wall and mimed a pushing motion. Rocky and Vaiana got the idea and pushed on the wall, and the door swung open. They ran through and were confronted by a steep stairs, on which stood ... the evil billionaire Mark Monet, with Tim the bodyguard looming behind him.

Monet made a grab for Vaiana as she tried to get past but Tim said, 'No! FRIEND!' and smashed his ukulele into wooden splinters over the billionaire's head.

Rocky and Vaiana nodded their thanks to Tim, stepped carefully over the unconscious body and ran up the stairs with the monkeys following them.

Once outside, the monkeys threw themselves into the trees that bordered the house and disappeared from view, SCREEECCCCHHH-ing their thanks to Rocky and Vaiana as they swung from branch to branch towards freedom.



Rain Dumitrașcu

By Alexandra Dumitrașcu

Rain is very smart and likes helping people. She is realistic and doesn't like lying. She has given up on love after trying with a lot of people.

She enjoys being sarcastic and keeps to herself a lot. She's a multi-millionaire after a very long set of jobs.

These careers include modelling, moto-GP racing driver, streamer, metal singer in a band called Deth Division, which included her now ex-girlfriend.

Overall, she's a very influential person that doesn't allow the fame to get to her head. Although she's very rich, she prefers thrifting because she thinks it's much better for the environment, and for her style in fashion too.

She's a pretty dark energy type of person that loves art, writing and classic literature like Franz Kafka, Fyodor Dostoevsky, etc. She's mean as a love language and is really good at comforting people. She's very spiritual and can talk to the dead, an ability she's had since she was born.

At the age of eleven Samion, the Devil's son, was sent by his father to take her soul, but after quite a large number of years he fell in love with her and now helps her with a lot of things.

She loves Monster Energy (she's a night owl) her favourite being the Lewis Hamilton one. Her favourite colour is purple and it has been since she was seven years old. She's currently seventeen and is studying art and fashion at the best high school in London.

She became popular after her ex-boyfriend, Aidin, tried hitting her – but she dodged and beat the living daylights out of him.

She is gorgeous and a lot of guys get rejected by her, including Samion. She hates makeup on herself. Her hair is brown and her eyes are dark golden (when the sun shines on them, they're gold.) She has siren eyes with long, natural lashes.

She is, most of all, a total biology nerd.



The Nature Brothers

By Joel Vaz, Isaura Craveiro, Oancea Maria Teodora, Kürşad Eymen OLCAN,
Nilay BEKTAS, Ahmet Nazim AYAN & Adil Esat ÇATLI



The world is in a mess. Alan and Nolan, the Nature Brothers, are trying to save the world from all the plastic pollution. But millionaires Gaul Soodman and Walter Black wouldn't stop producing plastic because they are selling it to everyone and making a lot of money from it. They would always destroy forests to make new plastic factories and the Nature Brothers had to put an end to it.

The Brothers stood at the top of a mountain made of plastic and waste, angry that every plant, tree, animal – even most of the people – were dead. The only reason was, obviously, plastic pollution.

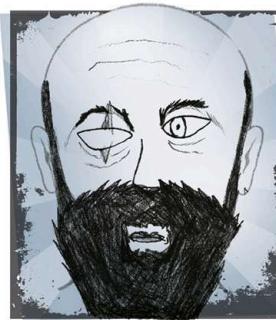


They tried to break into the factories, capture Soodman and Black and sabotage their plans, but the millionaires built an army with all the money they gained from the plastic. The general of the



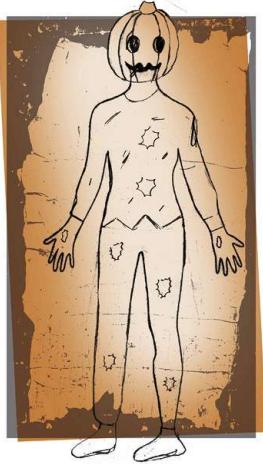
army was Axin, an interstellar traveller. The Brothers understood they couldn't defeat the Plastic Army and they became hopeless.

Then they met the 'Old Wizard Man', a great, fallen warrior. He said to them, 'You guys can't stop them now, they are too powerful. The only way to stop this mess is to go back in time. But you must be careful; it is so dangerous, you shouldn't even move a little stone.' Alan replied, 'We should try something.' Nolan agreed, 'It's the only choice.' The Wizard Man sighed. 'Alright,' he said, 'Heroes, take care.'



He opened a wormhole to the past. The Nature Brothers passed through and ended up in a dark forest. They saw a pumpkin on the ground; they were shocked and surprised to see it as they hadn't seen a real-live plant in a very, very long time.

They tried to pick it up and suddenly the Pumpkin woke up, rose from the ground and started to dance for joy. The



Brothers were confused. The Pumpkin asked them what they were doing in the forest. The Brothers explained their problem – about the world of the future being overrun by plastic and ruled by Gaul Soodman and Walter Black – and the Pumpkin offered to help them.

The three friends came to the top of a grassy hill and saw, below them, Gaul Soodman and Walter Black building a large structure. ‘This must be their first plastic factory!’ said Nolan. ‘And there’s no sign of their Plastic Army,’

said Alan, ‘because they haven’t formed it yet – that happens in the future!’ The Pumpkin nodded, ‘There’s never been a better TIME to stop them! He handed the Brothers a bag of small orange pumpkins. ‘These are explosive hand grenade pumpkins,’ he said, ‘Use them wisely.’

The Nature Brothers and Pumpkin ran down the hill to attack Soodman and Black, throwing the hand grenade pumpkins at the bad guys as they ran. Soon, Soodman and Black were coated in sticky pumpkin juice and couldn’t move. ‘Looks like they’ve come to a sticky end!’ laughed Nolan.

A shimmering portal opened up behind them. In the portal stood the Old Wizard, and behind him the Nature Brothers could see the future world – green and lush, with capering animals, growing trees and plants, and NO SIGN of plastic. ‘You have done it, my friends,’ said the Old Wizard with tears in his eyes, ‘You have saved the world! It is no longer a Plastic Planet!'

‘Thank you,’ said Pumpkin, ‘for saving the future!’ The Brothers smiled and, clapping each other on the back, entered the portal and returned to their plastic-free future.

Captain Firecracker

By Simion Maria, Stoica Diana Ștefania,
Samantha Barry, Ell Hoban & Tabitha Pereira

Lordsom Edward

Lordsom Edward was a well-known villain who had immigrated from Germany. Everybody thought the Lordsom was dead, but he got reincarnated into his younger self, going undercover in the new identity of ‘Peter’. The only remaining part of his old self was a white strand of hair on the right of his head. You may wonder why that is; it is very simple – when you go through the reincarnation process, the body changes drastically, so the white strand of hair remains as a proof of his past life. Don’t worry though, in time, it would turn black too.

In his new identity of Peter, he is a young, tall man, the definition of perfection – at least, that is what others thought of him. His deep red eyes and stoic looks made everybody go crazy. His pale skin and black hair make him stand out. He has a magnetic personality and nobody knows when they are being manipulated by him.

One of his many victims would be Iris...



Iris

When Iris turned twenty-two years she started working as a social worker. She had always wanted to do something for other people, she wanted to help them and to see everyone around her happy, so she thought that being a social worker would be the best job for her. She really loved exploring new places, so she decided to visit an island. She had heard about the struggles that the people there were going through due to climate change and decided to help them. Also, the thought of visiting a faraway island sounded like a pretty good adventure to her!



When she arrived at the island, she heard a lot about a guy named Peter; he seemed to be very popular there.

On her first day on the island she decided to go to the local market to find something to eat. As she was looking for something to satisfy her hunger, she happened to see a tall man speaking to some of the locals. They all seemed to know each other well and were very friendly with each other. Iris thought this tall guy may know what struggles the islanders were going through, so after much back-and-forth, she decided to approach him.

Jack



Jack was born on the small, busy island that Iris was visiting. His parents were loved by the people of the island, automatically making Jack loved. He wanted to live a quiet life, but he had strong opinions about the fast fashion that proliferated in the island's shops, and he voiced these opinions loud and clear. Because he was so loved, the islanders collectively agreed that they would donate all of their used clothes to Jack. This became a problem for Jack, who had nowhere to store all these garments and had to wear multiple layers of clothes daily. He decided he had to dispose of these

clothes in a sustainable manner – otherwise he'd expire from the heat!

One day, due to the enormous collection of clothes, Jack's wardrobe exploded, causing a commotion in the house as clothes flew out onto the street outside. Peter, who was passing by, saw the mess and began to help out, offering to make the clothes wearable again. Jack was delighted, thinking he had found a like-minded friend. But Peter betrayed Jack's trust. He took the clothes and, under cover of moonlight and without Jack's knowledge, threw them into the sea.

Captain Firecracker

Captain Firecracker was what one might call evil, to begin with. She used to be the god of the sea but was demoted to demi-god status for messing with ships and encouraging sea animals to fight with the sailors onboard them. She did this to get revenge on humans who were polluting the sea with plastic and waste – she wanted to protect the aquatic environment.



She secretly joined the C.I.A. – the Criminal Insect Agency – and, with her friends Billboss and Bottle-Cap, decided to use non-violent methods to convince humans to stop polluting the sea.

Billboss and Bottle-Cap



Billboss, otherwise known as Beetleman, was the head of the C.I.A. Part cockroach on his mother's side, he knew he could outlive any apocalypse and had sworn to use whatever powers he had to make sure he could help many people and animals survive it too.

Bottle-Cap was a silly little creature, with crazy whiskers and a funny expression. He was abandoned when he



was a helpless little kitten, and he was found by Billboss lying next to the tiny blue bottle cap that gave him his name. Although he wasn't very bright (he was in possession, he used to say, of no more than three braincells) he, like Billboss, was a survivor.



Peter, AKA Lordsom Edward, had been spotted throwing old clothes into the sea. Billboss and Bottle-Cap boarded Captain Firecracker's ship and sailed to the island in an attempt to stop the pollution, but they were too late – clothes and plastic were already washing up on the island's beaches and dozens of fish and aquatic animals had been harmed.

A young man was on the beach looking sadly at the mess. 'I thought he was my friend,' said Jack, 'but friends don't do this...' A young woman knelt down and started to pick up the wet clothes and plastic. 'Don't worry,' said Iris, 'I saw who did this – it was Peter! The people of the island used to think he was great, but now we know who he really is.'

To Jack's amazement, crowds of islanders emerged from the trees at the edge of the beach and started to tidy up.

Billboss's antennae twitched and he clacked his great mandibles together in joy. 'A group effort,' he said in his clicking, insect voice, 'to save the planet from pollution!'

Bottlecap ME-OWWWed happily, but Captain Firecracker swung her sword over her head angrily. 'This Peter can't be let get away with this,' she growled. Realisation suddenly hit her: Peter was the Lordsom, he was the one behind all the pollution that was hurting the entire planet, especially the oceans that she cared so much for! 'I knew him when he was Lordsom Edward,' said Firecracker, 'and I never forget a face. He was bad then and he's bad now!'

Through a pall of thick, grey smoke they saw Peter escaping into the trees. 'There his is,' shouted Billboss. Captain Firecracker fired his cannon. Peter screamed, but the cannon didn't shoot a cannonball, it shot out a net, made out of recycled materials, which enveloped him, making him trip and fall to the sand below him.

He was immediately surrounded by angry islanders. 'Look!' said Iris, 'Something's happening to Peter!'

Jack's eyes widened as Peter's face seemed to grow older and older, his hair turning greyer and greyer as wrinkles started to appear on his face and deepen into craggy flesh valleys. 'Lordsom Edward!' gasped the islanders, 'It was Peter all along!'

'We'll take it from here,' said Billboss, as Bottle-Cap and Firecracker picked up the now old man and carried him to the ship. 'This old polluter won't be doing any polluting from now on!'

Some Warm-Up Yetis!





The students involved in this project produced podcasts on a number of areas around the topic of 'sustainability'.

Working with the Irish author Alan Nolan in eBook Workshops during the mobility to Romania, the students allowed their imagination to develop characters and storylines around the areas that they had covered during the podcasts like fast fashion, renewal energy, greener cities, zero waste and saving our seas.

Doing something as outlined in the students' stories will help we hope to return our planet to a more livable earth!