Whose Place is it Anyway?

Martin Kiszko

The golden mole is threatened by the workings of a mine The pine marten and polecat live on borrowed time-. Hippos cannot hide from illegal poachers' guns Do chetahs of Botswana watch their last setting suns? As Arctic ice dissolved and polar bears decline, Can the wolves of Ethiopia trust humankind? Will the white-tip shark and angel shark avoid the fish trawl? How soon until the Mpingo tree takes its final fall? The manta ray is troubled by pollution of the waters While cats of the Andes scarper from a slaughter. Will the jaguar outrun the hunter's cold pursuit? Can we save our ponds from the great crested newt? Will snakes find their lairs as habitat turns to road? Does a parking lot come first or the Puerto-Rican toad? Will koalas in their hollows survive the ruthless logging? Shall we bother to find out or is that just too much slogging? Why don't we remember those with whom we share the Earth? And why won't we honour and value their true worth?

We can't let our best friends simply vanish without trace,

So, let's work together and restore their rightful place.

Names by Brian Moses

A tongue-in-cheek poem about how it's not our responsibility to make changes to the world.

My name is 'Couldn't care less', just let the forests die. My name is 'Can't be bothered', who cares about holes in the sky?

My name is 'I'm too busy', let someone else do the worrying, There's nothing that I can do if the ice caps are wearing thin.

My name is 'Leave me alone', just don't go preaching to me. Gossip is what I care about not oil that's spilt in the sea.

My name is 'I'm all right Jack', there's really no cause for alarm. Hens are silly birds, who cares if they suffer at the factory farm?

Who cares about global warming? I like a spot of hot weather. My name is 'Sit on the fence', my name is 'All of a dither'.

So stop saying what I should think, I don't want to believe what I'm told. My name is 'Hope it will go away', my name is 'Don't get involved'.

I Care by Year 5

A response to Brian Moses' poem using powers of persuasion and poetry to share a message.

My name is 'heal the Earth' Leave the world alone My name is 'make the Earth happy' Don't destroy our home

My name is 'ration water' I've realised my mistake My name is 'don't waste food' Eat all that's on your plate.

My name is 'stop deforestation' Keep the forests alive My name is 'come and join us' We need your help to survive.

My name is 'come and help us' We need to stop the killing My name is 'poaching is disastrous' Help us, are you willing?

My name is 'pick up litter' Help the animals to survive My name is 'save electricity' It's time to walk, not drive.

My name is 'I will change' From what I used to be My name is 'I am getting there' On the task that you've sent me.

Let's preserve our nature

The sun is shining, The sky is blue, The birds are flying, And the breeze is so cool.

Mother Nature is trying her best To give nothing but beautifulness, But what do we do? Make her a mess.

Let's make her the best By polluting less and less, And preserve her green dress For our kids and the rest.

Published: November 2015