



# An Africa Fit for Children: Our Voice in the Fight Against Climate Change

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Author: Khadija Mbesa Mtoto News

Design Layout: Lucy Kiragu Mtoto News Hello there, young climate champions! Welcome to this special booklet where we'll explore the exciting world of climate change and how kids like you can make a big difference.

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Our theme is "An Africa Fit for Children – Securing the Voices of Children in the Climate Change Discourse." Get ready to learn, have fun, and become superheroes for our planet!

#### Chapter 1: What is Climate Change?

Imagine Earth as our amazing home, like a big blue ball in space. But guess what? It's getting warmer!

This is because of something called climate change. It's like when we put too many blankets on our bed and get too hot. We'll learn how this happens and why it's important to fix it.

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# Chapter 2: How Does Climate Change Affect Africa?

Africa is a fantastic continent with deserts, jungles, savannas, and more. But climate change is causing problems like droughts, floods, and even making some animals and plants sad. We'll discover how these changes affect children, animals, and nature.

> And how is Climate change affecting children, animals and nature?

Well, The Earth getting hotter can make super hot days that make us sick. It also makes bad diseases like malaria spread

more.

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Many animal homes are disappearing because it's getting too warm, this means that animals might have nowhere to live. The water in the sea is getting sour because of too much bad air. This hurts sea animals like corals and shellfish.



"We can make sure our Earth is always happy by becoming Climate Heroes.

But how do we do that?"

# Chapter 3: Earth Heroes: Making Africa Amazing for Everyone!



Imagine using the sun and the wind to make our homes bright and our toys go zoom!



Instead of using things that can make Earth sad, like coal and oil, we're using the power of nature to keep our planet happy and healthy.

Africa has lots of sunshine and wind, so it's perfect! Also, make sure you turn off the lights when you are done using it!

# Magic Minerals

Green minerals are special things we dig up from the ground that are good for the Earth.

We can use Magic Minerals in a way that helps fight climate change and keeps our planet healthy. Here's how:

Eco-friendly Materials: When we make things like toys or cars, we can use materials that don't hurt the Earth. Instead of using stuff that makes pollution, we can choose materials that are safe and won't make the air or water dirty.



- Less Waste: When we make things, we should try not to waste materials. Using things efficiently means we use just what we need and don't create extra garbage.
- Clean Energy: Factories that make things can use clean energy like wind or sunlight to work. This way, they don't add more pollution to the air.
- Recycling: After we're done using things, we can recycle them instead of throwing them away. Recycling means we turn old things into new things, which uses less new materials and saves energy.

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- Low Pollution: When factories make things, they should follow rules to make sure they don't put harmful stuff into the air or water. This keeps the planet cleaner.
- Innovative Ideas: Scientists and engineers can come up with new ways to make things that are kinder to the Earth. This means we can keep making cool stuff while also taking care of our home.
- Supporting Green Brands: When we buy things, we can choose brands that care about the environment. This way, we support companies that work hard to make things in eco-friendly ways.
- Learning and Sharing: The more we know about green manufacturing, the better we can do it.
   We can tell others about these good ideas and help them make better choices too.

This can be important in Africa because it can create jobs and make sure we're not hurting the land.

Brands: When we buy things, ands that care about the way, we support companies









So how do we do this?

 Caring for Farms: Farmers can grow food in ways that keep the soil happy. They can plant different things at different times and use good stuff to help plants grow.



- Saving Water: We should use water carefully, not waste it. Collecting rainwater is like saving water for later. It helps plants and animals.
- Ocean Friends: We need to be gentle with the ocean. We should only catch the fish we need.
  not too many. This way, fish have time to grow and have babies.
- Helping Forests: Trees are like Earth's big lungs. They breathe in bad air and give us clean air. We should keep forests safe so they can help us.



No Littering: We shouldn't throw trash in the water or on the land. Trash can hurt animals and constants. We should put trash in the right place, like in the recycle bin.



Nature-friendly Buildings When we make houses and cities, let's make sure they're like friendly hugs to the planet. We don't want to make our Earth sick.

So, we build in a way that keeps nature happy and thriving. Sometimes, these changes make families move from one place to another, and this can affect children in Africa in many ways.



Nature's Gifts

Clean air, fresh water, and lots of trees are like Earth's gifts to us.

Africa has amazing nature, so we need to take care of it so we stay happy and strong.



### Getting Ready for Changes

This is about being ready for things that might happen because of changes in the weather.

It's like having an umbrella when it rains or a warm coat when it's cold. In Africa, where the weather can change a lot, we want to be prepared so we can stay safe.

And what happens when we are not ready for weather changes? Well, This is what happens...

Less Water and Food: if rain doesn't come or it's too much, then it will be hard to grow food and find clean water. People might argue about who gets what, and kids might not have enough to eat or drink.



Moving Away: Sometimes, the weather gets really bad, and families may be forced to leave their homes. Kids might need to go to new places where it's safe, but it can be tough because they leave their friends and schools behind.



Trouble for Parents: When things change because of the weather, parents might have a hard time finding work. This can make parents worried and cause problems at home that affect children.



- Not Enough Space: If the land becomes different and not good for farming, people might fight over where they can live and grow food. Kids might see grown-ups arguing, and that's not good for them.
- Moving to New Places: Sometimes, families move to new places to find a better life. But this can sometimes make people who already live there worried or upset. Kids need to feel safe and welcomed.



This is about making sure that when we use things that might cause problems for the climate, like polluting the air, we do something to make up for it.

It's like doing good things to balance out the bad things. Example is , If you cut down one tree, then you have to plant two trees.



Balancing

Act

Why? Because we need trees as they take in carbon dioxide and give out oxygen, which we need so that we can breathe!

In Africa, this can help protect the planet and make sure the air is clean to breathe.

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### Chapter 3: Kids Have Super Voices!

Yes, you heard it right – you have super voices! Even though you might be small, your ideas are HUGE.

This chapter will show you how special your thoughts are and why grown–ups need to listen to what you have to say about saving our planet.

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And how can you raise your voice? By understanding what climate change is and telling others about it. Talk to your family, friends, and teachers about why it's important to take care of the Earth and also Share ideas on how to help. **Be Creative:** Make cool art, stories, or videos to show how climate change affects nature. People will listen when you're creative.

You can also join groups in your area that care about nature. You can work together to make things better.

Don't be scared , you can write letters to leaders and newspapers. Ask them to protect the Earth and tell them why it matters to you.

Earth

DQY

You can also arrange clean-up days or tree planting with friends. Teach everyone how to care for the planet. Show how to be Earth-friendly. Use less plastic, save water, and use less energy. Others will follow your cool example.



### Chapter 4: Our Pre-Summit -An Africa Fit for Children

Woohoo! Here is a chance for you to raise your voice!

> There is a big meeting called a "pre-summit" where important people come together to talk about how to help our planet.

What is It About? We're all coming together to talk about how climate

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change affects us and our world. It's like a big meeting to find ways to help our planet.

Who is Going? Kids like you from many African countries will be there. Also, grown-ups who make important decisions about climate change will listen to us.



What Can You Do? You can share your thoughts and ideas about how climate change affects you. We want to make sure leaders hear our voices and do things to help us and our planet.



#### Our Planet, Our Future

Congratulations, young climate heroes! You've finished the booklet and learned so much about climate change and how you can be part of the solution.

> Remember, every action, no matter how small, counts. Your voice matters, and together, we can create an Africa fit for children and a planet full of hope and happiness.

Go out there, spread your wings, and make the world a better place for all of us, from the tiniest ants to the tallest trees. You've got this!

So Speak up! And Take Action!

