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10/25/19

Project Green Challenge- day 25, greener



My eco-hero is sixteen year old climate change activist, Greta Thunberg. Greta is a young activist from Sweden who travels around the world spreading awareness and delivering speeches about the global issue of climate change. She is only sixteen years old and has been able to accomplish so much in so little time. A few weeks ago, she gave a speech at the U.N. Climate Action Summit in New York City, which gained an immense amount of attention around the world. In her speech, she accused world leaders of taking away her childhood and stealing her dreams, as they have not prioritized the problem of climate change. Throughout her speech, she untied her generation and took a stand against the world leaders, claiming that her and her generation will never forgive them if they do not wake up and address this pressing issue. She provided relevant statistics throughout her speech and proved her extensive knowledge to everyone watching her both at the summit and at home. Greta was able to speak in front of numerous world leaders and have a great impact on them, which is something that not many sixteen year olds can say they did. She received continuous applause from the audience both during and after her speech as well as a huge social media following. During her time in New York, she also went on talk shows such as “The Daily Show” and was able to reach more and more people. She continued to spread awareness about climate change and convey that it is an issue that must be solved now rather than later.

Greta also inspires me because she finds new ways in almost every aspect of her life to try and help climate change. She reduces her carbon footprint by not flying on planes, rather taking zero-emissions boats, like the one she took to New York. On The Daily Show, she discussed how her mother is an opera singer and needs to travel a lot for her job. However, she does not fly, and as a result is not able to work as much, but is still helping the environment. Greta does not go to school anymore but rather dedicates her life to spreading awareness about the dire state that the environment is currently in, thanks to humans and out

use of CO₂, climate change, the solutions that we can all be apart of, and why we should stand up to make a change. This inspires me because at such a young age she knows exactly what she wants and what she wants to dedicate her life to. Many sixteen and seventeen year olds, like myself, still don't know what they want to study in college, so the fact that she has already started dedicating her life to this cause is a huge inspiration.

I think that one challenge Greta has faced is the backlash from social media and people that do not support her, or her cause. Many people believe that she is "incorrect" or "doesn't know what she's talking about" primarily because of her young age. The majority of this negativity that she faces comes from older generations that do not think they should listen to her. They believe that just because she is young, that she is not right and should not be telling others what to do. However, Greta has been able to overcome this challenge by continuing to spread awareness about climate change and continuing to protest the current state of the environment, despite what others say.

What I would share about how they have impacted me:

→ I would probably share that I think it is amazing what she is doing at such a young age because I could never even imagine doing something like that.

Three questions I would ask:

1. What is the best part about doing what you do and reaching so many people?
2. How do you deal with the hate that you receive?
3. How do I get more involved in my community regarding the environment and spreading awareness about climate change?