

# ROOTED

by (You)th Environmentalists

## August 12 was International Youth Day

The theme for 2020 was "Youth Engagement in Global Issues". This issue, we're going to look into some of the ways young environmentalists are staying engaged with the global community and ways that you can too!



(You)th are the future!



### Greta Thunberg

Greta Thunberg is a 17-year-old Swedish climate activist known for founding the Friday for Future movement (School Strike for Climate). She was around the age of eight when she first heard about climate change. The future activist couldn't understand why so little was being done – we're in the middle of a crisis!

**"Our House is on Fire."**

Thunberg was diagnosed with selective mutism, OCD, and Aspergers syndrome, which she calls her superpower. She believes that her autism is what drove her to be so passionate about the issue while many others could continue on their daily life after hearing about it. The 17-year-old first began striking alone outside her local parliament, urging the government to listen to the scientists. On September 20th, 2019, she led the largest worldwide climate strike, with over 4 million participants!

**"We can't just continue living as if there is no tomorrow, because there is a tomorrow."**

Due to COVID 19, climate strikes are no longer being held in public spaces, but you can continue to strike online every Friday. Simply take a picture of yourself with your sign and post it on social media! Click on the flower to learn more!

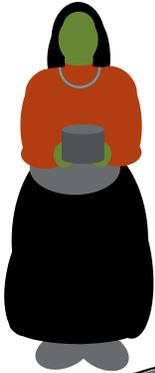


### Isra Hirsi

Isra Hirsi is a 17-year-old American activist. At the age of six, she joined the Black Lives Matter movement. Alongside Haven Coleman, she also founded the U.S. Youth Climate Strike. Their largest strike included about 1.6 million students! When she entered high school and joined an environmental club, she learned that climate change disproportionately affects people of colour and that they're less likely to have access to things such as air conditioning or clean water due to the effects of white privilege. Isra Hirsi continues to organize for climate justice and focuses on having people of colour's voices heard!

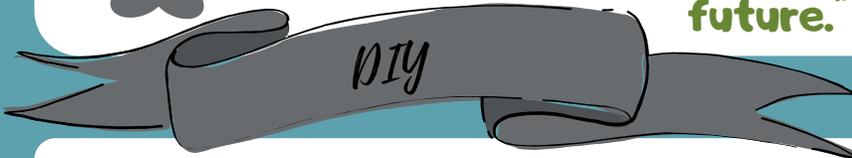


## Autumn Peltier



Autumn Peltier is a 15-year-old Anishinaabe-kwe clean water activist in Canada. After visiting Serpent River First Nation, Ontario for a water ceremony and seeing signs warning against the water she learned that not a lot of Indigenous peoples had access to clean water like her people did. She spoke in front of world leaders at the United Nations in New York about her concerns.

**"Kids all over the world have to pay for mistakes we didn't even make. This is our future, we're the next elders, we're the next leaders. This is our future."**



Below, you will find a variety of fun ways that you can reduce your waste to check out! Click on the image that goes along with it to be taken to the website where you can learn more.

[Click here to learn how to make your own reused and reusable tic-tac-toe board!](#)



Turn old paper bags into journals!

[A couple play dough alternatives!](#) →



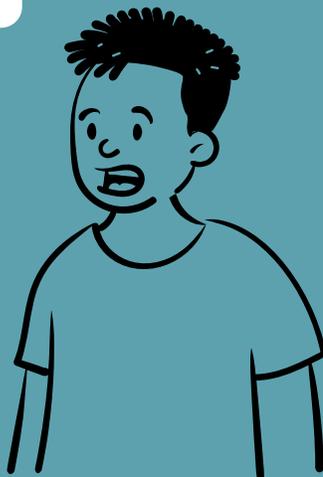
Instead of going out to buy new toys, small children can make their own! Learn how to make a "wiggle worm"!



Try painting an old cube cardboard boxes to make giant dice! ([this DIY has no link](#))

[Click here to learn how to turn old sweaters into pillows!](#)

The Teen Summer Challenge is a fun contest youth can participate in that is hosted by the Kitchener Public Library. If you would like to learn more, click on the person holding the phone in the bottom left corner!



[Make a new-sew t-shirt tote bag in only 10 minutes!](#)

