

The Changemakers We Are!

By Sofia Teratani

When I was little, I was taught that only adults could be changemakers and that our world wasn't really in need of change anyway. Boy, was I wrong! When I realized the truth, everything changed for me.

When people hear the word 'activism,' they think about protests and petitions, but people usually don't consider who started the protest in the first place. And in many cases, guess who did? YOUTHS!

Many young people around the world care and are willing to take action, as they can and do understand what our future will become if we don't take proper care of our earth. We worry that our planet could be destroyed if we don't make some big changes. If you want to understand why we should care about this, just ask some young people who are working to create change.

Swedish teenager and climate activist, Greta Thunberg, made headlines in September when she delivered a speech at the United Nations. Although her speech sparked a lot of attention, it was just the latest example of how young activists are pushing for positive changes by educating lawmakers and heads of state throughout the world about the ways our earth is in danger.

Kenidra Woods' name is already known for her creativity and will, and she has already changed the world through her work! Her short story, *A Heart of Hope*, and her movement, *Cheetah*, gives voice to her experience with mental health issues. Additionally, she uses her passion and determination to promote an end to gun violence and bullying. Kenidra's work has also helped her become a better person.

Youth activism has an extraordinary potential to change communities for the greater good! Young people are powerful! We can use our powers wisely, and in doing so, maybe even save a life!

About the Author

Sofia Teratani is an 11-year-old girl who has always had a passion for writing and reading, and when she found the opportunity to get her work published, she was interested! She is kind and loves music and is always ready to help others when necessary. Sofia grew up dancing and has a passion for all things music. She plays piano, cello, harp, euphonium, and flute.

