

# MAKE IT LOCAL

**“Even though kids may be a small part of the population, they are 100% of the future.”** – Cash Daniels, [The Conservation Kid](#)

Through speaking to students at schools and encouraging kids to join cleanup efforts, Cash hopes to inspire more young people to care about their local bodies of water and the environment.

## Identify Your Local Bodies of Water

Name nearby rivers or lakes below.

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## Research the Current Issues

Research current issues affecting your local water sources. Use the graphic organizer below to share your information sources, notes, and reflections.  
Not sure where to start your research?

- Type “Issues affecting [Name] River/Lake” in a Google search.
- Visit the nature or science section of your local newspapers.

Source	Research notes	Why is this important?

## Learn about Local Efforts

There are many issues affecting bodies of water around the world, but the good news is, there are also many inspiring individuals and groups trying to make a difference through cleanup events, sustainability awareness, and advocating for policy changes. Are there local River Heroes in your community?

**Research Tips:**

- Type “Organizations working for [Name] River/Lake]” in an internet search.
- Type “Conservation efforts in [town/city]” in an internet search.
- Visit your local town/city government website and navigate to the environment section to learn about local conservation efforts.

Individual or group	What do they do?

## Take Action

On his [website](#), Cash shares that you don't always have to organize big river cleanups, you can take small actions when you see something. What is one small action you can take toward reducing your trash creation?

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In the documentary, Cash shared that he began recycling with his family at home before he started larger recycling efforts with aluminum and tires from his river cleanups.

Do you already recycle in your home? If not, you can get started with the following tips.

### 1. Look up local recycling services:

Type "How to recycle in [town/city]" in an internet search. The best sources of information will be your local government website which will share details about recycling pick up or drop off.

### 2. Understand what you can recycle:

Type "What can I recycle in [town/city?]" in an internet search. Government websites and local recycling services will share which items can be recycled locally.

### 3. Setup your recycling system at home:

Some areas do require you to separate glass, paper, plastic, and aluminum recycling. Decide how you will set this up with your family at home.

After completing your research, share your recycling plan below.

**Plan for recycling organization at home**

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**Plan for recycling pick-up or drop-off**

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In addition to our small individual actions, we can also participate in local community efforts. Identify one local community effort you can join below.

You can research local opportunities by typing “river/lake cleanup events in [town/city]” in an internet search. Once you identify a local opportunity, take some time to learn about the event’s leaders. What is their mission? How often do they organize clean up events? What are the steps needed to get involved? Share what you have learned with your parents and discuss how they can support you in attending a local cleanup event.

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