

Noel Bien T. Carlos

St. Anthony School

14 years old

8th Grade

As we constantly read to become wiser and successful, we must think green at the same time to conserve the environment for the future generations to come. We must reduce, reuse, and recycle while enjoying reading. As a responsible citizen, we can do numerous and practical ways to go green and read. We should read books and magazines that enhance our knowledge on how to be more environmental friendly. If we have to buy new books, we should shop with a conscience. We should prefer a book that is printed on 100% post consumer waste recycled paper. This will help conserve natural resources, reduce the impact on endangered forests, and resolve the climate crisis. On the other hand, if the books we want to read are available in school and public libraries then we should just borrow from them. This will save some money, including the ink and paper that goes into printing new books. It will also reduce the volume of paper trash. We can read articles, current events, and histories on the library's website. Libraries are also a great place to donate our used books.

Modern reading avails of the e-book or electronic book, which is the

digital media 'equivalent of a conventional printed book. We can read stories and articles on the World Wide Web. We just need to click and download them in the computer or cell phones. We can join a national project called The Read Green Initiative, which offers free online access to enjoy favorite magazines, books and other publications. We can send and receive messages through e-mail to minimize paper consumption.

We can get involved with community organizations that are dedicated to exploring earth-friendly efforts, increasing magazine recycling and paper recovery, reducing unsold newsstand copies, and choosing environmentally preferable paper. We can buy used books on bookshops and yard sales as excellent ways to green our book purchase. As the saying goes, one person's trash is another's treasure. By doing this, we can keep books out of landfills and save taxpayers money. We can make it a fun exercise to exchange a book every time we hang out with friends. Swap parties are a genuine method of establishing friendship and limiting paper consumption. We can circulate letters or documents instead of printing individual copies for everyone. We can also recycle books as wallpaper, wrapping paper, collage, craft material, and even compost. When we recycle paper, we conserve water and oil that can be resources instead for electricity.

We can go green by planting trees. The trees will help provide us cleaner air to breath for good health and keen concentration while reading. The shade from the trees can help cool our home and school as well as offer a perfect place for reading. We can also reduce electric consumption if we read under natural lighting. Make reading a habit while keeping green in mind. Remember to read, reduce, reuse, and recycle to protect our world today and always.