



Riku, aged 9, Japan

Most people aren't surprised that I don't have a dishwasher. But when I say that fish clean my dishes for me, many people don't believe me!

In my garden there's a small room, called the kabata. In the room, there's a lot of water from our town's river. My family use the water to clean vegetables and wash dishes. A little food falls off the bowls that we wash – but that's OK because there are lots of fish living in the water, and the fish eat the food. The fish keep the water clean!

After the water comes to my kabata, it goes into the river or onto farms. A kabata is a great way to save water!



Ariadna, aged 10, Spain

There isn't heating or air conditioning in my house.

I live in a traditional cave house – a house that's built inside a hill. The ground around the house keeps the house cool when the weather is hot, and warm when the weather is cold. My house is great because it doesn't use much electricity.

People think that I don't have Wi-Fi, electricity or even water in my cave house – but I do!



Madison, aged 11, Canada

In my house there isn't a dustbin. My family don't need one because we don't throw away much rubbish. In fact, we only throw away a few bags each year.

How do we do it? Well, we're careful when we go shopping – we take our own bags to put our food in. Some things are always wrapped in plastic, but we try not to buy them. Instead, we buy lots of fresh fruit and vegetables.

Finally, when we have a little rubbish, we try to use it. I've made a lot of cool things from plastic bottles!




1 Read the article for 60 seconds. Which item *doesn't* each child have in their house?

2 Read the article again and say *yes* or *no*.

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| 1 Riku's kabata is in the kitchen of their home. | 7 Madison's family throw away less rubbish than most people. |
| 2 The kabata is used to do the washing up. | 8 Her family don't buy things in plastic bottles, boxes or bags. |
| 3 The water that's in the kabata is dirty. | 9 She often recycles things by using them in a new way. |
| 4 Ariadna's home was built a long time ago. | |
| 5 Her house is on top of a hill. | |
| 6 She can't use the Internet in her house. | |

3 Why is each house better for the environment than normal houses? Which would you like to live in?

In Riku's house they save water. It's bad for the environment to use too much water because ...

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

