



With no respect for boundaries, borders or beliefs, COVID-19 spread rapidly across the globe. It has shown us how interconnected we actually are, whilst simultaneously forcing us to distance from one another, to close our borders and retreat into our own space. Life has changed dramatically. We are compelled to live differently, and perhaps, to reassess what and who is really important in our lives. It will pass, a relatively small blip in the history of a planet that is some four and half billion years old, but will life be the same?

### Do we want life to be the same?

The halt of movement and industry has given us a glimpse of a cleaner world, with reports of exceptional blue skies, [views of the Himalayas not seen for 30 years](#) and significant increases in [air quality](#) in some of the most polluted cities in the world. These [gains are fragile](#), but perhaps they're a glimpse of what our planet's future could be like. As we emerge from the pandemic, there is an opportunity to build back better, to build what we want to see for our children and build what we dream of for future generations.



**WATCH THIS:** Thirty years ago, NASA's Voyager 1 snapped a photo of Earth from six billion kilometres away and humanity got a chance to see itself in a whole new light. The **'pale blue dot,'** as it became known, inspired [Carl Sagan](#) to write these stirring words which seem more relevant than ever.





### Your challenge: Care for the planet

In the words of Winston Churchill: *“If not now, when? If not us, who?”*

Over the next week, try one or more of these activities and help make the world a better place for future generations.

1. [Calculate your carbon footprint](#) and make a pledge to reduce it.
2. Help fight food waste over the next week by adopting these [food-saving habits](#) from Oz Harvest
3. [Recycle right!](#) Follow these guidelines for the next week and make sure you are doing your bit to save the planet
4. Your Choice!

### Want to learn? More check these websites out

#### [ABC's War on Waste](#)

Great ideas for reducing waste and our impact on the planet.

#### [Happy Planet Index](#)

The Happy Planet Index measures what matters: sustainable wellbeing for all. It tells us how well nations are doing at achieving long, happy, sustainable lives.

#### [An Ode to Living on Earth](#)

A thought-provoking Ted Talk.

