Think about it...

A deeper look at our environment

An entrusted environment publication
Have you ever made a neatly folded paper boat and watched it sail?

Or a strong sand castle at the beach?
Have you ever helped your friend make a delicious cake?

Or built your very own toy house?
Imagine how you would feel if someone ripped your neat paper boat, or stepped on your strong sand castle, or dropped your delicious cake, or broke your toy house?
Do you know who made you, your family and all the different people in the world?
Do you know who made huge mountains and covered them with trees? Or who made the blue sky and the white clouds?
Do you know who made this clear water or this beautiful family, and taught them how to swim?
Or who made this insect and gave it the ability to hide amongst the leaves?
Do you know who made this 8 armed octopus and gave him his bright orange color?
You are right!

**Allah made everything in the environment!**

He too does not like anyone to harm or misuse what He has made.

اللَّهُ خَالِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَكِيلٍ

Allah is the Creator of all things, and He is the Guardian and Disposer of all affairs (39:62).
Do you know how often Muslims pray to Allah?
Did you know that everything in the environment prays too, but in ways we cannot understand?

Only Allah can hear the praying of the pebbles, leaves and drops of water.
Only Allah can hear the praying of
the patient frog,
the tiny lady bug,
and the fast cheetah.
We should always be on our best behavior around anyone who is praying to Allah.

We must not harm or disturb them without need.

The seven heavens and the earth, and all beings therein, declare His glory: there is not a thing but celebrates His praise; And yet you understand not how they declare His glory! Verily He is Oft-Forbear, Most Forgiving (17:44)!
Do you know who gave us all these gifts?

yummy sweets to eat
cool water to drink
Friends to play with

my mother to love
You are right again!
It is Allah who gave me all these gifts.

Everything in the environment is a gift.

When someone gives you a gift, you must take care of it to the best of your ability.

إنْ تُعْدُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ لا تُحْصُوْهَا إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَغَفُوُّ رَحِيمٌ

And if you were to count Allah’s favors, you would not be able to number them; most surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful (16:18).
So what do All these have in common?
Yes! You got it!

They are all part of our *Environment*!

Our *Environment* is made by Allah.

Our *Environment* is always praying to Allah.

Allah created the *Environment* so we can learn about how Great He is and thank Him for giving us all these wonderful gifts.
So I should not waste Allah’s water,

or throw trash on Allah’s earth, where it doesn’t belong,

or hurt Allah’s plants and animals,

or keep the body Allah gave me unclean

and I should never ever pollute His Environment...
And God willing, Allah will then reward me with a beautiful life in this world and an even more beautiful life in Jannah...

Just Think about it...
Guidance to Adult Readers

This book is meant to be read to young children in the company of an adult. The aim of this book is to connect the child with the deeper meanings of the Environment. The Environment is Created by Allah and for that reason alone it is very valuable. Think of when you made something of your own (a cake, a sand-castle, planted a tree, or raised a pet), how valuable it was to you and how you didn’t want anyone to disrupt it. Allah’s environment is very special because Allah made it and mistreating is incompatible with one’s proper relationship with Allah.

Secondly, the environment is like a classroom, telling me about Allah. When I see a watch, I recognize, first of all, that the engineer who put it together, exists. There is no way I would say that all these components of the watch came together by mere chance. I also know that the engineer must be intelligent for putting such a piece together. Moreover, depending on the design, I may be able to recognize other things about the engineer. The environment tells me about its Maker. It tells me first of all that Allah exists. If I ponder a bit more I can see that He is infinitely Merciful, Beautiful, Wise and Powerful amongst other attributes. So when I know that the environment is a message to me from Allah how can I pollute or harm anything in it.

Thirdly, whether it is a drop of water, a tree, a rock, or an animal, everything in the environment prays to Allah but in ways we cannot perceive. But Allah can see them praying to Him. How can I unjustly harm, waste, or abuse someone or something in prayer. Only when I use the environment in a just way that is acceptable to its Master and Creator do I not disrupt its worship.

Fourthly, the environment is an enormous blessing and gift from Allah to me, that He has entrusted me with using for this short life. How should one treat a gift given to them from the one they love except with respect and in a way that is acceptable to the Giver?

Once the child understands, at a deeper level, what the environment, really is, it will be difficult to waste, pollute, damage or misuse any aspect of the environment. Therefore, gaining Allah’s pleasure in this world and the next, Insha’Allah.
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www.entrustedenvironment.org
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