Originally published July 2012 as a guest post for KayakCanoeBlogger.com



# "We're all in this together."

# By Faith Attaguile

© Frontline Copy

That's what one little boy says in the video below. He's right!

I'm sharing his words with you ... along with the words of other children in this video ... because they're talking about feelings we're all having about what's happening to planet Earth.

And they're talking about the first steps we need to take to begin changing things for the better.

Have a look:

**VIDEO:** Water Crisis

So ... what can we do? What is our plan?

How do you make a plan big enough to address facts like:

- There's no drinking water for <u>one billion people</u>?
- There's hardly any water for <u>508 million people</u> in 31 countries?
- Bad water kills 25 million people each year?

## They walked up a sweat for clean water

In class one day some second-graders at a school in Haverford, Pennsylvania discovered these facts. When they read about how many people in Africa don't have good drinking water, or get sick from the water they have, they came up with a plan.

They raised money to build a well for a community in Africa. They organized a campaign to "walk for clean water" ... right at their school in Pennsylvania! When the day came, they walked many miles around the school track to raise money for the community they had decided to help.

This is what one of the students wrote:

"On June 2, 2010 the second grade walked for water because in Africa people have unsafe drinking water. They have to carry a lot of gallons on their backs and walk a long time for unsafe drinking water that they can get sick from. I walked three miles and one lap around the track... I felt proud of myself because I was helping people in Africa."

They were only 8-year-olds. But they put together a plan to change things. And they raised \$7,500 – enough to fund an entire water project.

Here's their incredible story:

**VIDEO:** <u>Haverford 2d graders sweat for clean water</u>

#### What can you do?

The Haverford second-graders campaigned to help people in Africa.

You could organize something like that, too. But the truth is, you don't have to go all the way to Africa to do something important.

You can help people change their ideas about water <u>right here</u>. And when you begin to change things right where you live, it will eventually have an impact on everyone else, everywhere else.

Sure, you can organize a campaign to help people in other countries. A project right in your own community to help save water would be great, too.

But there are also things you can do every day ... right at home ... to help protect and conserve water.

You can start by changing the way you use water. Talk to your family and friends and help them do the same.

What to begin? Let's start by building a list of water saving tips. Ideas you can put into action right now.

Here are my first tips. But this is just a start.

What are some of your tips?



### Join the "Where on Earth is our water?" Team!

If you send us your water-saving tips (just use the comment box below), we'll add them to the list with your name (if you want) to show others you're part of our team.

This list is important. It's about steps you can take right now, right where you live, to begin changing the way we use water and live in this world.

We can't do it all at once. But one step always leads to another.

What are the steps you would take? What's your plan?

Write your ideas down in the comments box below so we can include them in our next blog. Because it's not just what I think, it's what <u>you</u> think, too. Really, it's what we all think!

Why? Because ... just like the little boy said in the video you just watched ... "We're all in this together."

For a Blue World,

Faith Attaguile Guest Blogger, KayakCanoeBlogger.com Faith spends most of her time at <u>FrontlineCopy.com</u> writing for the Green World. You can also connect with her on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Google+</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.



This guest blog is part of our "Where on Earth is our water?" series. [Globe illustration by <u>Jack Cook</u>, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (©)]

Do you want to write your own Where On Earth Is Our Water post?

Do you have artwork or photos you've made with your friends or in school that you'd like us to post as part of this series?

If you know someone in your community who's working on a water project, or teaching others how to protect our precious blue resource, why not write a post about that?

If you're ready to write something now, check out our post guidelines. Then write your post and submit it to info@kayakcanoeblogger.com.

Or you can tell us about your ideas in the comments box below and send them in to us. (And don't forget to add your water-saving tips!)

We'd love you to be part of our Where On Earth Is Our Water team! So let us hear from you soon...