

Alex, GreenThumb Harvest Fair, New York
September 18, 2021

Rachel:

Okay, Alex, will you tell me your name and where you live?

Alex:

My name is Alex Blackstock and I live here in New York.

Rachel:

And how old are you, Alex?

Alex:

I'm 12 years old now.

Rachel:

The question I ask everybody is, when you think about climate change, global warming, what do you think about and how do you feel?

Alex:

Well, what I think about is the problem. Animals that die cause of this problem. And I also think about just planet Earth in general. And I think about, and I think about the weather, well, the hot weather.

Rachel:

And how do you feel?

Alex:

Well, I guess I don't feel, I guess I don't feel happy about the fact that it means the weather is getting hotter and there are other animals dying and that it's causing a problem, and what it's also causing a problem towards the future of our planet.

Rachel:

How do you think we got into this mess?

Alex:

Probably by, well, there are things like driving cars, which can use up, which can cause a problem. And there's, well, a lot of things that humans do cause this.

Rachel:

Are there ways that climate change affects you on a day-to-day basis?

Alex:

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Well, hot weather seems to affect me. Hot weather doesn't make me happy. So I guess maybe it does a tiny bit, but I don't think really.

Rachel:
How does it, um, affect how you think about your future?

Alex:
In some ways, I think yes.

Rachel:
In what ways?

Alex:
Well, by the thoughts that there are some animals that could, like, there are some animals that could be extinct in a short time because of this, and that makes me think, and that makes me think about how it's a problem and the sea levels will rise.

Rachel:
What's your favorite animal?

Alex:
I like a lot of animals, but some animals I like are the ones that are, that could be affected. Or for one thing, I just think polar bears don't deserve to be affected by it.

Rachel:
Are polar bears one of the animals you really love?

Alex:
Well, I think polar bears are nice and they're definitely a unique kind of animal. You don't see many animals like polar bears, but with climate change there won't be any more animals like polar bears, cuz there won't be any polar bears.

Rachel:
How does it make you feel when you think about that?

Alex:
Well, I guess it makes me feel sad.

Rachel:
Do you feel hopeful? What are things that you feel hopeful for about the future?

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Alex:

Well, that these animals, that not all the animals on planet Earth will go extinct and that something can be done about this.

Rachel:

What do you think we can be doing now?

Alex:

Well, you can investigate, well, you can find what are some of the causes of it and try and do things against. And trying to think more about the future of the planet.

Rachel:

Thank you so much for talking with me. I so appreciate this. Thank you. Alex. Are there any questions that I didn't ask you that you wish I had asked you?

Alex:

No, I'm not, I don't think so, except maybe some ways it can be stopped.

Rachel:

What are some ways, any, any ways that you've been thinking about?

Alex:

I think maybe trying to stop doing things that contribute towards it, such as burning fossil fuels is one thing that that is an essential cause. And also wasting food. So I think these are ways, so I think not doing these things, these are ways that climate change can be stopped, or at least that you can try and show that you'd like, that you care about climate change being solve.

Rachel:

Thank you so much for talking with me. I really, really love hearing all your thoughts about this really important subject. Thank you. Any final thoughts?

Alex:

That climate change is a problem in our world and that it must be solved.