



The Sun Speaks

Grades 4-5

By

Cathy Skora

Children's perspective using fantasy to inform others about
global warming.

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Dragons & Mermaids LLC

Skora
www.DragonsandMermaids.com Cathy
PO Box 956
Buffalo, NY 14207
Cathy@DragonsandMermaids.com

Cast of Characters

- : Sun (2-6)
- : Zebras (2-6)
- : Lions (2-6)
- : Wildlife Photographers A (1-3)
- : Wildlife Photographers B (1-3)
- : Quirky Turtles (1-3)

ACT I

(Photographers walking to center stage, very hot wiping brows, hats, cameras around necks. Lions are frozen upstage stage R, Zebras are frozen upstage L, sun is upstage center under an orange cloth)

PHOTOGRAPHER A

We have been coming here for 5 years and there was always a water hole here.

PHOTOGRAPHER B

We've been looking for hours. There is not a water hole or animal in sight, no lions or zebras.

PHOTOGRAPHER A

I wish there was a lion here so that we could ask him what happened to all the water.

PHOTOGRAPHER B

Don't be silly lions can't talk.

PHOTOGRAPHER A

Well something is just not right here, no animals , no water.

PHOTOGRAPHER B

Okay, we'll figure it out but first I really need to sit in the shade and take a nap. We've been walking for hours and I am really tired.

PHOTOGRAPHER A

I'm tired too. let's take a nap and we'll see if we can figure this out later.

(stage directions photographers lie down and fall asleep by tree. lions and zebras start to move)

ACT II

(all animals walk up to the sun and knock , knock, knock)

SUN Hello, who's there?

LIONS & ZEBRAS

It's us, the animals. Come on wake up! We need to talk to you. It's important!

SUN: Alright, alright, it's just about time for me to come up anyway.

(stage directions..sun rises making a big flourish, animals step back surprised)

ZEBRAS & LIONS

Whoa!

SUN Yes, I am quite something aren't I? After all I am a star.

(fluffing sun glow on head)
Now what brings you all the way to the sun today?

ZEBRAS

It is getting too hot on earth.

LIONSThe heat is drying up our water, killing the plants we eat, and interrupting our travel from place to place.

TURTLE

Yes it's terrible, and now we have missed our chance to have our picture in national geographic because our water hole is gone and the photographers can't find us. I really wanted my picture in that magazine. Let's go see if we can find another photo opt.

(turtles very slowly walk off)

ZEBRAS

Geesh! The magazine isn't important! What's important is that animals on all of the continents are being affected by the heat.

LIONS & ZEBRAS

Yes, sun you need to do something about the heat.

SUN Now wait a minute! It's my job to heat up all of the land, air, and water.

ZEBRAS

Have you turned your heat up?

SUN Well of course not! I am doing what I have always done for millions of years. Maybe you should get an expert opinion to help you understand why it is getting hotter.

LIONSWhat kind of an expert?

SUN A scientist. The people who have been studying my star power since the beginning of time.

(Sun fluffs and fusses over her glow)

ZEBRAS

Good idea! Are there any scientists in this dream?

ACT III

SCIENTISTS

Of course we are here. This is a dream. Anything is possible!

SCIENTISTS

How can we help you?

SUN The animals think it's my fault that the earth is getting hot and ruining their water and food supply. I am just doing my job. Please tell them the reason the earth is getting warmer so that I can get back to being a star.

(sun fluffs and fusses about her glow)

SCIENTISTS

Well animals you are right, the earth is getting warmer, but it is not because of the sun. It's because of global warming.

LIONS AND ZEBRAS

Global warming, what's that?

SCIENTISTS

Global warming is a gradual rising of earth's temperature.

LIONS AND ZEBRAS

So what's the problem?

SCIENTISTS

Some of the activities of humans produce extra greenhouse gases.

LIONS & ZEBRAS

What kind of activities?

SCIENTISTS

Burning fossil fuel like coal, oil and natural gas release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

SCIENTISTS

Cutting down and burning trees also produces a lot of carbon dioxide.

SCIENTISTS

Global warming effects our weather.

(CONTINUED)

SCIENTISTS

The weather effects water and plants all over the world.

SCIENTISTS

So animals the problems you are having finding food and water is caused by global warming.

LIONS, ZEBRAS & SUN

That's terrible!

SCIENTISTS

Yes it is and it is affecting animals all over the world.

SCIENTISTS

The good news is that if everyone in the world works together we can help solve this problem.

LIONS, ZEBRAS & SUN

Yeh!

SCIENTISTS

Let's wake up our photographers and have them do some more traveling around the world to see what they find.

LIONS, ZEBRAS & SUN

Wake up!

ACT IV

PHOTOGRAPHER A&B

(wake up suddenly)
What was that?

PHOTOGRAPHER A

I don't know.

PHOTOGRAPHER B

I had a dream about the sun and the animals.

PHOTOGRAPHER A

Me too! I had a dream that the sun and the animals found out from scientists that global warming was drying up water holes and causing food shortages for the animals.

PHOTOGRAPHER B

Let's travel to a few more countries to take pictures to show the world how global warming is effecting the homes of so many animals.

PHOTOGRAPHER A

Yes, and then we can everyone what they can d to prevent more global warming.

ZEBRAS & LIONS

YEH!!

PHOTOGRAPHER B

I'm glad we had the same dream.

ZEBRAS & LIONS

Thank you sun!

SUN And that is why I'm a star!

(sun starts fussing with her glow again and looking in the mirror, making big flourishing movements...scene fades)

OPTION: Students all face audience and say "What can you do to prevent global warming?"