## iCARE: Planet

I care about stuff like the toys in the store, but at home, I have some I don't use any more. I care about TV and my mini-car. I care about ice cream, a good candy bar, my bicycle, sneakers, and video games, but caring for nature — it's just not the same.

Things do not matter as much as the Earth. It's value's so great, no one knows what it's worth. It's worth plenty more than the cars that we drive 'cause there is no car that can keep us alive!

Caring for nature can sometimes be hard because we forget that the trees in our yard, the ground that they grow in, and air that they breath, can all disappear if we fail to believe that all that we do is connected to them and they are the precious and glittering gem that we must protect as if there is no other because in this life we get only one mother.

This may sound weird, but I care for the trees the same way I care for my very own knees. I care for the rocks, like I care for the snow, and I treat them as if they are someone I know. I care for the lakes, and the rivers, and streams, as if they're the toys in my wildest dreams. I care for the sunrise and sweet morning dew, the same way I care for all people, like you.

We all have one right that is solid as granite; we all have the right to say, "This is my planet!" So, when someone does something bad and unfair like trashing the sea or polluting the air, never be too scared to stand up and say, "I will NOT let you treat MY planet that way!"

I care 'cause I know it's the right thing to do to make the world better for me and for you.

- Paul Rodriguez for Rodro