bee'ah
school of
environment

Green Generation

AN ENVIRONMENTAL MAGAZINE FROM BSOE

ISSUE 10



COVER STORY

THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY IN THE UAE

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A LETTER FROM THE BSOE TEAM

Our Green Ambassadors,

We are witnessing confusing times and school feels different due to the novel events happening around us. Therefore, we would like to say that we acknowledge your dedication and perseverance in the face of these challenges, and we are proud of all the energy and time you continue to invest into your education. We have so much faith that we will overcome this and come out stronger than ever before.

Despite these setbacks, the future is looking bright, and the UAE is constantly striving to be ahead of the rest when it comes to preserving the environment. The country harbors a vision to become an idol of sustainability to the entire world and bring about the positive changes needed to build a greener future.

In the UAE, our eyes are always at the greener side and we trust that what we sow now from sustainable innovations we will reap the benefits of in the future. Join us to read all the relevant articles on the matter and enjoy the fun activities we have included to keep you entertained.

Please remember to keep well and to prioritize your health and safety at all times.

Best Regards,
Your BSOE Team



WORDS FROM OUR CHAMPIONS

STUDENT

BEAUTY STARTS FROM THE INSIDE!

“Beauty starts from the inside” a quote which we all have heard of, but how many of us implement it in our real life. ‘Beauty’ is a word that means a combination of qualities, such as shape, color, or form, that pleases the aesthetic senses, especially the sight. It does not limit itself to human looks or their personalities.

It also means bringing in beauty in your own house. From the time I was a little kid. Everyone around me, teachers, parents, seniors, etc informed me of the importance of plants and natural beauty around us.

But no one addressed how can I bring this beauty into my home since I used to live in an apartment with no balconies. I wanted to experience this beauty, so I surfed on the internet, and I was flooded with ideas. One such idea was to grow a small plant with mustard seed and moist cotton. To my surprise, the plant grew well and after that, there was no stop.

I started growing great amounts of plants. A few months ago I bought a small money plant and snake plant. Fast forward to the present and they are fully grown and are ‘Beautiful’.

They not only enhance the beauty of my home but also provide fresh air. Not only that I even started giving aluminum cans, cardboard sheets for recycling. The more I did such little activities for mother nature, the more I felt blessed and assured for my part that I›m not being a part of ‘Damaging or Polluting Our Mother Nature’. Therefore we all should take the initiative of beautifying our Mother Nature, not hurting it.

Sanober Sarfaraz Ahmed
(Our Own English High School, Sharjah, Girls, grade 11)



WORDS FROM OUR CHAMPIONS

TEACHER

My journey in the field of environment started back in year 2012 when my friend Uzma Rashid (Environment co-ordinator that time) forced me to be the part of green team of the my school PIHSS,Sharjah. In the beginning my knowledge about environment was purely ecological. But when a started working with my green teams on different projects of environment sustainability organized by BSOE, my knowledge about different environmental issues, their root causes and possible solutions went to the next level.

I am thankful to BSOE to provide a platform through which I have become able to inspire my students to choose “Environmental Science” as a subject for their higher studies. A couple of my students have completed their graduation in this discipline and have pursued their careers in this field.



And I think, this is the biggest achievement for me.
Recently I took an initiative to make an Eco Club at my school
“PIHSS Ecoholics”.
Students from different grades are the members of this club and they are actively participating in various environmental activities like plantation, recycling, battery challenge, beech clean ups, poster making and debates etc. I am trying to inculcate eco friendly practices among my students so that they can play their role to achieve sustainable environment.
Thanks the entire BSOE team for your part in my’ Environment Journey’.
Lastly, I would like to say:

“The earth what we all have in common. The more we all do our part.
The faster we’ll create a world that promotes sustainability.”

Amra Rashid
Environment Co-ordinator
Pakistan Islamia Higher Secondary School, Sharjah.

Hatta Natural Reserve

Silence. Tranquility. Nature. They may not be the first words you'd associate with Dubai – a city usually known for its groundbreaking urban developments. But beyond its busy streets there are other worlds waiting to be discovered. One of the reliable constants in Dubai is the pace of change.

Half a century of transformation from humble backwater to global city has seen new islands dredged from the ocean, new towers drive the skyline higher, and a new population of international visitors arrive. But one distant corner of the Emirate is prized for its quiet continuity.

The Hatta Mountain Conservation Reserve is found in the Hajar Mountains that stretch from the east coast of Oman into the northern UAE. The Hatta Mountain Conservation Area is home to the largest population of the endangered Arabian Tahr in the UAE. The mountains provide refuge to many species of rare fauna and flora, situated close to two dams.

The Hajar mountains receive about 30 percent of the total annual rainfall in the country, and heavy rainfalls recharge the shallow aquifer, and produce large flood discharges that replenish two major reservoirs downstream at the Hatta and Al Ghabra dams. Given the scarcity of freshwater wetlands in the region, the site represents a rare and representative mountain freshwater ecosystem which is home to a large number of species.













It supports 19 percent of all the plant species recorded in the country, 79 percent of its dragonflies, 27 percent of its birds, 44 percent of its mammals and 30 percent of its reptiles and amphibians. Some of these are globally threatened, such as the critically endangered Arabian leopard, the endangered Arabian tahr and Egyptian vulture, and the vulnerable aoudad and greater spotted eagle. The site is one of the very few along the mountain range with breeding habitats for waterbirds, fish and amphibians.

The area is an ideal spot for mountain bikers, adventurers and nature-lovers with its craggy mountain peaks, crisp air and untamed environment.

Experience the varied terrain from sandy patches to sharp rock, or hop on a mountain bike to navigate the meandering pathways of hills, wadis, and farmland. A popular spot behind the Hatta Dam is where you'll come across rough rock, stunning vantage points to take photographs and wildlife sightings.

From criss-crossing the rough terrain on a mountain bike to tackling the turquoise waters by kayak. Kayak through the vast Hatta lake and encounter natural inhabitants including fish and birds. You can venture into unseen areas through the curved passageways hidden behind the mountains.

One of the exclave's best-kept secrets, Hatta Honey Bee Garden is well worth a visit. This peaceful garden is the region's first queen bee rearing station. Wear some bright yellow beekeeper suits and head into the garden with the experts to learn everything you need to know about bees. As well as getting up close with the insects you'll see the types of trees that produce honey, view various beehives and can opt to take part in candle-making or beehive frame-building sessions.

GREEN CHALLENGE

NUMBER MAZE

IN ORDER TO FIND YOUR WAY TO THE FINISH LINE, START BY PICKING A NUMBER FROM THE FIRST ROW, AND THEN KEEP MOVING BELOW BUT IT HAS TO BE WITH AN EQUAL NUMBER FORMAT.



1	7	55	10	2	5	6	7	6	10
2	64	56	23	15	10	30	10	66	70
4	7	57	44	20	20	12	55	60	65
54	55	88	30	25	60	59	50	78	70
88	32	34	11	30	35	40	45	65	75
9	22	65	50	55	90	88	70	55	80
12	20	99	90	44	60	80	95	90	85
44	76	60	50	55	33	65	100	88	50
FINISH									

ANSWER: ↓5

1	7	55	10	2	5	6	7	6	10
2	64	56	23	15	10	30	10	66	70
4	7	57	44	20	20	12	55	60	65
54	55	88	30	25	60	59	50	78	70
88	32	34	11	30	35	40	45	65	75
9	22	65	50	55	90	88	70	55	80
12	20	99	90	44	60	80	95	90	85
44	76	60	50	55	33	65	100	88	50
FINISH									

GET TO KNOW ME BETTER

THE SUSTAINABLE CITY
A PROJECT BY DIAMOND DEVELOPERS

What is “The Sustainable City”?

The Sustainable City is a proof of concept development. Opened in 2016, TSC is a residential community of approximately 2700 people who have access to a sustainable lifestyle in terms of social cohesion, environmental awareness and protection and economic benefits such as reduced utility bills.

What are the projects that are managed by “Diamond Developers”?

The Sustainable City in Dubai is the first development built under the three pillars of sustainability and that is why we call it a proof of concept, because we have proved that it is possible to live sustainably, even in one of the harshest and most challenging climates in the world. We have recently launched our second project – Sharjah Sustainable City and have plans to expand across the MENA region and in the Gulf over the next few years.

What is the importance of sustainability for our environment?

Our global population is expanding and carbon emissions are intensifying, which is having devastating consequences all over the world. We have a global target across the world to reduce carbon emissions and limit temperature rises to a maximum of two degrees centigrade above pre-industrial levels by the year 2050. If we do not do this, then the damage will be irreversible. The Sustainable City was built with these targets in mind and we are bringing forward these future targets with our developments – all our cities are °1.5C compliant. They are also scalable, resilient and replicable so that we can act as a global catalyst for change.

What are your future projects for the sustainability?

Sharjah Sustainable City is our most recent project: it is 1000 villa community built on the outskirts of the city to the highest standards of social, environmental and economic sustainability. We have more in the pipeline of which we will be announcing very soon.

In our 10th issue, we chose the topic “Sustainable Environment is the 2021 vision of UAE”. What do you think of this topic?

Sustainability and its relationship to the environment is a topic that we have personally been committed to for the past decade and with every year that passes, it takes on new urgency. It is also important to know that sustainability is a three-pronged approach that also encompasses society as well as the economy. For true sustainability to succeed, it needs to take into account all three aspects. In order for us to add speed and efficiency to the battle against climate change, we need drastic action which will lead to a quantum reduction of our emissions. This means we need to look much further forward than 2021; we need to think about 2050 and beyond and strive to reach those targets set out by the Paris Climate Agreement ahead of time. That is The Sustainable City’s primary goal and we are already ahead of the curve with our existing developments.

A word for our readers:

Change begins with you. Equip yourself with knowledge and make informed decisions that will reduce your carbon footprint as well as improve the quality of your life and those of the next generation. Sustainability is not an option, it is a responsibility.

DID YOU KNOW

In 2006, the Abu Dhabi government invested millions of dollars to launch Masdar, one of the largest clean energy and renewable energy communities in the world.

The latest investment from Masdar is the Solar Impulse, a solar-powered airplane

Aligning with the Dubai Plan 2021 to make Dubai a smart and sustainable city, Sustainable City in Dubailand is the first development of its scale in this cosmopolitan city.

Sustainable city Dubai is the eco-friendly project that focuses on social, economic and environmental sustainability, covering all aspects to conserve energy and provide a wholesome lifestyle to its residents.

Sustainable city Dubai includes Rooftop solar panels, nature-inspired architecture, plenty of green spaces, car-free zones and energy-efficient appliances in residential and commercial units

The venue of the highly-anticipated Expo 2020 is also one of the upcoming sustainable developments in the UAE

The country has quantifiable targets to make the Expo 2020 one of the most energy-efficient in history, with a keen focus on eco-friendly practices in all the plans for the gargantuan event.

Led by Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), the Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park is the largest single-site solar park in the world based on the Independent Power Producer model, and one of the most ambitious sustainability projects in the UAE

2030

Mohammad Bin Rashid AlMaktoum Solar park , will produce 5,000 MW by 2030 reducing 6.5 million tonnes of carbon emissions in the UAE annually.

2050

Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 aims to provide %7 of Dubai's total power output from clean resources by ,2020 %25 by 2030, and %75 by 2050.

In 2008, the Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council launched Estidama, an initiative which aims to make the country fully sustainable by targeting residential areas and buildings, governmental entities, and commerce buildings to meet environmental standards.

Since March 2015 it has become mandatory for all construction companies in Dubai to use green concrete instead of the usual Portland cement (OPC).

2050

It's a common perception that every Middle Eastern economy relies completely on fossils fuels, but the UAE is working towards being more eco-friendly by 2050.

THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY IN THE UAE

Becoming at the forefront of sustainable development is a core strategy of the UAE. To reach that goal, all country's efforts are directed at adopting the latest innovations to address global environmental challenges and reduce carbon footprint, while also introducing technologies to produce clean energy.

Most of the projects under development right now follow federal and local strategies, such as UAE Vision 2021 UAE Energy Strategy 2050, and UAE Centennial 2071, that were set in place to serve as guidelines for sustainable projects. The projects are founded to support the country's economy without compromising natural resources or damaging the environment in the process. The driving force for creating a greener future, however, is to make sustainability part of our lifestyle and ensure the new generations thrive in a developed, safe, and healthy environment.

A growing number of highly innovative and advanced green projects can be found across multiple areas in the UAE. To name a few of the mega ones; Mohammed bin Rashid Solar Park in Dubai, Bee'ah's Waste to Energy facility in Sharjah, and Masdar city in Abu Dhabi. In reality, these are small pieces of a larger more comprehensive vision that is built on a framework of regulations, policies, and skills.

Turning this vision into reality starts with us, and if we joined hands with the rest of the world, we can achieve wonders and go to greater lengths to protect our mother earth and minimize any negative impact that may disturb its bounty resources.



Mohammed bin Rashid Solar Park in Dubai



Bee’ah Waste to Energy facility in Sharjah



Masdar city in Abu Dhabi



FROM WASTE TO ART

MAKE YOUR OWN MUG CANDLE

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Learn how to make your own mug candle, by following the steps in this short clip.



MATERIALS NEEDED:





CLICK ON THIS VIDEO
TO VIEW THE STEPS





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On a Sunday afternoon, Rashid has just done from his online classes.

Phew!

Shaheen, let's go for a bike ride.

Yippy Okay!

Rashid & Shaheen are roaming around with one bike.

The weather is beautiful!

Look at the trees and the colorful flowers

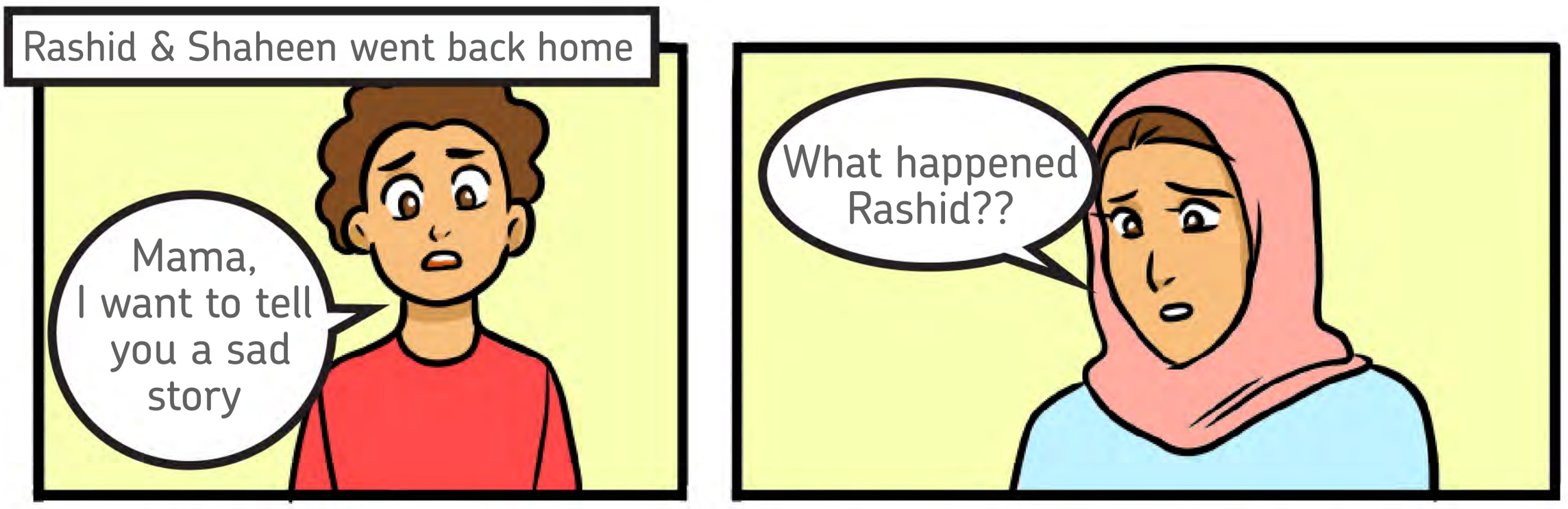
Yess, and look at the blue clear sky

Oh no! Shaheen why cant I see the beautiful view anymore

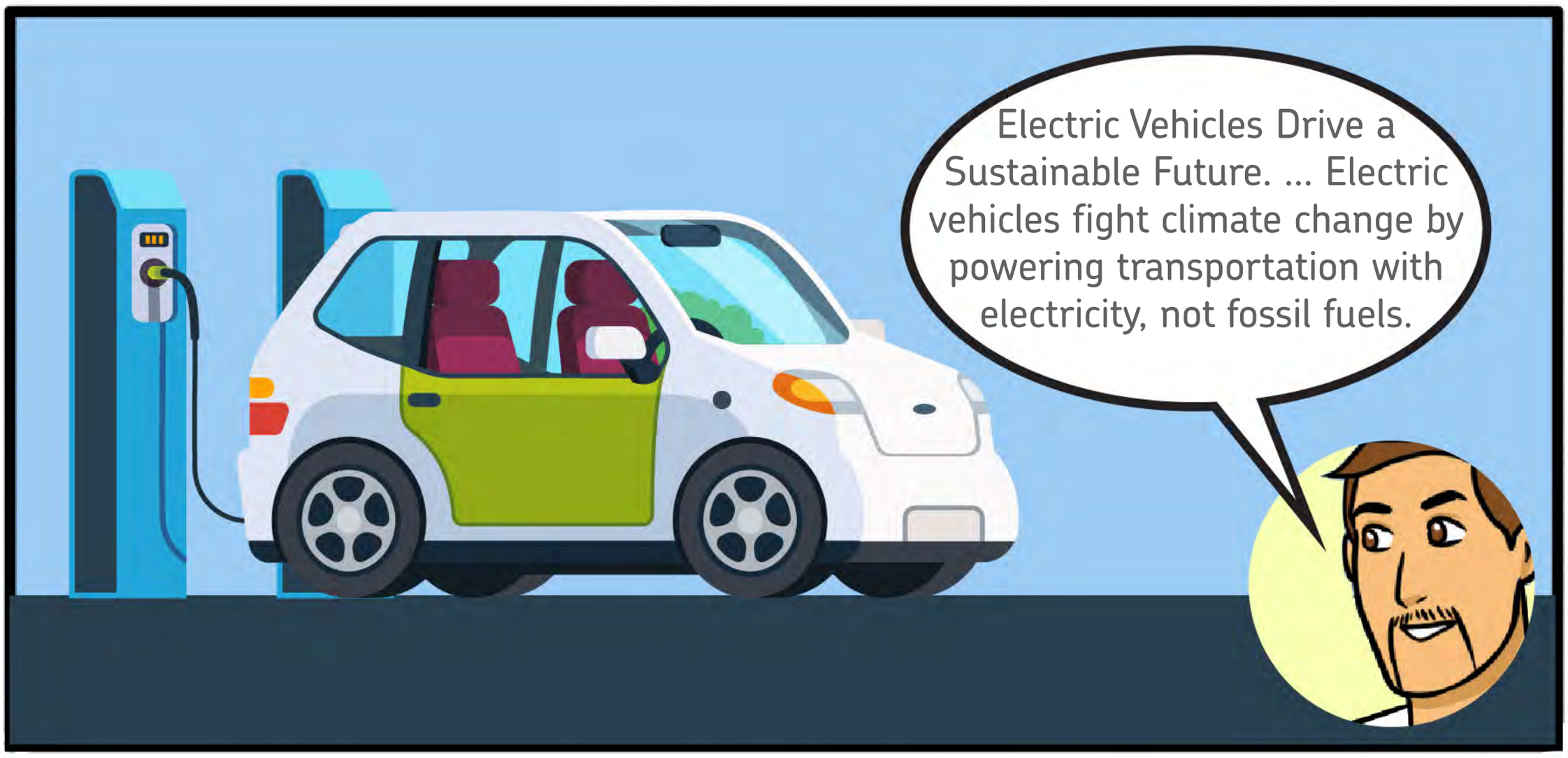
It's the smoke from the cars covering it

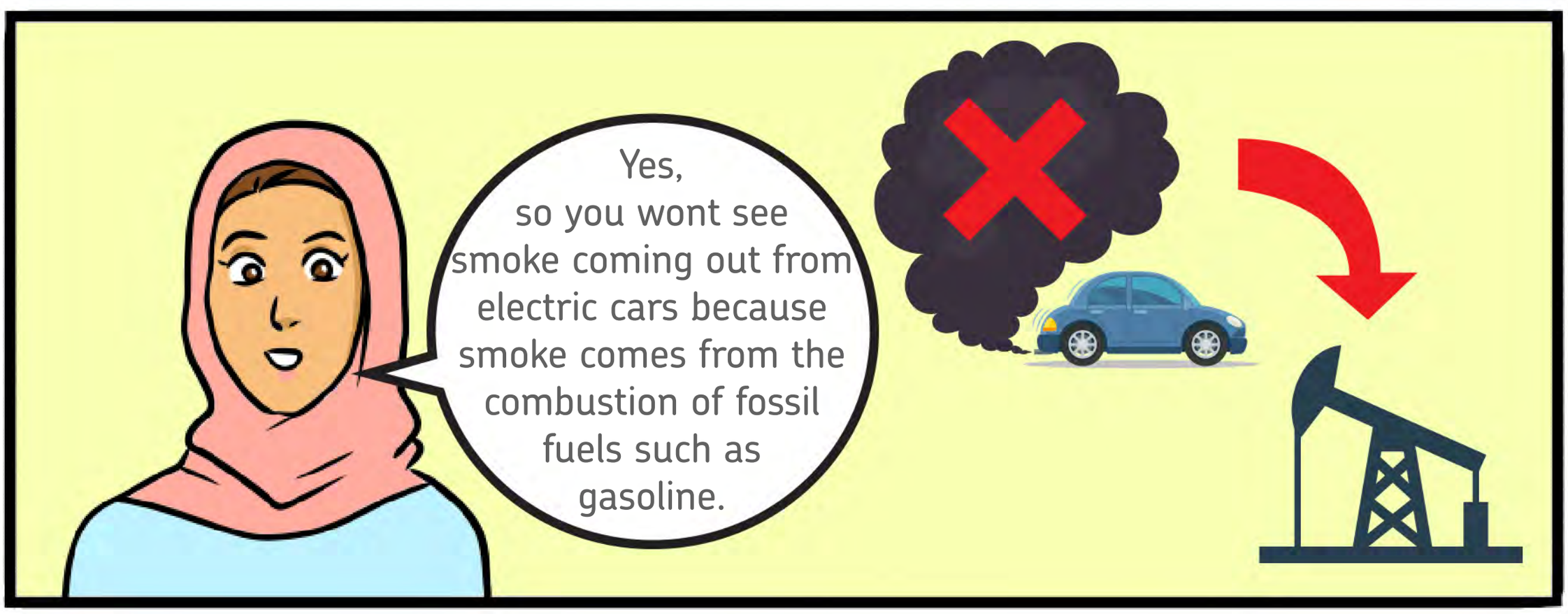
the sky is not blue anymore, is there any solution for this smoke?

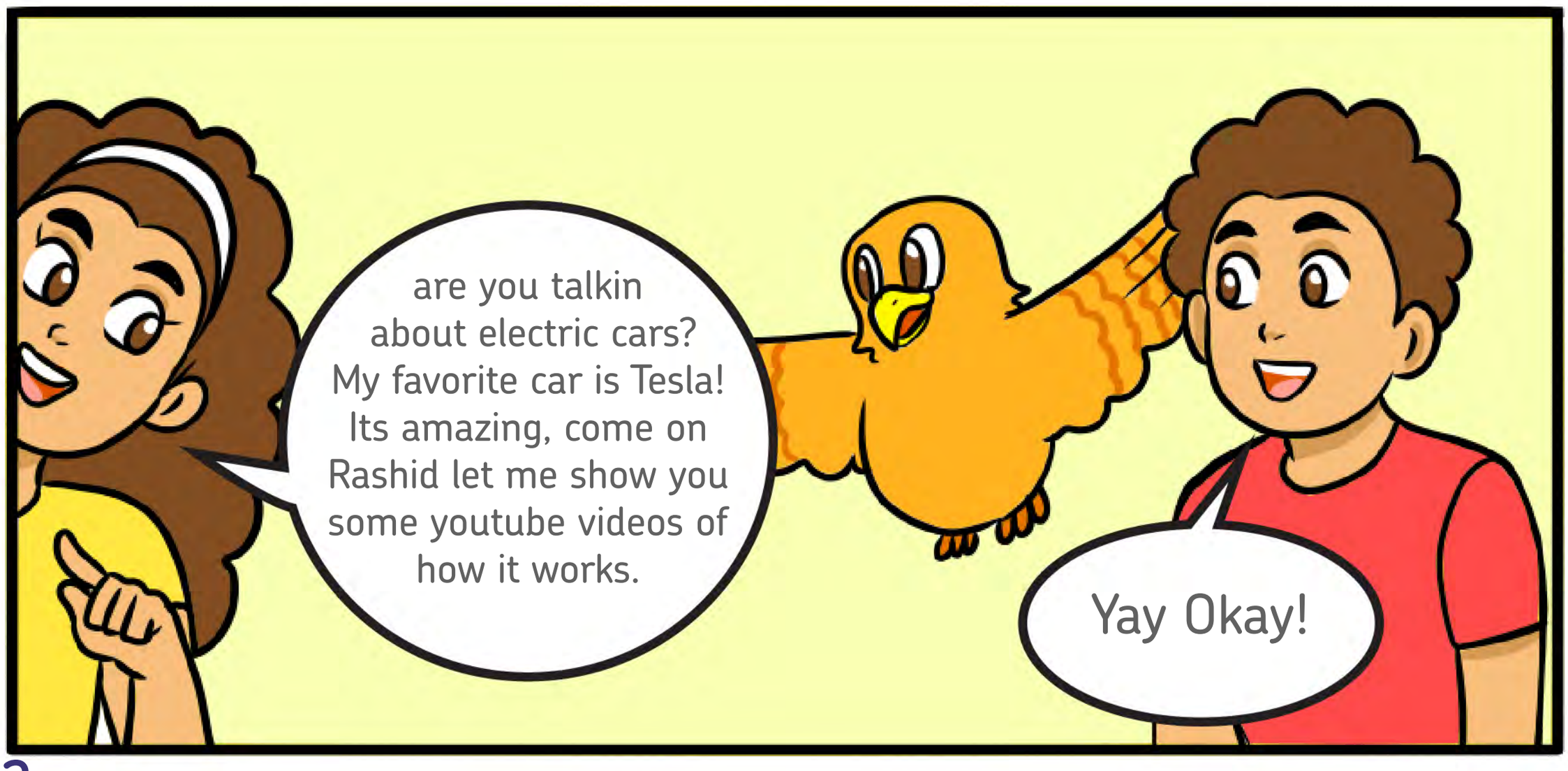
Lets go back home to discuss it with your mom


Rashid & Shaheen went back home
Mama, I want to tell you a sad story
What happened Rashid??
I went for a bike ride with shaheen,
the weather and the view was so beautiful, suddenly the smoke of the cars covered everything
Ohhh Rashid, let me tell you a great solution that you'll like.
What is it ??
Our country is working towards being more eco-friendly and wants to present itself as a country that has invested in clean technologies
and sustainable development, your father will tell you about a great solution for the smoke of the cars.
The solution is electric cars! And UAE is investing in that.
WOW electric cars! I've never heard about that.

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How about getting one

That's a great idea, we have to take the first steps to keep our environment clean in order to achieve sustainable development.

True, Sustainability supports the well-being of individuals and communities. Sustainability promotes a better economy where there is little waste and pollution, fewer emissions, more jobs, and a better distribution of wealth.

BE FEATURED

