

Hello! Is everything ok?

We are students of the Irmã Theodora school in the municipality of Marabá, located in the northern region of Brazil:

**WE ARE AMAZONIANS!**

Our lands are always warm, but we are literally on fire and it is not even the time of the St. John's feast (which is in June, when everyone gathers around a fire).

Our forest burns in flames, our animals are dying, losing their habitats and their lives, and all because of 'progress'. We cannot understand what kind of progress this is and whom it serves. Our greatest wealth, which is biodiversity, is in mourning. Mother nature cries.

Dear Amazon, we apologise for destroying you, for burning you, for felling your trees, for polluting your rivers, for demolishing your fauna. We APOLOGISE to you. Now we miss you, we can only breathe with the aid of masks. We value you now, but only after learning an important and valuable lesson for life: That something so natural cannot be sold as if it were a property.

We human beings did not value you soon enough, if we had all collaborated with you, today you would be beautiful and radiant. But we won't let you live. And we still apologise to you ...

We wanted our children and grandchildren to know your rivers, your forests, your beauties, but nowadays we only see trees in museums, behind glass. Only the richest have a tree in their house. We only see their bygone beauty in books. Now, the 'Great Entrepreneurs' are aware of the cut trees and the power of nature, but they cannot do anything about it anymore. After so many mistakes have been made, there is no time to go back. We only had 18 months\* to reverse the situation on the planet, but we couldn't.

We beg your pardon once again.

Signed: Sister Theodora School

Discussing Important Matters

August 2019

\*See a BBC article from July 2019, titled 'Climate Change: 12 Years to Save the Planet? Make that 18 Months', [www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-48964736](http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-48964736)