



Prize Winner

Science Writing

Year R-2

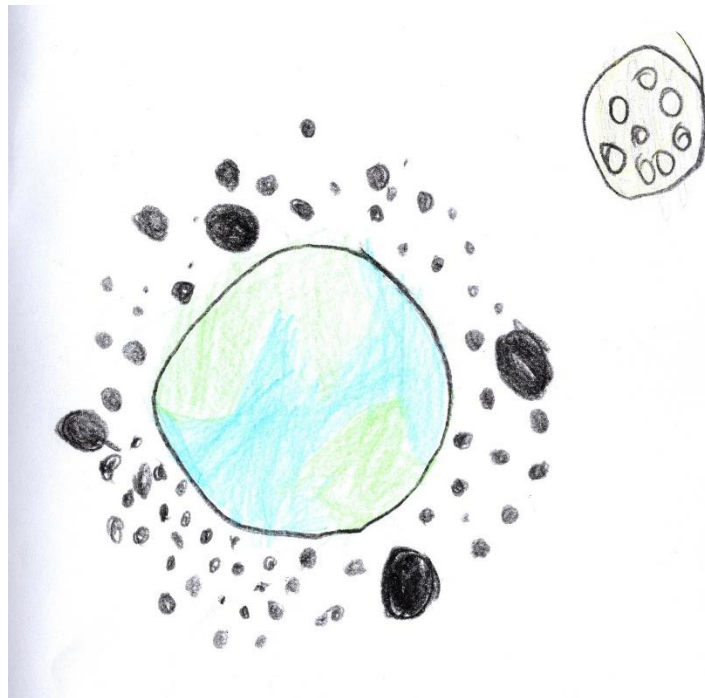
Tarun Shyam

Rose Park Primary School



Space Junk

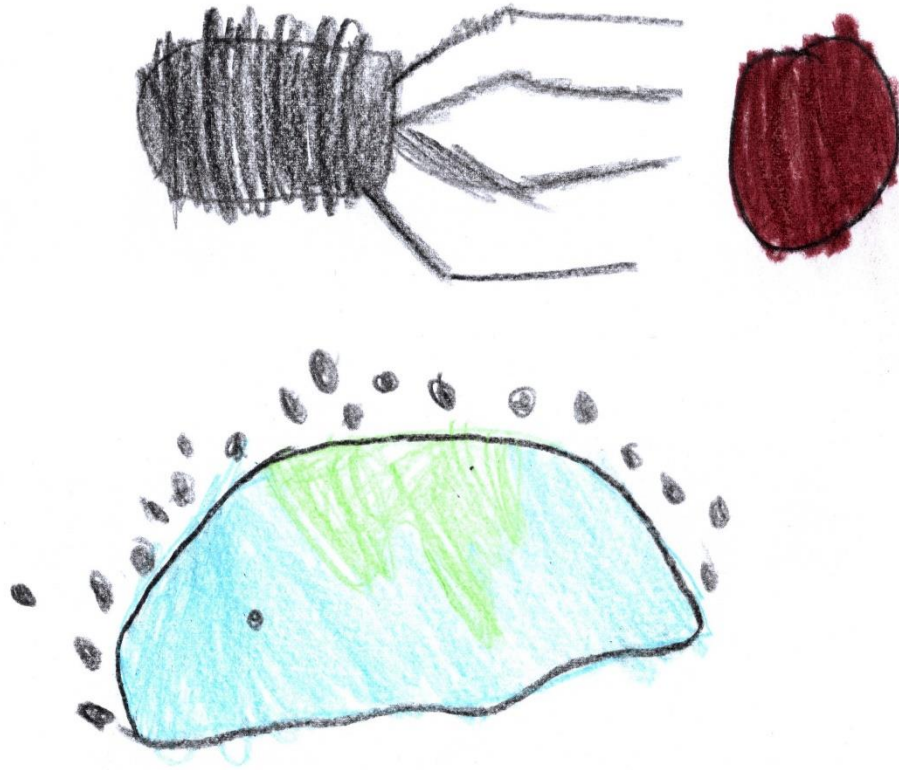
Space Junk, also known as Space Debris, is becoming a big problem. It includes old and broken satellites, pieces of rockets and bits of spacecrafts. Instead of falling back to Earth, these broken parts of satellites and rockets orbit around the planet.



Space Debris can travel as fast as 18,000 kilometers per hour. This is dangerous because they can crash into working satellites or even the International Space Station, where astronauts live and work. We need to do something about this junk, or it will continue to increase, causing more collisions.

To solve this problem, countries around the world need to work together and come up with smart ideas. One important step is the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines by the United Nations, which suggest ways to reduce and prevent space junk. New technologies are also needed to tackle this issue. One approach is the European Space Agency's (ESA) ClearSpace-1 mission, which aims to use robotic arms to grab

and remove large pieces of debris. Scientists also think big nets could be used, like the RemoveDEBRIS mission, which successfully tested a net to capture space junk.



Cleaning up space is important for safely exploring and learning about our amazing universe.

By Tarun Krishna Shyam

Word Count: 199

References

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