



## Writing to Help the Environment

October 13th, 2015

For a few weeks, we have been working as a class to reduce water waste.

Our worst offense? Excessive flushing. As recently toilet-trained preschoolers, the Blue Jays frequent the bathroom. In effort to cut down on over flushing, we have been discussing the relation water has to our planet, particularly the oceans. To support the children's newfound passion to "save the fishes," as well as foster the older Blue Jay's interest in written language, Kalei invited Adele & Emerson to create a sign for the toilet.

"What should it say?" "STOP" suggests Emerson. Adele inquires: "How do you spell 'stop'?" Although it's easy to spoon feed spelling letter by letter, there is incredible value to facilitating spelling with "environmental spelling" & "invented spelling." We find the answer in our school! "STOP" on our steps & later, the ending of "only" by observing the spelling of "Ruby" on her classroom's wall.

The two worked hard to cooperate as they shared their sign-making duties, which included deciding on the message, writing in pencil, tracing with Sharpie, drawing fish, & decorating.

