



Hi kids! My name is Pansophigus (sounds like PAN-SOF-A-GUS). It's a funny-sounding name, I know, but it has special meaning. It was bestowed

upon my father years ago by King Alexander I, ruler of the tropical paradise of Gaea.

How was the name chosen by the great king, you ask? Well, my father was a great philosopher, the wisest of the wise eagles, and a respected advisor to his majesty.

The name Pansophigus (derived from the word "pansophical", meaning "all-wise" or "claiming universal knowledge") was

given to him after he helped young residents of Gaea save their home from drought and pollution.

In the years since, my father has passed down the important stories and knowledge necessary to help protect and preserve our precious natural resources...especially water. That's why I'm here today, to begin teaching you about our water supply and how YOU can help conserve it.

Consider this fact: We have no more water on this planet today than we did in the days of the dinosaurs - not one drop! If you look at the earth from outer space, it would appear that our water supply is limitless. In fact, 80% of the earth is covered with water or ice. But looks can be deceiving. Only TWO PERCENT of that water is drinkable! That means every being on this planet...humans, animals and plants, must share that same tiny piece of the pie. It sure makes you think, doesn't it?

If the earth's population continues to grow but our water supply stays the same, how can we help to conserve what we have and protect it from pollution?



The great part is, by making simple adjustments in your everyday life, you, your family and friends can make a difference today. **Here are a few simple tips to get started:**

- Turn off that faucet while you brush your teeth!
You only need it to rinse the brush and sink.
- Ask your parent or guardian to install a low-flow showerhead. It's a minimal up-front cost, simple to attach, and will save your family money on the water bill while helping to conserve your community's water supply.
- Help out with the lawn. Instead of using a water hose to clean off the sidewalk or driveway, use a broom to sweep leaves and other debris into piles that can be bagged. It saves water and keeps trash from polluting our storm sewers.

As you can see, it doesn't take much to start saving water today. Now that you've got the ball rolling, check out the new Kid's Can Conserve section of our website (www.pecangroovemud.com/kids) for more tips and games.

Make your parents, your community, and especially me, Pansophigus, proud by making positive changes in your water use habits and becoming a real hero for your community and our planet! ■