

Why do places like Mono Lake matter?

As I sit on the ground by the lake, I feel the warmth of the sun on my skin, I smell the salt that makes this lake so unique. At a distance I see a California Gull standing on a tufa tower, looking so graceful as it spreads its wings, making it clear that it's in its natural habitat. As I look over the salty lake, I can feel a sense of happiness and peace. Taking the time to sit here and take in the natural beauty and calmness of Mono Lake, makes me realize why places like Mono Lake matter and how much they truly mean.

One reason why places like Mono Lake matter is because they simply provide a place to escape the world of mankind and be able to connect with nature. I am able to sit here and take in Mono Lake all by myself, which is very relaxing and makes me realize how important Mono Lake is to me. There are many places in the world where there is no sign of living things such as any type of birds or plants. The only things people can see are the gleaming lights of cars passing by every second, a dark gloomy sky with no twinkling stars due to light pollution, tall buildings that tower over everything, leaving people looking at what the mankind has made and simply leaving no sense of calmness and peace or belonging. Places like Mono Lake, on the other hand, share what true beauty is and give us a sense of why nature is important to have in our lives. They prove that I am more than lucky to live in such a unique place, where I can see the stars and walk down to a lake anytime I want to. There's nothing else that can bring peace and comfort besides places like these.

Unlike myself, so many people around the world don't have places like Mono Lake to appreciate and make memories. A memory that I hold to this day is when I went on a trip with the fifth graders to teach them about the importance of nature and we took them to Mono Lake. It was a memory I will never forget because it made me realize how it is that places like Mono Lake teach kids at a young age to appreciate nature and be aware of the things that make our community so special, such as its ecosystems, the tufa and the salt. Mono Lake is a place where people want to go so they can see how unique and special it is because of what Mono Lake provides. It's surrounded with tufa towers, a beautiful blue sky, and all types of living things. It is the places like Mono Lake that help us escape the manmade world and go into another world of peace and comfort.