Melati and Isabel Wijsen are sisters and the founders of "Bye Bye Plastic Bags" in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali. Their organization has stopped plastic bags in Bali.

Lesson 2: The Wijsen Sisters
Melati and Isabel Wijsen were born in Bali, which is an island in the Pacific Ocean. At school, they learned that their island makes enough trash every day to fill a 14-story building! They knew that most people do not recycle their plastic bags, which means turning them into something that can be used again. When people do not recycle, plastic bags end up in the ocean. This is bad for the world and for animals who live in the ocean, because plastic is not a natural material.

Melati and Isabel wanted to solve that problem. They said, “We didn’t want to wait until we were older to stand up for what we believe in.”

The sisters were 10 and 12 years old when they came up with a great idea. They knew that many people in Bali use plastic bags only one time and then throw them away. These are called single-use plastics. Melati and Isabel founded Bye Bye Plastic Bags (BBPB) to get rid of single-use plastics in Bali. They travel and speak to different groups of kids to raise awareness about the dangers of plastic bags for the world. They’ve also created educational materials and started hands-on projects, such as giving reusable bags to communities to replace plastic bags and creating devices that remove plastic garbage from rivers.

Since starting the organization, BBPB has created teams of people all over the world who work to get rid of plastic bags. They’ve given out almost 17,000 reusable bags, educated thousands of kids, and spoken at hundreds of events to raise awareness. Isabel and Melati know that when kids are determined, they can make a big difference in the world!