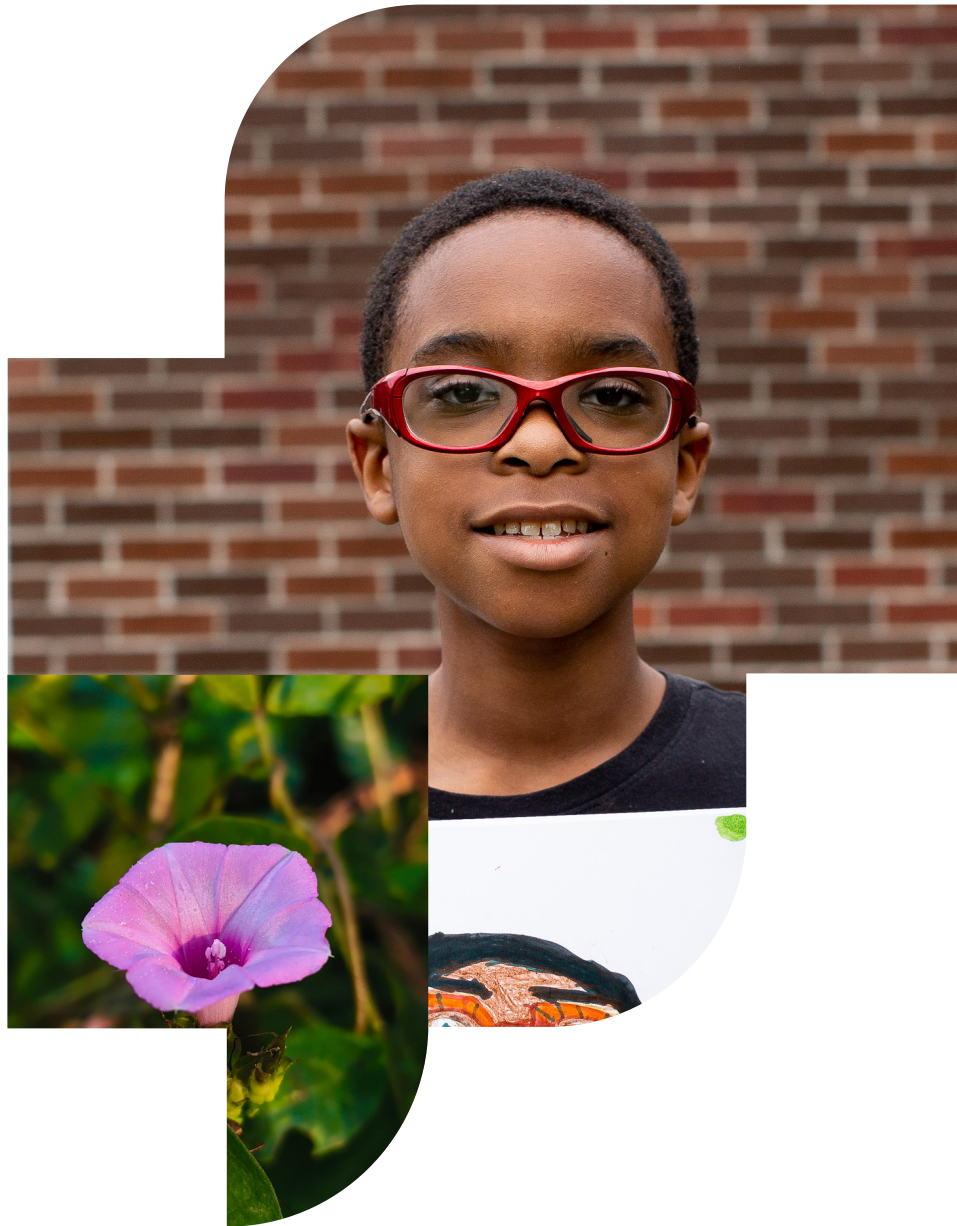


PROTECT OUR PLANET

BOOKLIST FOR LEARNERS



Booklist For Learners Ages 11-14

About Protect Our Planet

The air, land, and water around us are changing — and young people are noticing. They're asking questions, making observations, and trying to understand what these changes mean for their world. But knowing what to do with that awareness can be harder. Protect Our Planet, this year's Students Rebuild project, invites young people ages 5–25 to explore the air, land, and water around them and use creativity to share their stories and ideas for a healthier planet.

Through art, writing, performance, photography, digital media, or STEM, students will explore, create, and share. Together, their creativity supports organizations worldwide caring for the air, land, and water we all depend on.

About This Resource

These books were selected as excellent starting points for learners ages 11-14 to explore their own relationships to the air, land, and water around them. Whether it's through stories of adventure, community or caring for nature, these titles inspire curiosity, hope, and the desire to protect the planet that we share. Each book is tagged with at least one element: air, land, or water, to facilitate learners' exploration.



1

Ours To Share by Kari Jones

Ages 9-12 | Air, Land, Water

This nonfiction book explores Earth's shared natural resources and the importance of protecting them. It encourages readers to consider how their choices affect people and the planet.

2

Environmental Rights: Stand Up, Speak Out by Virginia Loh-Hagan

Ages 9-13 | Air, Land, Water

This book introduces environmental rights and explains why access to clean air, water, and healthy ecosystems matters. It explores how people can help protect these rights in their communities.

3

Maker Comics: Live Sustainably! by Angela Boyle

Ages 9-13 | Air, Land, Water | Illustrated by Wendy Leach

Using comics and hands-on activities, this book teaches readers how to make everyday choices that reduce waste and conserve resources. It combines environmental concepts with creative projects.

4

The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind by William Kamkwamba & Bryan Mealer

Ages 9-12 | Air

The true story of a teenager in Malawi who taught himself engineering to bring electricity and water irrigation to his family's farm. A firsthand account of resilience in the face of crisis, showing students how curiosity and persistence can turn hardship into real, community-changing solutions.

5

Seedfolks by Paul Fleischman

Ages 3-6 | Land

A child and adult explore nature together while observing plants, animals, and the changing environment. The story encourages curiosity and appreciation for the natural world.

6

Rewilding by Jane Drake & Ann Love

Ages 9-12 | Land

The book focuses on the belief that even the smallest efforts can greatly impact the dwindling numbers, alongside the quality of life of animals. From pandas and peregrine falcons to jaguars and wolves, the story of these animals testifies that, with good management, species extinction can be avoided.

7

Wings In The Wild by Margarita Engle

Ages 12-17 | Land

When a hurricane exposes Soleida's hidden family sculpture garden in Cuba, they are arrested for its political message, leaving her to escape to Central America, where she meets Dariel, a Cuban American boy, and together they work to protect the environment and bring attention to the imprisoned artists in Cuba.

8

A Circle Of Elephants by Eric Dinerstein

Ages 8-12 | Land, Water

When Nandu's world is thrown into turmoil, so, too, is the world of Hira Prasad, the Center's powerful bull elephant. Author Dinerstein explores the complex bond between mankind and animals in the face of a natural disaster, resource scarcity, and self-serving intent.

9

Global by Eoin Colfer & Andrew Donkin

Ages 9-12 | Water | Illustrated by Giovanni Rigano

Two young teens are each confronted with serious dangers on opposite sides of the globe as rising waters impact their communities and homes. An illustrated survival story amidst the threat of climate change.

10

Water by Subhash Vyam & Gita Wol

Ages 12-14 | Water

A tale woven around a Gond fable about water, artist Subhash Vyam muses on the history of our relationship to this most primeval of elements. Wolf addresses the need for all communities to take action to preserve Nature and the people's chances at survival.