



Environmental and Nature-Based Reading Lists



Reading and writing are great ways to incorporate environmental ethics and awareness into your classroom. For younger ages, select books that illustrate or help define the immediate world around them. As students age, expand your geographical, topical, and issue range to parallel your students' developing worldviews.

Check with your local AEA to see if they have boxed sets of multiple book copies you can use for classroom reading. Many AEAs have great non-fiction books and classic children or young adult books like *Hatchet*, *My Side of the Mountain*, or *Julie of the Wolves* that make for engaging intros to environmental conversations. Check with your local county conservation board to see if they are able to create programs reemphasizing and expanding on the themes found in your readings.

Below are a links to a few extensive children's and young adult environmental bibliographies. There are many more available online or by checking with your local library.

Wild about Reading: Annotated Bibliography of Children's Environmental Books

Created by the **Jefferson County Public Schools Center for Environmental Education**, which supports curricular initiatives that aid students in becoming environmentally literate and academically successful. Books have been reviewed and selected by librarians, teachers, environmental educators, and community members. Contains detailed annotations on books for elementary through high school, as well as a database featuring each book's NAAEE theme, and suggested content areas. Download the .pdf through the JCPS website: <http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Departments/EnvironmentalEd/index.shtml>. Click on "Teacher Resources" and then "Wild about Reading."

"Growing Up Wild" Suggested Reading

From the **Council for Environmental Education**, creators of the Project Wild early childhood curriculum "Growing Up Wild." The book list is found in the Growing Up Wild activity guide, and can be downloaded from the Growing Up Wild website: <http://www.projectwild.org/GrowingUpWILD.htm> (click on "Guide Resources").

Children's Environmental Literature Bibliography

Funded by the **Wisconsin DNR's Division of Forestry**, this list was developed as a supplemental resource for various environmental education programs and projects in Wisconsin. Most of the books listed focus on Midwest ecosystems for ages 4–12. Each listing contains title, author, publication date, ISBN, and a brief summary. Visit the Wisconsin DNR's EEK (Environmental Education for Kids) teacher resources to download: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/teacher/childlit.htm>.