

# Environmental Conservation

*Books available at the Columbus Metropolitan Library*

## PICTURE BOOKS

**Ants in Your Pants, Worms in Your Plants** by Diane deGroat, 2011. Picture Book DEGROAT

When Gilbert's class decides on an impromptu picnic, they are dismayed to find their picnic spot full of litter and lacking trees and green grass. The class decides to celebrate Earth Day by coming up with individual projects to help the planet, but what can Gilbert do? A fantastic book to share with elementary-age children as a way of promoting practical ways for young people to develop good environmental habits. (Grades K-3)

**Where Once There Was a Wood** by Denise Fleming, 1996. Picture Book FLEMING

Fleming's stunning, signature illustrations and simple prose provide an excellent conversation starter about the many forms of wildlife that can be displaced when their natural habitats are destroyed by commercial and residential development. Resources provided in the back of the book offer ideas and more information on how to preserve wildlife habitats. (Grades K-3)

**The Lorax** by Dr. Seuss, 1971. Picture Book SEUSS

"Unless someone like you...cares a whole awful lot...nothing is going to get better...It's not." This well-loved, classic Dr. Seuss tale spoke of the importance of environmental conservation in the face of progress long before it became a global concern. (Grades K-4)

## CHAPTER BOOKS

**Luz Sees the Light** by Claudia Davila, 2011. Fiction DAVILA

In the face of rolling blackouts, high gas prices, and mass consumerism, Luz and her friends begin to understand the importance of conserving fossil fuels and being environmentally conscious. But how much can one twelve-year-old do? Told in graphic novel format. (Grades 3-7)

**Hoot** by Carl Hiaasen, 2002. Fiction HIAASEN

When newcomer, Roy, moves to a small Florida community, he befriends a homeless boy and together, they attempt to save a colony of endangered miniature owls from being destroyed by the proposed construction of a local pancake house. Told with "tongue-in-cheek" humor, this would be a fun read for middle grades. (Grades 5-8)

**The Fight for the Frozen Land** by Elizabeth Hunt, 2009.

Fiction HUNT

Join Secret Agent Jack Stalwart, one of the youngest agents in the Global Protection Force, as he attempts to thwart the plans of the malicious Black Artic Project - a group of mysterious villains who are speeding up global warming by blowing up glaciers in the Arctic. Can Jack stop them before the entire planet is doomed? (Grades 2-4)

**Marty McGuire Digs Worms!** by Kate Messner, 2012.

Fiction MESSNER

Marty McGuire has a great plan to win the award for "best project" in her grade's "Save the Earth" competition; she will turn the garbage from the school cafeteria into fertilizer using the worms from her grandma's garden. But what happens when the worms escape? (Grades 2-4)

**The Hop** by Sharelle Moranville, 2012.

Fiction MORANVILLE

The Frog Prince-with an environmental twist! Tad, a young "hopper" (toad), is sent on a quest to save his home--and that of his fellow toads--from destruction. Taylor, a young girl, has a similar mission: to prevent the wild area beside her grandmother's house from being bulldozed. When these two cross paths, it's pure magic! (Grades 3-7)

## NONFICTION

**Explore Natural Resources** by Anita Yasuda, 2014.

j333.7 Y29e

What are natural resources? And why is it important to prevent natural resources from being wasted? The 25 projects found here will inspire young readers to have fun while learning why natural resources are important to all living things and how everyone can take care of the earth's resources through reducing, reusing, and recycling. (Grades 1-4)

**What's the Point of Being Green?** by Anita Yasuda, 2010.

j333.72 B154w

"Our planet is under threat! Not from aliens or possible collisions with comets, but from us!" This title will appeal to middle-grade readers who are looking for a basic overview and understanding of the major environmental issues facing the world today. Practical solutions are suggested to encourage young people to take an active role in keeping our planet green. (Grades 5-9)

**Buried Sunlight** by Molly Bang, 2014.

j333.82 B216b

What are fossil fuels, and how did they come to exist? This engaging book explains how oil, coal, and gas are really "buried sunlight," trapped beneath the surface of our planet for millions and millions of years. Now, in a very short time, we are digging them up and burning them, changing the carbon balance of our planet's air and water. What does this mean, and what should we do about it? (Grades 1-4)

**World Without Fish** by Mark Kurlansky, 2011.

j333.95617 K96w

This engaging and highly entertaining book tells the true story of how overfishing and global warming, if allowed to go unchecked, could result in a world without fish! An excellent title for illustrating the cause-and-effect relationship of humans on our world. (Grades 5-8)

**Parrots Over Puerto Rico** by Susan Roth, 2013.

j598.71 R845p

A vibrant, and beautifully illustrated, intertwined history of the island of Puerto Rico, and the Puerto Rican parrot, that highlights current efforts to save this rare and exotic bird from extinction. (Grades 3-5)

**Branching Out: How Trees are Part of Our World** by Joan Galat, 2014.

j582.16 G146b

This fascinating social history of trees around the world, reveals the inextricable bond between trees and humans. With an eye to conservation, each chapter features one tree-- and its integral role to humans and also to the animal world. Includes excellent maps and diagrams. (Grades 6-8)

**Who Was Rachel Carson** by Sarah Fabiny, 2014.

jB C3214 F119w

Presents the life and accomplishments of the American biologist, whose influential work, "The Silent Spring," inspired worldwide conservation movements. (Grades 3-8)