

SEL Book Bag

Title: Rachel Carson and Her Book That Changed the World

Author: Laurie Lawlor

Illustrator: Laura Beingessner

Grade Levels: 4th and 5th

SEL Competency: Responsible Decision Making

Lesson Style: Whole Class, Multiple Days (connect to a science lesson)

SEL Student SWBAT: Students will recognize how their actions can help improve the environment for pollinators like butterflies and bees.

[book summary]

Rachel Carson, a biologist, wrote a book called “Silent Spring” that discussed the impacts of chemicals in the environment. This book explains the effect her book had on changing the laws with chemicals used in the environment. Her choices helped examined ethical responsibility.

Activity Materials:

Potting soil

Lavender plants

Cone Flowers seeds and potted plants

Flower pots

Seed pots

(option to select flowers available for your school environment)

Binder paper/Chromebook

Directions:

1. Read the book to the whole class
2. Discuss some environmental impacts of pollinators like bees and butterflies not being present in ecosystems
3. Research the type of plants that can be used to increase bee and butterfly populations
4. Distribute coneflower seeds, and lavender plants to groups
5. Plant the lavender, and coneflower plants in the garden, or in the seed pots.

6. Write about how the plants will help the environment by increasing the population of butterflies and bees