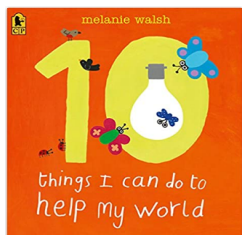


*Lesson Seeds (pp. 1-2)*

*Excellent Climate and Environmental Justice Curriculum Materials and Resources (pp. 3-5)*

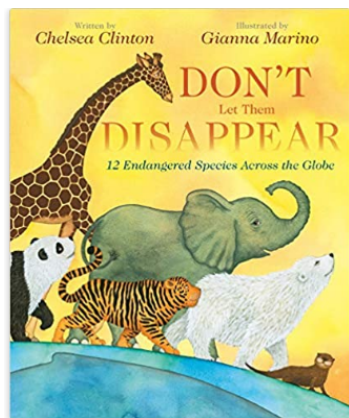
## **Grades K-2**



Listen to "[10 Things I Can Do to Help My World](#)," a story about caring for the Earth.

**Action:** Draw a picture and write about how you and other children can care for the Earth. Share it with your family.

## **Grades 3-5**



Listen to a read aloud of [Don't Let Them Disappear](#), a book about endangered animals. Or watch these [short videos about endangered species](#).

**Discussion or journal questions:**  
*What are the reasons why animals become endangered? What are some things people can do to help endangered animals?*

**Action:** Make a poster that calls for people to protect one or more endangered animals. Include a drawing of the animal and a message about what people must do to keep the animal from becoming extinct.

**ZINN  
EDUCATION  
PROJECT**

**TEACHING PEOPLE'S HISTORY**

A [teacher adapts the "Climate Change Mixer"](#) designed for older students as a springboard for a unit on global warming and climate justice. She asks, "How could I bring up an issue so big and abstract, so gloom and doom, with 3rd graders? How could I not?"

## Grades 6-8



Watch three videos from “[Greta Thunberg on the Urgency of the Climate Crisis.](#)”

### Discussion or journal questions:

1. *Essential question:* How has Greta Thunberg helped to galvanize young people to take action against climate change?
2. What is a climate strike? How is it different from a climate protest? Do you think young people should miss school for an important cause?
3. How important is taking action against climate change to you?

**Action:** Write a letter to a local government leader expressing your opinion on what should be done about climate change.

## Grades 9+



First watch “[A Message from the Future.](#)”

A collaboration between Naomi Klein (author of climate books [This Changes Everything](#) and [On Fire](#)) and Alexandria Ocasio Cortez (the member of Congress co-sponsoring [the Green New Deal resolution](#) in the House), the video imagines an American future in which we have already passed the Green New Deal, landmark climate and economic justice legislation.

### Discussion or journal questions:

1. According to Klein and Ocasio Cortez, what allowed their future to bloom?
2. According to Atwood, where did human civilization go wrong? Include key lines from the text to support your analysis.
3. What do you think it will take from us to win Klein and Ocasio Cortez’s future as opposed to Atwood’s? To the extent you can, root your analysis in the history of how change is made.

### Action/s:

Write your own very short story, podcast or poem that imagines society in the future. What lessons could we learn from this moment in history that we could apply to the climate crisis?

www.theguardian.com

Time capsule found on the dead planet by Margaret Atwood | Books | The Guardian

Then read the short story “[Time Capsule Found on the Dead Planet.](#)”

Queen of dystopian fiction such as [The Handmaid’s Tale](#), Margaret Atwood here conjures a dark history and future of Earth, the planet we—for now—call home.



See how [poverty and climate change are intertwined](#). Have students read sections of the article in teams and present their section to the class. Write or have a discussion on how climate refugees, food and water scarcity, and air pollution are all connected.

Alternative, create an infographic using Canva or another software.

### *Climate and Environmental Justice Curriculum Materials and Resources*



A rich and detailed collection of curriculum resources, Subject to Climate provides [teacher written lesson plans](#) for K-12 broken down by grade; lessons connected to Next Generation Science Standards, as well as ELA and other standards when applicable.

Teachers can check out their comprehensive [Resource Library](#), where you can search by standards, grade level, type of activity, and subject. **This is one of the best collections of materials on the web.**

Also provides [Professional Learning Opportunities](#) designed to deepen teachers' climate change knowledge and equip teachers with best practices for teaching about climate change



Writes and distributes climate curricula through their [Resource Library](#) – supporting educators with interdisciplinary climate change curriculum, videos, and toolkits. In particular, check out their essential middle school (Gr. 6-8) unit - [Next Generation Climate](#).

Hosts an annual 3-day [Summer Institute for Climate Change Education](#).







Also manages the [Teach Climate Network](#) which sends out a monthly newsletter that provides educators access to resources, professional development, and inspiration to teach about climate change.



[Cleanet](#) is a high-quality and rigorously [reviewed](#) collection of climate and energy educational resources for K-12 and college classrooms, aligned with the [Climate Literacy](#) and the [Energy Literacy](#) frameworks, and the [Next Generation Science Standards](#) .

Through the peer-review process scientists and educators ensure scientific accuracy, pedagogic effectiveness, and classroom readiness for each resource.

	<p>The website also provides <a href="#">guidance in how to teach about climate and energy</a></p>
	<p>Publisher of the authoritative book - <a href="#">A People's Curriculum For the Earth: Teaching Climate Change and the Environmental Crisis</a>.</p> <p>Maintains a <a href="#">Teach Climate Justice campaign page</a>, which includes dozens of <a href="#">teaching activities</a>, articles, films, books, and other resources. Example: <a href="#">Stories from the Climate Crisis</a>.</p> <p>Many activities are geared towards middle and high school students. For educators interested in bringing this topic to younger students, here are some resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">The Young People's Climate Conference: Teaching Global Warming to 3rd Graders</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Where Are the Climate Change Superheroes? Systems Thinking and Climate Activism in the Children's Eternal Rainforest</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">How One 2nd-Grader's Story Inspired Climate Justice Curriculum</a></li> </ul>
	<p><a href="#">Climate Action Through Education</a> - free, open source education for high school; sponsored by M.I.T. Center for Energy and Environmental Policy network and developed by MA high school teachers.</p>
	<p>This <a href="#">MA based organization</a> partners with schools/districts to provide climate education and professional development, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Basics of Climate Change and Climate Justice:</b> A professional development series for teachers -- elementary, middle or high, all disciplines.</li> <li>• <b>Science of Massachusetts:</b> Outdoor learning science series for elementary and middle. Units all include climate foundations, and several are particularly focused on climate science, including Energy in 3-5, Stronger Storms in 3-5, and Trees as a Climate Solution in 6-8.</li> <li>• <b>Climate Democracy Project</b> - High school series for those interested in student-led civic climate action.</li> <li>• <b>Youth Climate Leadership Program</b> - extracurricular program for students interested in taking a leadership role in climate advocacy and action.</li> <li>• <b>Rivers to Sea</b> - a semester or year-long hands-on program focused on the question: How is climate change impacting our watershed and what can we do to help? (5<sup>th</sup> grade and above).</li> </ul>

	<p><a href="#">Climate Change Resources</a> - Regularly updated lesson ideas – including a digital book for fourth/fifth graders, as well as lesson plans for middle and secondary and college students – often including videos, graphs, and writing prompts.</p>
	<p>Creates and distributes <a href="#">climate and sustainability curricula materials</a> for K-12 educators. Some resources are designed for students in specific places outside of MA.</p> <p>Future home of the <a href="#">Young Voices for the Planet</a> films.</p>
	<p>High school <a href="#">Curriculum</a> from Groundwork USA on environmental justice</p>
	<p>Gr. 9-12+ <a href="#">curriculum resources</a> from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences making the connection between climate change and human health.</p>
	<p><a href="#">This organization</a> is working to develop environmental leaders by engaging students and educators in project based learning, community service, and STEM lessons while working to green their school communities.</p>
<p><b>Inside Climate News</b></p>	<p>Nonprofit, nonpartisan <a href="#">investigative news organization</a> that provides reporting and analysis on climate change, energy, and the environment.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Regular news articles about climate</a> progress, solution, and action. Articles are geared toward older students and adults. There are some videos on climate change topics as well.</p>