



## The Environment

*Recommended reading list for elementary, middle school, and high school teachers. These books are great resources in the classroom for teachers and would be an interesting read for students as well.*

1. TITLE: The Orphaned Land: New Mexico Environment Since the Manhattan Project  
AUTHOR: W. B. Price

An excellent book about the pros and cons of contaminated products being stored in New Mexico. W.B. Price presents interesting information about the government's attempted participation in several ruthless cover ups.

2. TITLE: A Great Aridness: Climate Change and the Future of the American Southwest  
AUTHOR: William DeBuys

DeBuy's looks at global warming, recent discoveries, and potential impact of global warming on the southwest.

3. TITLE: Reigning in the Rio Grande: People, Land, and Water  
AUTHORS: Fred Phillips, Mary Black, and G. Emlin Hall

The author presents the interaction of human populations with the Rio Grande, from prehistoric times to present. This book looks at the geology, hydrology, and biology of the river systems, and how these natural features impact the human population.

4. TITLE: The Rio Grande: An Eagle's View  
AUTHORS: Steve McDowell and Barbara McIntyre  
ILLUSTRATIONS: Adriel Heisey

Fantastic photos of the Rio Grande were compiled to create a public awareness of the plight of the Rio Grande. While the authors express the importance of the river not only to the environment but to its people and cultures, the photographer exposes the truth and awareness of the possible eventual death and abandonment of the Rio Grande.

5. TITLE: Eco-Tracking On the Trail of Habitat Change  
AUTHOR: Dan Shaw

Dan Shaw is a middle school science teacher and tells of real life stories of young people involved in citizen science efforts. Shaw shares how others can join in tracking climate change, local wildlife, and other parts of the natural world. The core of this book is the notion that humans are components of their ecosystem. Shaw encourages readers to learn what becomes of their outputs and to understand human contributions to various ecological cycles.

6. TITLE: The Chaco Coal Scandal: The People's Victory over James Watt  
AUTHOR: Jeff Radford

An inside story of corruption and fraud in the US Department of Interior by the Interior Secretary, James Watt. This is a story of citizen resistance to the department's attempted leasing of coal deposits in the Chaco region of North-west New Mexico. This Four Corner area of New Mexico is the home of more than 22,000 Navajo Indians who were adamantly opposed to strip mining their land.

7. TITLE: Barren, Wild, and Worthless: Living in the Chihuahuan Desert  
AUTHOR: Susan Tweit

As Tweit shares a personal experience of living in the Chihuahuan Desert, she reminds us that human cultures are part of a delicate ecological and biotic community. She cautions that destroying the desert is also diminishing human society.

8. TITLE : How We Know What We Know about Our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming  
AUTHORS: Lynn Cherry and Gary Braasch

These authors interview, observe, and document climate changes since 1999. It's about taking positive steps with scientists, and all people, young and old who are interested in making scientific changes with our environment.

9. TITLE: A Teachers Guide To How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate  
AUTHOR: Carol L. Milnor

Milnor developed a workbook to help teachers explore global warming through engaging lessons and classroom activities. Suggestions are provided to differentiate instructions and conduct project-based learning. Lessons and activities are correlated to science standards for grades 5 to 8.

10. TITLE: Earth Under Fire: How Global Warming Is Changing The World  
AUTHOR: Gary Braasch

This is a comprehensive look at the world wide effects of climate change. In dramatic photographs, maps, and quotes from world climate science leaders, this one-of-a-kind book shows how the earth is being changed right now. The book illustrates on-going shifts from weather extremes and melting glaciers to disruptions of animal migration and plant growth, including the strong impact on human life, cities, and cultures.

11. TITLE: Earth Score: Your Personal Environmental Audit and Guide  
AUTHOR: Donald Lother

This book will make you aware of your connections to the earth. Physically, we interact with the earth in hundreds of different ways, most often indirectly through things we buy like food, consumer goods, and electricity but also directly in acts such as driving and gardening. *Earth Score* takes you through a fun and educational exercise and tallies "Impact Points," which assess one's impact on the environment, counts "Action Points," measuring positive contributions, and provides a score and rating on your own Earth Score chart.

12. TITLE: Through Indian Eyes: The Native Experience in Books for Children  
AUTHORS: Beverly Slapin and Doris Seale

Slapin and Seale have compiled essays, poetry, a bibliography, and critical reviews of children's books by and about Indian peoples. This is a dependable and honest guide for parents and instructors interested in teaching kids about the diversity of Native America.

13. TITLE: Places of Power  
AUTHOR: Michael DeMunn  
ILLUSTRATIONS: Noah Buchanan

Native people all over the world have always known that our Earth has places of power. These places of power are also places of beauty and of wisdom. They can be found all over the Earth, even in your own back yard. Michael DeMunn reveals how when you find a place of power, the Earth speaks to the open heart within you. Young artist Noah Buchanan's remarkable oil paintings capture the magic of nature and the reverence of native traditions.

14. TITLE: A Drop Around the World  
AUTHOR: Barbara Shaw-McKinney  
ILLUSTRATIONS: Michael Maydak

"A drop of rain is a drop of life – a drop of eternity." From steam to snow, from polluted to purified, from stratus cloud to subterranean cracks, water links the world in a living flow. Barbara Shaw McKinney and illustrator Michael Maydak take us on an "out of sight" journey from Maine to Mumbai, with just one raindrop as it touches plant, animal, and human life all around the world. Traveling with Drop, readers will see the world inside and out, from solid, liquid, and vaporous viewpoints. The everlasting, ever-changing Drop earns our respect for water and its unique role on Earth. Once you've met Drop, you can journey into the heart of nature every time it rains.

15. TITLE: Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder  
AUTHOR: Richard Louv

In his landmark work, Richard Louv brought together cutting-edge studies that showed how direct exposure to nature was essential for a child's healthy physical and emotional development. This new edition updates the growing body of evidence linking the lack of nature in children's lives and the rise in obesity, attention deficit disorders, and depression. Louv's message has galvanized an international back-to-nature campaign. His book will change the way you think about our future and the future of our children.

16. TITLE: Sharing Nature with Children II  
AUTHOR: Joseph Cornell

Cornell follows his original 1979 volume of nature activities. With this volume of new games and activities for both adults and children. Cornell also introduces Flow Learning a "magical" method of placing the activities in a thematic sequence, to ensure a genuinely uplifting experience. Cornell's expertise, and his irrepressible enthusiasm for the grandeur and mystery of nature, are evident on every page. His unique blend of knowledge and warmth creates a contagious atmosphere for learning.

Environment most often refers to: Natural environment, all living and non-living things occurring naturally. Biophysical environment, the physical and biological factors along with their chemical interactions that affect an organism or a group of organisms. Ecology, the branch of biology that deals with the relations of organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings. Environment is the place where we live. Since ancient time nature has served man, being the source of his life. For thousands of years people lived in harmony with environment and it seemed to them that natural riches were unlimited. But man's interference in nature began to increase with the development of civilization. Our ecology becomes worse and worse with every new day.