



Celebrate  
**Plant Conservation Day**  
on May 18th!

Learn more at  
[www.plantconservationday.org](http://www.plantconservationday.org)

## Plant Conservation Books for Children and Families

*The Story of Rosy Dock*

Baker, Jeannie

Greenwidow Books, 1995

ISBN: 0688114911

Age Range: Young Adult

Rosy Dock, a non-native plant to Australia, was introduced from North Africa or Western Asia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This is the story of how this invasive plant has spread across western, central, and South Australia and impacts native plants.

*The Ancient One*

Barron, T.A.

Tor Books, 1994

ISBN: 0441010326

Age Range: Young Adult

In this environmentally themed fantasy novel, a young girl finds herself transported into the past where she attempts to stop a group of loggers from cutting down a unique strand of redwood trees.

*Plants and the Environment*

Boothroyd, Jennifer

Lerner Publishing Group, 2008

ISBN-13: 9780822586036

Age Range: 4 to 8

*Plants and the Environment* describes and presents photographs of various plants in their environments while addressing the need for plant conservation.

*The great kapok tree: a tale of the Amazon rain forest*

Cherry, Lynne

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1990

ISBN-13: 9780152005207

Age Range: 4 to 8

In this beautifully illustrated book, the animals of the rain forest convince a man not to cut down a kapok tree. This book teaches children of the importance of rain-forest conservation.

*River Ran Wild: An Environmental History*

Cherry, Lynne

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1992.

ISBN-13: 9780152005429

Age Range: 6 to 9

The Nashua River, which runs through New Hampshire and Massachusetts, has seen many changes over the years. Cherry follows the environmental history of the river into the present, through its destruction and finally to its reclamation.

*The Shaman's Apprentice, A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest*

Cherry, Lynne & Plotkin, Mark J.

Harcourt Children's Books, 2001

ISBN-13: 9780152024864

Age Range: Young Adult

A young tribal man dreams of becoming the next shaman but must first learn about healing powers of the forest's plants. This book, based on a true story, helps young adults to understand the importance of rain forests and why we must preserve them.

*Keepers of the Earth: Native American Stories and Environmental Activities for Children*

Caduto, Michael J. & Bruchac, Joseph

Fulcrum Publishing, 1997

ISBN: 1555913857

Age Range: 9 to 12

This collection of Native American stories includes activities that encourage an understanding and appreciation for the earth, while promoting a sense of responsibility.

*Keepers of Life: Discovering Plants Through Native American Stories and Earth Activities for Children*

Caduto, Michael J. & Bruchac, Joseph

Fulcrum Publishing, 1997

ISBN: 1555913873

Age Range: 9 to 12

18 Native American stories are covered in this book, addressing topics such as botany, plant ecology, and the natural history of North American plants.

*Incredible Plants (Discoveries Series)*

Carolin, Rodger (Editor)

Barnes and Noble, 2004

ISBN-13: 9780760759158

Age Range: 8 to 11

*Incredible Plants* offers a colorful introduction into the world of plants. It includes general information about the plant world such as plant structure, reproduction, and life cycles; types of plant life; the different habitats where they live; and how humans use them for food, medicine, textiles, and more.

*City Green*

DiSalvo-Ryan, Dyanne  
HarperCollins Publishers  
Pub. Date: August 1994  
ISBN-13: 9780688127862  
Age Range: 5 to 8

Marcy is disappointed when the city knocks down a building near her home and leaves the lot empty. She and her neighbor, Miss Rosa decide to plant seeds in the lot. It's not long before everyone in the community is pitching in and the vacant lot is transformed into a beautiful garden.

*There's Still Time: The Success of the Endangered Species Act*

Galan, Mark  
National Geographic Society, 1997  
ISBN-13: 9780792270928  
Age Range: 6 to 9

Thanks to the 1973 Endangered Species Act passed by the U.S. Congress numerous plants and animals that were once destined for extinction are now on the road to recovery. Galan looks at several of these plants and animals in this book.

*Bats, Bugs, and Biodiversity: Adventures in the Amazonian Rain Forest*

Goodman, Susan E.  
Simon & Schuster, 1995  
ISBN-13: 9780689319433  
Age Range: 8 to 12

This photo essay follows a group of 7th and 8th graders from Michigan to the Peruvian Amazon where they learn about nature and conservation.

*Why Should I Protect Nature?*

Green, Jen  
Barron's Educational Series, Incorporated, 2005  
ISBN-13: 9780764131547  
Age Range: 4 to 8

*Why Should I Protect Nature?* teaches children about the importance of conservation and protecting the environment with an amusing story about children taking a trip to the countryside. The children in the book learn what the world would look like if no one took care of the environment. The book features colorful illustrations and a usage guide for parents and teachers.

*Green Planet Rescue: Saving the Earth's Endangered Plants*

Halpern, Robert R.  
Scholastic Library Publishing, 1993  
ISBN-13: 9780531110959  
Age Range: 12 and up

Plants are essential for life on Earth, but many plants are now endangered. Halpern surveys many endangered plants and explores why they are endangered and what you can do to help.

*Endangered Plants*

Landau, Elaine

Scholastic Library Publishing, 1992

ISBN-13: 9780531156452

Age Range: 9 to 11

Landau addresses several of the numerous plants in the United States that are endangered. She focuses on what is being done to help the plants and some of the many obstacles that face people working to conserve plants.

*Be a Friend to Trees*

Lauber, Patricia

HarperCollins Publishers. 1994

ISBN-13: 9780064451208

Age Range: 5-9

We learn about the importance of trees as a source of food, shelter, materials and oxygen in *Be a Friend to Trees*.

*You're Aboard Spaceship Earth*

Lauber, Patricia

Harper Collins. 1996

ISBN-13: 9780064451598

Age Range: 5-9

Readers will explore water, air, and earth, the natural resources that make life possible on Earth. The water cycle and water usage is explained, as well as the recycling of oxygen and carbon dioxide between people, animals, and plants. The enrichment of soil by minerals and decaying plant and animal life is addressed.

*Earth Day*

Lowery, Linda

Lerner Publishing Group, 2003

ISBN-13: 9781575057002

Age Range: 7 to 9

This book briefly covers the history and importance of Earth Day, beginning with April 22, 1970.

*Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai*

Nivola, Claire A.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008

ISBN-13: 9780374399184

Age Range: 5 to 8

This is the inspirational story of Wangari Maathai, the recipient of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize and founder of the Green Belt Movement. Wangari grew up in a lush Kenya, but over the years as land was cleared for commercial farming her homeland was transformed into foreign terrain, void of trees and gardens. Wangari decides to take action and teaches others how to plant trees.

*Hawaii's Natural Forests*

Orr, Katherine & Boynton, David

Island Heritage, 2000

ISBN-13: 978-0896102439

Age Range 8 to 11

This book offers information on Hawaii's forests, alien plants from around the world, Polynesian introductions, the threats and challenges in our forests, and the endangered species.

*Prairies*

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw.

Holiday House, 1996

ISBN-13: 9780823412778

Age Range: 4 to 8

*Prairies* describes what kinds of plant life grows on a prairie, as well as how these plants have adapted to the environmental conditions. Ecosystems can be quickly destroyed and prairies are no exception. Various prairie restoration projects are covered that attempt to restore this once pristine landscape.

*Conservation*

Petersen, Christine

Children's Press, 2004

ISBN-13: 9780516219394

Age Range: 8 to 10

Petersen teaches children about the importance of conservation and why we must protect our natural resources.

*A Log's Life*

Pfeffer, Wendy.

Simon & Schuster, 2007

ISBN-13: 9781416934837

Age Range 4 to 8

*A Log's Life* introduces children to the life cycle of a tree through the depiction of a fallen log and its natural recycling life.

*Taking Care of the Earth: Kids in Action*

Pringle, Laurence

Boyd's Mills. 1996

ISBN-13: 9781563976346

Age Range: 7 to 9

This book explores projects children have undertaken, or can start on their own, to make a difference in the environment.

*Curious George Plants a Seed*

Rey, H.A

Houghton Mifflin Books, 2007

ISBN-10: 0618777105

Age Range: infant to preschool

George learns the hard way about what things grow by planting everything from the man with the yellow hat's kitchen in the yard! Readers will learn about seeds with George and discover how he grew a sunflower.

*Curious George Plants a Tree*

Rey, H.A

Houghton Mifflin Books, 2009

ISBN-10: 0547150873

Age Range: 3 to 7

George's curiosity gets the best of him when he participates in a museum's "Green Day."

George joins together with his community to recycle and plant trees for the museum.

*The Lorax*

Seuss, Dr.

Random House. 1971.

ISBN-13: 9780394823379

Age Range 4 to 8

The Lorax tries to save the Truffula Forest and its inhabitants from environmental destruction.

*Endangered Plants*

Souza, Dorothy M.

Scholastic Library Publishing, 2004

ISBN-13: 9780531162484

Age Range: 10 to 12

Endangered Plants discusses various rare and endangered plants in terms of how they became threatened, what we can do to protect them and what role these disappearing plants play in our ecosystems

*Janice VanCleave's Ecology for Every Kid: Easy Activities That Make Learning Science Fun  
(Science for Every Kid Series)*

VanCleave, Janice

Jossey-Bass, 1996

ISBN: 0471100862

Age Range: 8 to 12

Learn with hands-on activities about ecology with material found in your home or classroom.

Activities include finding out how a cactus stores water, how fox-hunting affects tree growth, and more.