

## Reading List for Water Conservation

### Elementary School

**Bear Loves Water.** (Preschool) Weiss, Ellen. Bear teaches readers about water in all its forms-puddles, bubbles, snowflakes, and clouds.

**Brother Eagle, Sister Sky: A Message from Chief Seattle.** (4-8 years) Illustrated by Susan Jeffers. A story about Native American beliefs and how each generation deserves to breathe fresh air, drink pure water, and to enjoy all the beauty that the earth offers.

**Clean Water (Earth at Risk).** Barss, Karen J. Discusses the problem of maintaining a clean water supply and relates this issue to such topics as pollution, depletion of sources and other environmental concerns.

**Common Ground: The Water, Earth, and Air We Share.** Bang, Molly Garrett. Explains how everyone in the world depends on each of us individually to protect resources and maintain respect for the environment.

**The Drop in My Drink.** (9-12 years) Hooper, Meredith & Coady, Chris. Water takes on fascinating new significance as readers discover the amazing complexity of a substance we take for granted. Includes a detailed depiction of water cycles, amazing facts, and important environmental information.

**A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder.** Wick, Walter. Shows the different forms of water in amazingly detailed photographs; explains water's properties.

**Down The Drain.** Yardley, Thompson.

**Dudley's Tea Party.** Galatis, Alex. Dudley uses too much water in the morning and cannot find enough water to make tea for his party.

**The Earth and I.** (4-8 years) Asch, Frank. Explains the friendship between the earth and a young child and what each can do for the other.

**Environmental Awareness-Water Pollution.** Snodgrass, Mary Ellen. Discusses the importance of a clean water supply and how water pollution threatens the lives and health of people, animals, and plants. Explains how to contribute to anti-pollution and conservation efforts.

**Follow the Water from the Brook to the Ocean.** Dorrors, Arthur. Explains how water flows from brooks, to streams, to rivers, over waterfalls, through canyons and dams to eventually reach the ocean.

**The Four Element: Water.** (Preschool) Vendrell, Carme Sole & Parramon, J.M. Text and illustrations explain the properties of water and its uses. Includes a special section to help adults answer children's questions.

**Gullywasher.** (4-8 years) Rossi, Joyce. Written in English and Spanish. A grandfather tells tall tales of his life as a cowboy (vaquero) and of the harsh life in the desert, flash floods, and wildlife.

**I Am Water.** (4-8 years) Marzollo, Jean. A first book about water in its different forms and uses.

**Keeping Water Clean.** Frost, Helen.

**Keeping Water Clean.** McLeish, Ewan. Protecting Our Planet series.

**Magic School Bus: At the Waterworks.** Cole, Johanna. Mrs. Frizzle, the science teacher, drives the magical school bus into a cloud where the children shrink to the size of water droplets and follow the course of the water through the city's waterworks system.

**Magic School Bus: Se Salpica Toda.** (4-8 years) Cole, Johanna. In Spanish, experience the earth's water cycle first hand as Mrs. Frizzle's class rises into the air, forms a rain cloud, and drizzles down to earth just like rain.

**Magic School Bus: Wet All Over.** (4-8 years) Cole, Johanna. Experience the earth's water cycle first hand as Mrs. Frizzles's class rises into the air, forms a rain cloud, and drizzles down to earth just like rain.

**One Small Square: Cactus Desert.** (6-10 years) Sliver, Donald. Teaches about all the plants and wildlife that exist in one small square of desert-an excellent introduction to ecosystems and biodiversity.

**Our Endangered Planet: Groundwater.** Hoff, Mary.

**Our Endangered Planet: Rivers & Lakes.** Hoff, Mary.

**Protecting Our Rivers and Lakes.** Costa-Pau, Rosa. Discusses pollution problems of rivers and lakes and offers solutions.

**Protecting Rivers & Seas.** Khanduri, Kamini. An introduction to the conservation of the world's water and the wildlife that depends on it.

**River Ran Wild: An Environmental History.** Cherry, Lynne. A history of New Hampshire's Nashua River starting 7,000 years ago until its recent reclamation. This is a good explanation of what can happen over time to a body of water and its wildlife-what people can do to the environment and what they can do for it.

**Snail Girl Brings Water.** (6-10 years) Reams, Geri. A retelling of a traditional Navaho creation myth which explains how water came to earth.

**Splish, Splash, Splosh.** (4-8 years) Manning, Mick & Granstrom, Brita. Join the adventures of a young boy and his dog and ride the waves, float on rain-filled clouds, shoot down fast-flowing rivers, and splash through sewers until you get where all water ends...and begins.

**This Place is Dry.** Cobb, Vicki. Surveys the living conditions in Arizona's Sonoran Desert for the people and the unusual animals that live there. Also describes the engineering accomplishment of the Hoover Dam.

**Water.** Asch, Frank. Aimed at very young children, this book artfully describes water in its many forms, its uses, and its role in our lives.

**Water (My First Nature Book).** Soutter-Perrot, Andrienne. Explains water in its different forms and why every living thing needs water.

**Water Pollution (A New True Book).** Stille, Darlene R. Discusses the benefits of water, its pollution, and the harmful effects of and ways of avoiding water pollution.

**Water Science, Water Fun: Great Things to Do with H<sub>2</sub>O.** (9-12 years) Fiarotta, Noel and Phyllis. Lessons and experiments teach about floating, refraction, leaching temperature gravity, buoyancy, flow, and other water properties.

**Water, Water Everywhere.** (Discovery Readers) Berger, Melvin and Gilda. A book about the water cycle, treatment, distribution, and wastewater treatment.

**Water, Water Everywhere.** Rauzon, Mark J. & Bix, Cynthia Overbeck. A Reading Rainbow Book.

**Water We Drink (We Can Save The Earth).** Wheeler, Jill C.

**Where Do Puddles Go?** (4-8 years) Robinson, Fay. An early book to explain water cycles and water in all its forms.

**Where Does Water Come From?** (6-10 years) Cast, Vance. Clever Calvin shows how much water there is on earth, how wells are dug to bring it out of the ground, and how water treatment plants work.

**The Woman Who Outshone the Sun/La Mujer Que Brillaba Aun Mas Que el Sol.** Martinez, Alejandro Cruz. A bilingual tale from ancient Mexico that tells of a beautiful woman who arrives in a mountain village and is driven out because she is different, taking the river with her.

**The Wonder Thing.** Hathorn, Elizabeth. In a poetic guessing game comprised of pictures and words, young children can guess what the “wonder thing” is, as well as identify landscapes and places.

## **Middle School**

**Biodiversity.** Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. Stresses the importance of protecting the planet's rich gene pool for the survival of all species.

**Clean Water.** Barss, Karen. Discusses the problems of maintaining a clean water supply and relates this issue to such topics as pollution, depletion of resources, and other environmental concerns.

**Deserts and Drylands.** Parker, Steve and Jane. Explains why deserts have developed, where they are, and why overfarming has caused them to spread. Shows how plants and animals cope with extreme temperatures and lack of water.

**A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder.** Wick, Walter. Shows the different forms of water in amazingly detailed photographs; explains water's properties.

**Drought.** Lampton, Christopher. Investigates the causes and disastrous effects of drought, giving the history of some of the most severe droughts on record in the U.S. and elsewhere.

**Every Drop Counts.** Wheeler, Jill C. Full of ideas on how kids can stop water waste at home, outside, and in school. Also talks about water pollution.

**Ground Water and Surface Water: A Single Resource.** U.S. Geological Survey Circular 1139. Presents an overview of the interaction of ground water and surface water, in terms of both quantity and quality, as applied to a variety of terrains across the country. Discusses the firm scientific foundation for policies governing the management and protection of aquifers and watersheds.

**Our Endangered Planet: Rivers & Lakes.** Hoff, Mary & Rodgers, Mary M. Explains the way rivers and lakes work together and how we have harmed them. It tells stories of success in reviving dying rivers and lakes and of failure to preserve our fresh water.

**Protecting Our Rivers and Lakes.** Costa-Pau, Rosa. Presents overviews of the problems facing the survival of rivers and lakes in light of the effects and solutions to pollution and the mismanagement of resources.

**Rivers: Make It Work!** Haslam, Andrew & Taylor, Barbara. Explains where rivers come from, why people settle near them, and how rivers form valleys and underground caves. Discusses how rivers create energy and why it's important to control flooding.

**Water: A Resource in Crisis.** Lucas, Eileen. Discusses the quality and quantity of water on a global scale and includes discussions of resources, the ways we use water, pollution, making water safe, taking care of our water, and taking action.

**Water Conservation: Student Edition.** Crawford, Leslie. Shows students different ways to analyze, consider options, and take action on issues such as sources of water pollution, community water supply, the school water system, reading a water bill, conservation technologies and practices, and assessing costs and benefits.

**Water (Designs in Science): How Technology Mirrors Nature.** Morgan, Sally and Adrian. Investigates the use of water from water for energy and transportation to water as a solvent. Other topics include filtration, desalination, recycling, and conservation.

**Water Squeeze.** O'Neil, Mary. Discusses the importance of water in our lives and the dangers we create when we pollute the waters of the planet.

## **High School & Adult**

**Cadillac Desert: The American West and Its Disappearing Water.** Reisner, Marc. This is a history of the American West's water and its great water projects that transplanted water to allow the phenomenal growth of California and the Southwest. The Book's perspective of water rights, and ecologic and economic consequences of such actions focuses on government and business tactics.

**Drought Busters: 30 Easy Ways to Save Water...and Money.** Slater, William & Orzechoski, Peter.

**Food and Water: Threats, Shortages and Solutions.** Cayne, Bernard S. Discusses the vital importance of having an adequate supply of food and water and the effects of pursuing this need through various forms of storage and farming methods.

**From Reclamation to Sustainability: Water, Agriculture and the Environment in the American West.**

MacDonnell, Lawrence J. Tells the stories of four places in the West where development and use of water, primarily for irrigated agriculture, have been central to economic and social development.

**Gila: The Life and Death of an American River.** McNamee, Gregory. Follows the ecologic history of the Gila River from its source in New Mexico, through its confluence with the Colorado River and into Arizona. Today, half of the Gila is dead, due to overgrazing, damming, and other practices.

**Ground Water and Surface Water: A Single Resource.** U.S. Geological Survey Circular 1139. Presents an overview of the interaction of ground water and surface water, in terms of both quantity and quality, as applied to a variety of terrains across the country. Discusses the firm scientific foundation for policies governing the management and protection of aquifers and watersheds.

**Last Oasis: Facing Water Scarcity.** Postel, Sandra. The worldwide water crisis, according to this book, is due to its ready availability, low cost, people's overuse, and lack of respect for this life-sustaining resource. Solutions are given for restoring and sustaining this essential lifeline.

**A River No More.** Fradkin, Philip. This is a definitive history of the development of the Colorado River and the claims made upon it from its source in the Wyoming Rockies to the Gulf of California, where it evaporates in the sand.

**A Story That Stands Like a Dam: Glen Canyon and the Struggle for the Soul of the West.** Martin, Russell. A narrative history of hydroelectric dams and their impact on ecological processes downstream and its drowning of natural landscapes behind their headwalls.

**Tapped Out: The Coming World Crisis in Water and What We Can Do About It.** Simon, Paul. Discusses increasing global population and a water supply that cannot increase; faced with this crisis, what can the average citizen do?

**Vision in the Desert: Carl Hayden and Hydropolitics in the American Southwest.** August, Jack L. Focuses on longtime Arizona senator, Carl Hayden, whose career was centered on water and its distribution, inseparable from the history of the West and development of arid lands.

**Water: A Natural History.** Outwater, Alice. Takes us on a journey 500 years past to present to recover a lost knowledge – how the land cleans its own water, how natural ecologically interacting systems can create healthy waterways.

**Water: A Resource in Crisis.** Lucas, Eileen. Discusses the quality and quantity of water on a global scale and includes discussions of resources, the ways we use water, pollution, making water safe, taking care of our water, and taking action.

**Water: Almost Enough for Everyone.** Ocko, Stephanie. Through case studies, anecdotes, facts, and theoretical explanations, this book provides a look at the social and environmental implications of severe droughts, their causes, and some possible solutions.

**Water Conservation: Student Edition.** Crawford, Leslie. Shows students different ways to analyze, consider options, and take action on issues such as sources of water pollution, community water supply, the school water system, reading a water bill, conservation technologies and practices, and assessing costs and benefits.

**Water Wars: The Fight to Control and Conserve Nature's Most Precious Resource.** Cossi, Olga. Discusses how we have to change our habits and our ways of thinking in order to preserve the earth's water resources – the crucial role water plays in nature and how dwindling supplies are affecting the various ecosystems of the world.

## **Water Wise Landscaping**

**Drought-Tolerant Plants: Waterwise Gardening For Every Climate.** Taylor, Jane.

**The Dry Garden: A Practical Guide to Planning & Planting.** Rumary, Mark.

**The Dry Gardening Handbook: Plants and Practices for a Changing Climate.** Filippi, Olivier.

**Dryland Gardening: Plants That Survive and Thrive in Tough Conditions.** Bennett, Jennifer.

**The Low-Water No-Water Garden: Gardening for Drought and Heat the Mediterranean Way.** Barron, Pattie.

**Low-water-use-plants: For California and the Southwest.** Shuler, Carol.

**Plants For Dry Climates: How To Select, Grow, and Enjoy.** Duffield, Mary Rose.

**Rain Gardens: Managing Water Sustainably in the Garden and Designed Landscape.** Dunnett, Nigel.

**Sustainable Landscaping for Dummies.** Dell, Owen

**Trees and Shrubs for Dry California Landscapes: Plants for Water Conservation.** Perry, Bob.

**The Water-Thrifty Garden.** DeFreitas, Stan.

**Waterwise Gardening.** Ogden, Lauren Springer.

**Water-wise Gardening: America's Backyard Revolution.** Christopher, Thomas.

**Waterwise Gardening: Water, Plants and Climate: A Practical Guide.** Cooke, Ian.

**WUCOLS: Water Use Classification of Landscape Plants: A Guide to the Water Needs of Landscape Plants.**  
Costello, L.R. & Jones, K.S. U.C. Cooperative Extension.

**Xeriscape Handbook: A How-To Guide to Natural, Resource-Wise Gardening.** Weinstein, Gayle.

**Xeriscape Plant Guide: 100 Water-Wise Plants for Gardens and Landscapes.** Denver Water. Proctor, Rob.