

# Earth Month Books and Activities List



# A Note About This Resource

**Climate change** has already begun to alter the lives of communities around the world. However, these impacts are not born equally amongst all people. Communities experiencing poverty and other forms of marginalization are disproportionately affected by severe weather events and other environmental impacts. Within these communities, children are by far the most vulnerable.

Despite these challenges, we see opportunities to uplift and empower the next generation of Canadian children and youth to become leaders and agents of positive change. We have seen the power of youth climate activists – from Greta Thunberg to Autumn Peltier – to mobilize those around them and make a difference. At [the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation](#), we feel that education is key to unlocking the next generation of young leaders. However, we need to ensure that children, even children from marginalized communities across this country, have access to the knowledge that will help them think critically about the world around them and take part in transforming it.

In partnership with [Let's Talk Science](#), a leading partner in Canadian education we have pulled together a list of incredible eco-themed books that have been paired with fun, informative, and curriculum-linked resources and activities for both educators and parents to share with young people in their lives. Tackling issues of climate change and sustainability will not happen overnight but we believe that by educating young Canadians, we have the power to spark individual action and collective change.

# Earth Month Books and Activities



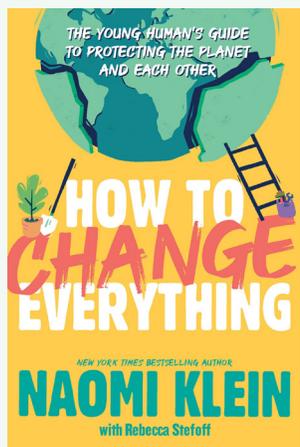
## My Friend Earth

written by Patricia MacLachlan  
and illustrated by Francesca Sanna

Readers of all ages will pore over the pages of this spectacular book. Its enticing die-cut pages encourage exploration as its poetic text celebrates everything Earth does for us, all the while reminding us to be a good friend in return.

Paired Activity: [Ice on Earth: The Cryosphere](#)

ages  
**3+**



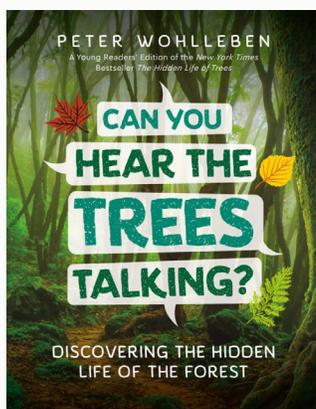
## How To Change Everything

written by Naomi Klein

*How to Change Everything* provides readers with clear information about how our planet is changing, but also, more importantly, with inspiration, ideas, and tools for action. Using examples of change and protest from around the world, author Naomi Klein includes profiles of young activists from a wide range of backgrounds and shows that young people are not just part of the climate change movement, they are leading the way!

Paired Activity: [Indicators of Climate Change](#)

ages  
**9+**



## Can You Hear The Trees Talking? Discovering The Hidden Life Of The Forest

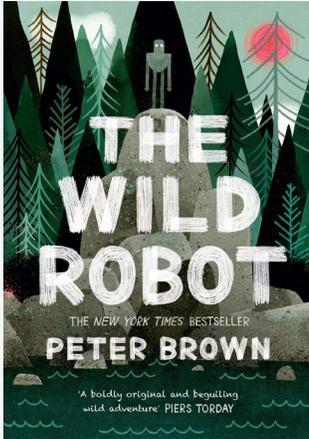
written by Peter Wohlleben

This interactive book for kids aged 8-10 introduces the wonderful science of the forest through outdoor activities, quizzes, fun facts, photographs, and more!

Paired Activity: [Talking Trees: How do Trees Communicate?](#)

ages  
**5+**

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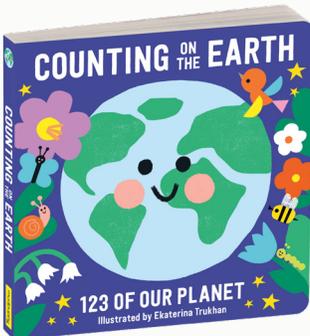
## The Wild Robot

written by Peter Brown

When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is all alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is – but she knows she needs to survive. From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed novel about what happens when nature and technology collide.

Paired Activity: [What is Artificial Intelligence?](#)

ages  
**9+**



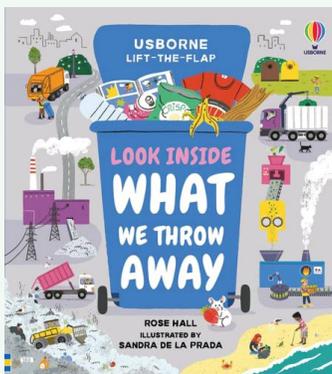
## Counting on the Earth Board Book

published by Galison Madpuppy  
and illustrated by Ekaterina Trukhan

*Counting on the Earth* includes beautiful illustrations and easy to follow text, making it the perfect board book to inspire the next generation of eco-conscious children.

Paired Activity: [How do I Construct a Terrarium?](#)

ages  
**0+**



## Look Inside What We Throw Away

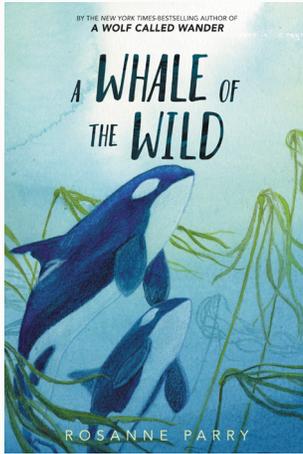
written by Rose Hall

A positive book about how producing less rubbish can help save the planet. Lift the flaps to see where a plastic bottle, a wonky carrot and other rubbish end up after being put in a bin. Then step into a repair cafe and a zero-waste shop, to discover how we can avoid throwing so much away.

Paired Activity: [The Environmental Impact of Wasting Food](#)

ages  
**4+**

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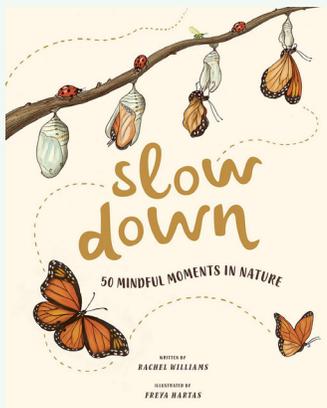
ages  
9+

## A Whale of the Wild

written by Rosanne Parry

*A Whale of the Wild* weaves a heart-stopping tale of survival with impeccable research on a delicate ecosystem and threats to marine life. An excellent read-aloud and read-alone, this title includes black-and-white illustrations throughout, a map, and extensive backmatter about orcas and their habitats!

Paired Activity: [How are Arctic Animals in Canada Affected by Climate Change?](#)



ages  
9+

## Slow Down: 50 Mindful Moments in Nature

written by Rachel Williams

In this beautiful illustrated collection, 50 moments in nature are paused for you to watch them in detail. Then you should go outside, and explore, and see what you find when you take the time to slow down.

Paired Activity: [Seeds and Germination](#)



ages  
6+

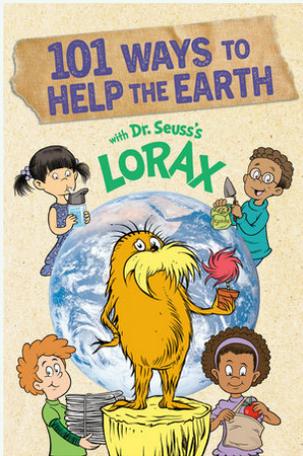
## Wind Riders #1: Rescue on Turtle Beach

written by Jen Marlin

*Wind Riders: Rescue on Turtle Beach* is the first book in an illustrated chapter book series about Max and Sofia's adventures tackling real world problems. Each story visits a new location and introduces a human-made problem endangering animals and the environment!

Paired Activity: [Waves, Tides and Tsunamis](#)

# Earth Month Books and Activities



## 101 Ways To Help The Earth With Dr. Seuss's Lorax

written by Miranda Paul

Encourage children to be eco-friendly with the fun, easy ideas in this guidebook—and a little help from the Lorax, Dr. Seuss's beloved icon of environmentalism! From tips on how to reduce, reuse, and recycle, to low-cost earth-friendly crafts and activities, games, and more, there are over 100 ways for kids to help the planet—inside, outside, in the classroom, and in the community!

Paired Activity: Design and Build a Bee House

ages  
**5+**

PLEASE SEE THE APPENDIX FOR A LIST OF MORE ENVIRONMENTAL-THEMED EXTENSION ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES!



# Extension Activities to Explore

## Climate Change:

[Introduction to Climate Change](#)

[7 ways Satellites Help Fight Climate Change](#)

[Cows, Methane, and Climate Change](#)

## Animals and the Environment:

[Reptiles](#)

[What is an Insect?](#)

[Diversity of Canada's Marine Coastal Habitats](#)

## Tackling waste and sustainability in your community:

[Polystyrene: The Pros, the Cons, the Chemistry](#)

[Clothing4Climate Project](#)

## Natural Systems:

[How do trees survive in winter?](#)

[Why is it colder in the winter even though the Earth is closer to the Sun?](#)

[The Dirt on Soil Conservation](#)

## Learning more about careers that help our planet thrive:

[Careers in the Great Outdoors](#)

[Career Profile of Chris Derksen \(he/him\)-Climate Scientist](#)

[Careers: Soil Scientist](#)

[Career profile of Heather Dover-Arborist](#)

[Career Profile of Nia Gibson-Learning and Engagement Coordinator at the Toronto Zoo](#)

[Career Profile of Anaïs Remili-Whale Researcher](#)

# A Note About the Contributing Organizations

## About the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation

Since 2004, the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation has been on a mission to ensure that EVERY Canadian child has the opportunity to become richly literate and achieve their full potential through reading.

Through transformative multi-year grants, responsive community outreach programs, and core fundraising initiatives, the Foundation reaches for this goal through the revitalization of public elementary school libraries and the delivery of literacy programming and educational resources to high-needs communities across Canada. **Together with Indigo, its customers and its employees, we have committed \$33 million to cover 3,000 high-needs schools, impacting more than 1 million children.**

For more information visit [indigoloveofreading.org](http://indigoloveofreading.org).

## About Let's Talk Science

Let's Talk Science—a leading partner in Canadian education—is a national charitable organization committed to inspiring and empowering children and youth of all ages and backgrounds in Canada to develop the skills they need to participate and thrive in an ever-changing world. To accomplish this, Let's Talk Science offers a comprehensive suite of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) based programs to support youth, educators, and volunteers across Canada. For more information visit [letstalkscience.ca](http://letstalkscience.ca).