



## Teen Guides to Environmental Science [5 volumes] (v. 1)

By John F. Mongillo, Peter Mongillo

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Since the beginning of human history, people have depended on the natural resources of Earth for the basics of survival: food, water, energy, and shelter. As civilizations advanced, their needs became greater and their impact on the natural world grew more intrusive. *Teen Guides to Environmental Science* presents a comprehensive look at the current state of our environment and what needs to be done to repair the damage and move toward a sustainable society. Beginning in Volume 1 with an explanation of the earth's systems and its ecology, the authors then present an in-depth look at each of the land and water biomes and their climates. Volume 2 covers land, water, and energy resources. Volume 3 is devoted to the history of the human population in both agricultural and industrial societies, food supply, energy requirements, economics, communication, transportation, and technology. Volume 4 examines the human impact on the environment, including air and water pollution, soil erosion and deforestation, the impact on wildlife, and the problems of disease and toxic wastes. Finally, Volume 5 discusses how the environment, the economy, and social concerns must all be taken into consideration to create a sustainable environment. More than 500 images, timelines, lists of environmental organizations and agencies, and over 100 suggested activities for students provide further information on one of the most important and debated topics of the 21st century.

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### Editorial Review

#### From School Library Journal

Grade 9 Up—This set offers a thorough look at the current state of our environment, what can be done to repair the damage that has been done, and how we can work to create a sustainable society. Coverage includes such common research topics as agriculture, pest control, air pollution, endangered and threatened species, and energy resources. The text is supplemented by hundreds of captioned black-and-white photographs, labeled diagrams and drawings, tables, and maps. There is cross-referencing among the volumes. Each chapter concludes with a brief glossary, suggestions for related activities, and lists of further reading and Web sites. Some of the content has been excerpted from Mongillo and Linda Zierdt-Warshaw's *Encyclopedia of Environmental Science* (2000) and Mongillo and Bibi Booth's *Environmental Activists* (2001, both Greenwood). Each volume concludes with a comprehensive index, an environmental time line from 1620 to 2004, lists of endangered species by state, Web sites by topic, and environmental organizations. This set would be useful for large public and school libraries with a curriculum that includes environmental studies.—*Maren Ostergard, Bellevue Regional Library, WA*

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#### From Booklist

Although this set for middle- and high-school students should be popular, it could have been better. In thematically arranged volumes, the author presents a great deal of information on the environment. The volumes are titled *Earth Systems and Ecology, Resources and Energy, People and Their Environments, Human Impact on the Environment, and Creating a Sustainable Society*. The approach is interdisciplinary, covering ecological, economic, and social topics. Some of the material is excerpted from author Mongillo's *Encyclopedia of Environmental Science* (2000) and *Environmental Activists* (2001), also published by Greenwood.

Every volume includes the same four appendixes ("Environmental Timeline, 1620-2004," "Endangered Species by State," "Websites by Classification," and "Environmental Organizations") and a set index. Indexing is spotty; users looking in the index for information on Toyota's hybrid car will find the description and photograph in volume 5 but not the identical photograph and the diagram in volume 2. At the end of each chapter is a glossary, a selection of student activities, and lists of books and Web sites. More than 500 black-and-white images are included, with some drawings and time lines created specifically for this set. However, photos are often very dark or unclear, and the volumes have an overall drab appearance that won't recommend them to the target audience.

On the plus side, it's nice to have social and economic factors included in a work on the environment. The set is intended to align with National Geography Standards and National Science Education Standards as well as standards from the North American Association for Environmental Education, making it a good choice for school and curriculum--oriented public libraries. *Susan Gooden*

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#### Review

"Schools and libraries supporting an environmental curriculum will find this a useful set. Volumes cover the present state of the environment, examine possible interdisciplinary approaches to the problems, and discuss how to create a sustainable society. Captioned charts, graphs, maps, diagrams, and line drawings help clarify the text. The lists of recommended books and Web sites will aid students researchers and the many

suggested activities will inspire those looking for project ideas."-Curriculum Connections/School Library Journal

"[A]n excellent introduction to environmental science that should serve high school and public libraries well."-Gale Lawrence Looks at Books

"[I]ntended to align with National Geography Standards and National Science Education Standards as well as standards from the North American Association for Environmental Education, making it a good choice for school and curriculum-oriented public libraries."-Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin

"Starred Review Teen Guides to Environmental Science is a five-volume set for middle school and high school students that gives a comprehensive look at the current state of our environment and what needs to be done to repair the damage and move toward a sustainable society....Highly Recommended."-Library Media Connection

"This set offers a thorough look at the current state of our environment, what can be done to repair the damage that has been done, and how we can work to create a sustainable society....This set would be useful for large public and school libraries with a curriculum that includes environmental studies."-School Library Journal

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