



# Our Earth Masterclass

**Nurturing Interconnectedness, Compassion, Empathy through  
Ecosystem Awareness across the Greens and Blue of our Planet.**



# JaneSpeak

“In fact, it is the talented and dedicated teachers and student leaders whom I meet as I travel around the world who inspire me most.” You have such responsibility. You are helping to shape tomorrow’s world far more than any politician.

Jane Goodall’s Roots & Shoots program has inspired young people of all ages. It has changed countless lives, helping students to become decent, caring and empowered citizens.

I am devoting most of my energy these days to developing this program – it is my contribution to tomorrow’s world, the world that will sink or swim, fall or fly, in accordance with the value systems of our young people.

# **PART 1**

# **Parts of a Whole**

 WORLD NEWS



## BREAKING NEWS

### Where is Toughie?

Rabbs' fringe-limbed treefrog missing from Atlanta Botanical Garden

[Read More](#)

[www.whatsupwiththemissinganimals.com](http://www.whatsupwiththemissinganimals.com)



GLOBAL NEWS  
Thursday  
23/03/2024

**BREAKING NEWS**

**Pink Headed Duck Disappears from India,  
Bangladesh and Myanmar**

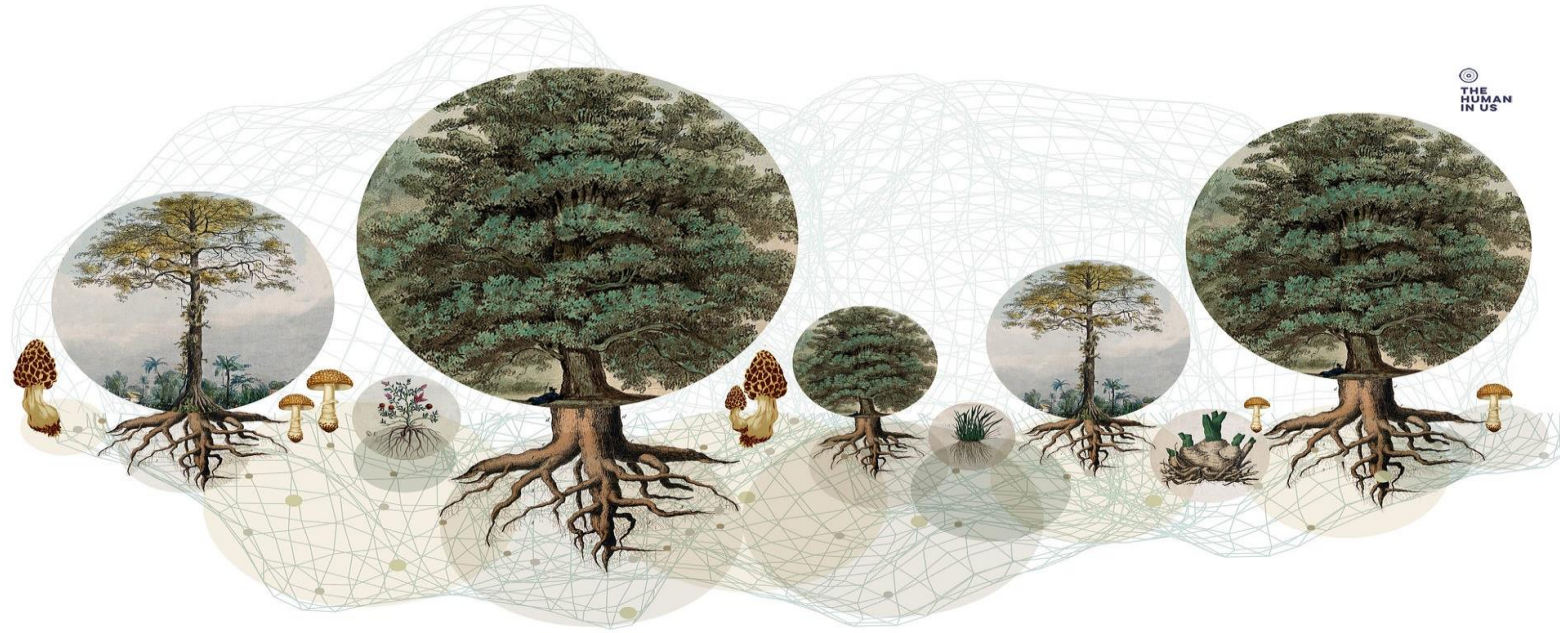
[Read More](#)      [www.whatsupwiththemissinganimals.com](http://www.whatsupwiththemissinganimals.com)





6th mass extinction  
primarily due to human  
activities

Will affect everything on  
earth, including us



## The world is a single interconnected organism.

**Alexander Von Humboldt**, 18<sup>th</sup>-century scientist and explorer

The first to explain the basic functions of the forest for the ecosystem and climate, claiming that the world is a single interconnected organism.

According to Von Humboldt, everything, to the smallest creature, has its role and together makes the whole, in which humankind is just one small part.

Ecosystem includes the interaction of living with non-living elements.

## Parts of a Whole

No man (person) is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.

If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of their friends's or of thine own were.

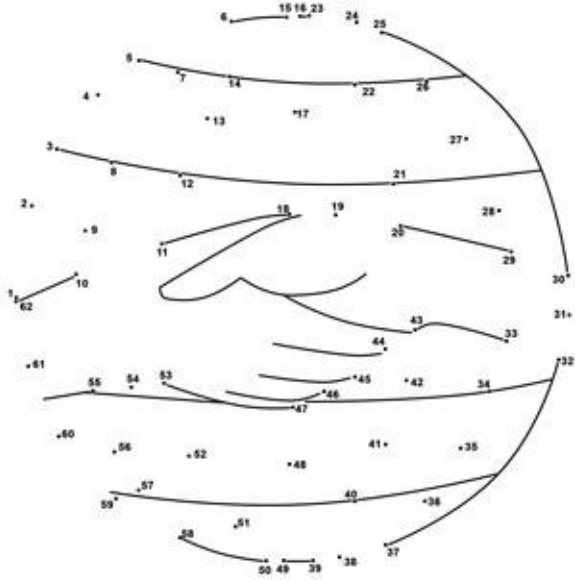
Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind



Peace Poster 2021-22  
Grand Prize Winner  
Anja Rožen: 13 years old  
Sponsored by Slovenj  
Gradec Lions Club,  
Slovenia



# Connecting the Dots



# Disconnection from Nature

- Increasing distance from nature and other elements on the planet
- Idea of earth as an endless resource
- World view that is human centric
- A world view that considers the Earth as the other – disconnected from humans
- World view that doesn't consider empathy and compassion in decision making.



*A visualization of Nature Deficit Disorder, a term coined by Richard Louv. (Image Source: [Julian Glandar](#))*

# As educators can we make a difference?

- Work towards establishing a connection as a part of the whole
- Facilitate a deep and multifaceted exploration of issues
- Encourage compassionate problem solving and empathetic leadership
- Understand our place in the larger systems of the planet

# **PART 2**

## **Reconnecting Transformation of self into compassionate leaders**

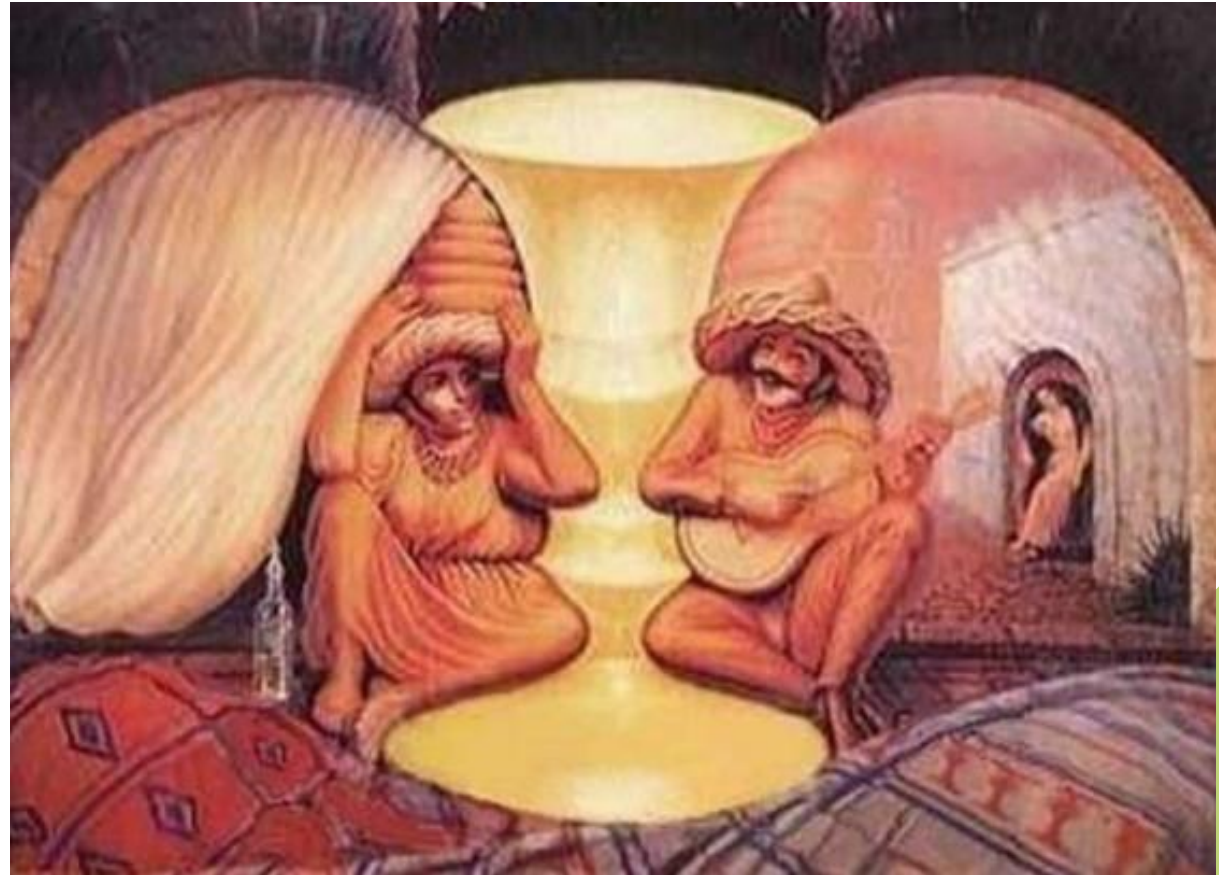


# See the world through the senses

## Incorporate exposure to nature across the curriculum

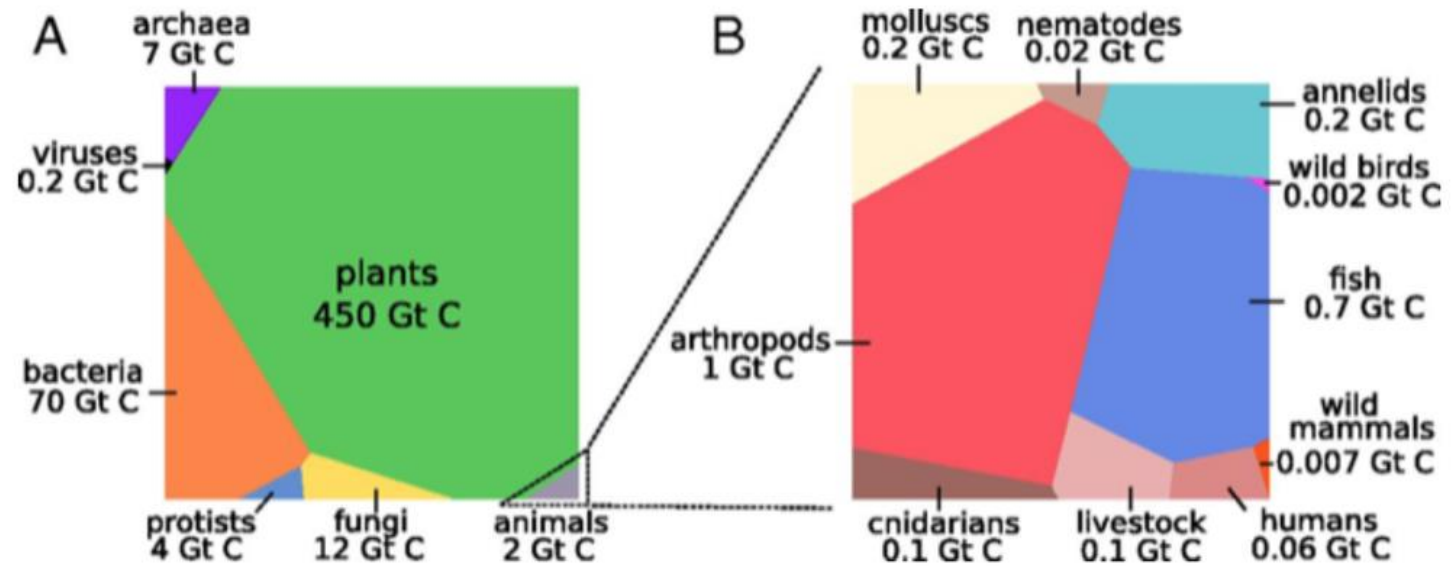
- Classes under trees
- Nature walks
- Beach walks
- Visits to the museum
- Star- gazing

# Change Perspective



## Change Perspective

Humans are a small part of life on the planet



## Change Perspective

The ocean is integral  
to life on our planet  
– its not just about  
greening the planet,  
but also about the  
blues!





# Solutions come from knowledge + compassion



# Grow as a compassionate leader



# Compassionate leadership



World hunger is growing – should we use more fertilizer to increase yield or should we put more land under agriculture?

The city's transportation needs are growing should we make more roads or increase public transport?

We need to connect a city to a port to cut through a forest. What shall we do?

I need to use all the appliances in my home because it helps me be more efficient. But using electricity contributes to global warming?

We are manufacturers of commercial bakery products and need to wrap our products remain fresh.

Domestic water supply to an area where new high-rises have come up cannot be fulfilled only by municipal supply. Supplemented by tankers of water.

# Part 3

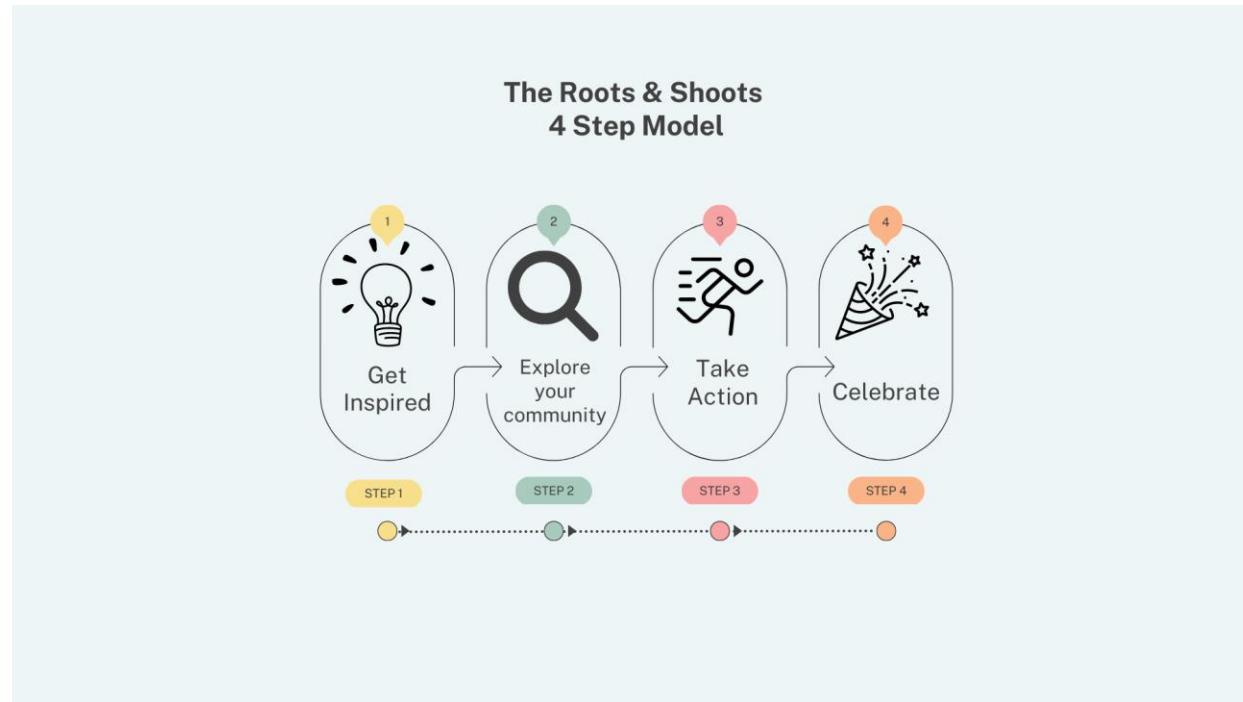
# Action!



# Roots & Shoots Mission

To foster respect and compassion for all living things  
To promote understanding of all cultures and beliefs  
To inspire each individual to take action to make the world a better place for animals, people, and the environment.

# The Four-step Formula



# Areas of impact

- Environment
- Community – understanding our place in the community through community mapping and exploring local diversity of culture, indigenous knowledge and relationships.
- Animals – our relationship with them and issues of co-existence.

# STEP 1 | Get Inspired

Around the World Young People from the Roots & Shoots Programmes are doing wonderful things for a better tomorrow



In Austria a Roots & Shoots team developed a unique innovative climate-friendly Moss Graffiti.



In Ayodhya, India a Roots & Shoots school made eco bricks with plastic waste



# Get Inspired

Around the World Young People from the Roots & Shoots Programmes are doing wonderful things for a better tomorrow



In Germany a Roots & Shoots team including children, teens, teachers and parents have for the past 10 years, protected the river Würm (Wuerm). The Würmrangers take care of three river beds; classify plants and animals along the river; prevent the spread of invasive neophytes; collect trash regularly.



In South Korea the Roots & Shoots team held a climate justice workshop and joined the Climate Justice March in Seoul with the giant peace dove to mark International Day of Peace.

# STEP 2 | Explore your community

- Meet with your group whether family, school, community or office group.
- Explore are the members of your community (Remember to include animals, people and the environment.)
- Discuss the challenges you see in the community where you live. Start thinking about how you can help.
- What are the resources available to you. How can we better utilise the resources to better meet the needs of our community members?
- Community mapping can be used to draw together the picture of the members of your community, their needs and the resources available.

# STEP 3 | Take Action!

- Using your new knowledge about what may be needed in your community, it is now time to select some projects!
- It is key to remember that people, other animals and the environment are interconnected, so when you are designing your project, take the time to consider how your actions will affect all three groups.
- Considerations include: **How? Where? When? Who?**
- Types of actions can include:
  - ✓ **Education:** Inform the community of local sustainability issues.
  - ✓ **Motivation:** Inspire changes in consumer & lifestyle choices by offering sustainable alternatives.
  - ✓ **Restoration:** Create, rehabilitate or maintain natural areas.
  - ✓ **Advocacy:** Take advocacy action to raise awareness about your cause.

# Butterfly Garden Sample Action Plan

## What is the Project?

A Butterfly Garden

## Why should we do it?

### What do we need for it?

Some open space which gets a lot of sunlight

The larval host plants for the caterpillars to feed on, e.g. curry patta,

bryophyllum, lemon plant, oleander, maussaenda. These can be well spaced out.

Beds of the nectar plants for the adult butterflies, e.g. ixora, lantana, Jamaican blue spike, nirgudi.

A spot of wet mud for their mud-puddling activity.

## What is the timeframe for doing it?

## Who will do it?

# STEP 4 | Celebrate!

- You've pulled it off! Yay! Now it's time to celebrate. Which means
- It's time to reflect as a group about the impact and successes of the project.
- See what lessons you learned, and reflect about what this means to your group on both a personal and community level.
- Share your journey with your fellow group members, community members and your local Roots & Shoots network contact. Your project is inspirational!
- Of course you could also have a party or an event to celebrate your hard work!

# Roots & Shoots Campaigns

Make sure you participate in Roots & Shoots Campaigns like No Waste November, re-wilding etc.

Participate in projects like OCEANS ARE US

Participate in JGII international projects

Ask your local Roots & Shoots Coordinator for more info



# Some project ideas

- Butterfly Garden
- Kitchen Garden
- Mapping Garbage
- Mapping electricity use and minimizing wastage
- Survey of local flora and fauna
- Doing events around the Roots and Shoots Calendar
- Seniors Day
- Tutor children who need help in school
- Examine the water supply in your area and see how people are affected



**In over 60 countries around the world young people like you are making a difference every day.**

**How will you make a difference today?**



# Part 4

**How can Roots &  
Shoots support school  
goals?**



**Aligns with educational goals**



## **Roots & Shoots supports INQUIRY-BASED learning**

- The teacher is a guide rather than instructor
- Through community mapping, the students are encouraged to explore issues of importance to them and to decide how to address them
- Encourages exploration and questioning and leads to investigation into a worthy question, issue, problem or idea.
- It involves gathering and analysing information, generating solutions, making decisions, justifying conclusions and taking action.

**Aligns with educational goals**



## **Roots & Shoots supports a STUDENT-LED approach to problem solving**

- Critical thinking skills
- Planning and organization
- Research and inquiry
- Innovation
- Creativity
- Global citizenship
- Respect for diverse opinions
- Empowerment and Leadership

## Aligns with educational goals



### Supports INTERDISCIPLINARY learning

Supports the principle of Coherence and makes links across learning areas creating opportunities for students to find new pathways.

Self and group reflection are integral to the programme.

Community Engagement is fundamental to Root & Shoots.

Ideas are moved beyond the hypothetical and acted upon in the local or global 'community'. Roots & Shoots



## Aligns with educational goals



### Supports ACTION/OUTCOME-based learning

Ideas are moved beyond the hypothetical and acted upon in the local or global 'community'.

## Aligns with SDGs and incorporates them into the curriculum

### SDG4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

### SDG13

To limit and adapt to climate change

### SDG 14

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

### SDG 15

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

### SDG17

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

**Hope Breeds Hope. And Hope Inspires  
Others To Take Action!**

**- Dr. Jane Goodall**