

Green Sprout Kenya: Environmental Education Coursebook for Young Change-Makers

By TEDDY OCHIENG

Introduction: Why Green Matters

Welcome to Green Sprout Kenya, a guide for students and teachers who want to make Kenya

greener, cleaner, and more sustainable. This course book is about more than trees-it's about the

people who plant them, the communities they protect, and the future they secure.

Trees are life. They give us shade, food, clean air, and homes for animals. In a world facing climate

change, droughts, and deforestation, we must take action. And action starts with you-the student,

the teacher, the young dreamer who believes we can grow something better.

Chapter 1: Understanding the Environment

Key Ideas:

- The environment is everything around us: air, water, land, animals, and plants.

- A healthy environment = a healthy life.

- Human activities can harm or heal the environment.

Activity: Draw or describe what your perfect natural environment looks like. What's in it? What

makes it healthy?

Chapter 2: The Power of Trees

Trees help us by:

- Producing oxygen

- Reducing air pollution

- Preventing soil erosion

- Providing food and medicine

- Giving homes to animals

Did You Know? One tree can absorb up to 22 kg of carbon dioxide per year!

Activity: Interview an elder in your community about trees that were important when they were

young.

Chapter 3: How to Plant a Tree

Steps to Plant a Tree:

- 1. Choose a native tree species.
- 2. Dig a hole twice as wide as the seedling's roots.
- 3. Place the seedling gently in the hole.
- 4. Fill with soil and press gently.
- 5. Water it well.
- 6. Protect it from animals or damage.

Activity: Plan a tree planting event in your school or village. Who will be involved? Where will it happen?

Chapter 4: Your Role as a Student Eco-Leader

You can:

- Start a Green Club
- Teach your friends about waste reduction
- Reuse, Reduce, Recycle
- Write poems, songs, or stories about nature
- Report pollution or tree cutting to an adult

Reflection: Write a short paragraph about how YOU can be a voice for the Earth.

Chapter 5: Climate Change and Kenya

What is Climate Change?

- Long-term changes in temperature and weather patterns.
- Caused mostly by human activities (like burning fossil fuels).

In Kenya, we see:

- More droughts
- Less rain
- Crop failure
- Loss of forests

Solution?

- Plant trees - Save water - Use clean energy - Educate others Chapter 6: Poems, Stories, and Art for the Earth Let students express themselves through: - Poems like: "I Am a Tree" or "Green Hope" - Stories of young heroes who plant trees - Posters about recycling or clean rivers Creative Activity: Create a short poem about a tree. Share it with your class. Chapter 7: Green Pledge and Action Plan My Green Pledge: I promise to protect the earth, plant trees, speak for the environment, and help others do the same. My Action Plan: 1. Plant ___ trees this term 2. Start/Join a Green Club 3. Teach ____ people about climate change 4. Report pollution or littering

Final Thoughts

Every big forest began with one seed. Green Sprout Kenya is about growing that seed-of awareness, leadership, and love for nature-inside every student.

Together, we will grow a greener Kenya.

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