

# Roots & Shoots

# Project Ideas

“Choose a project that makes the world better for people, for other animals, and for the environment we all share.”

– Jane Goodall

## Projects that Benefit Animals

Create an education & awareness campaign about an animal issue in your community.

Examples:

- How to be a responsible pet parent
- Promote TNVR programs for feral cats (Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate, Release)
- Reduce the stigma around “bully” breeds

Create toys or blankets for animals living in shelters.

Conduct a supply drive for animals living in shelters (ex. food, toys & other items) – check with your local shelter to see what is needed. Even used towels can be useful!

Raise awareness about the exotic animal trade in the local community and educate others about the issues surrounding keeping exotic pets.

## Projects that Benefit the Environment

Plant a vegetable garden or hydroponic garden and distribute the harvest to people in need.

Organize a celebration around Earth Day, Arbor Day, International Day of Peace.

Organize a clean-up (beach, park, neighborhood, waterway, forest, shoreline).

Create or restore animal habitats or natural spaces:

- Remove invasive plants
- Build and install homes for birds or bees
- Plant trees, wildflowers or other native plants
- Plant a pollinator garden

Encourage waste reduction:

- Develop an onsite recycling program for as many waste materials as possible
- Conduct a school-wide waste audit including cafeteria waste
- Use old or discarded paper for notepads or class projects
- Compost excess food and landscape trimmings
- Organize a clothing swap.
- Reduce the use of polystyrene (Styrofoam) and plastic food service containers at home, school, or restaurants. Here are some ideas:
  - [Pack a Litterless Lunch](#)
  - [Banish the Spork Packet](#)
  - [Skip the Stuff](#)

Create an education & awareness campaign for your school or neighborhood:

- Reduce single-use plastic
- Reduce pollution
- Reduce pesticide/fertilizer use
- Reduce palm oil use
- Reduce fashion waste

Contact elected officials regarding a specific environmental policy issue, such as support for the Global Plastics Treaty.

## Projects that Benefit People

Conduct a food or supply drive for people in need, such as those suffering from food insecurity, period poverty, or homelessness.

Prepare your community for emergencies, such as wildfires and earthquakes. [American Red Cross](#) offers suggestions for youth projects such as blood drives and initiatives to support disaster preparedness/recovery and fire safety.

Organize a cultural event in your community (art display, poetry reading, etc.) to celebrate your community's diversity and history.

Set up a community swap box or event to share books, clothes, or other items in your community.

Plant a vegetable garden or hydroponic garden and distribute the harvest to people in need.