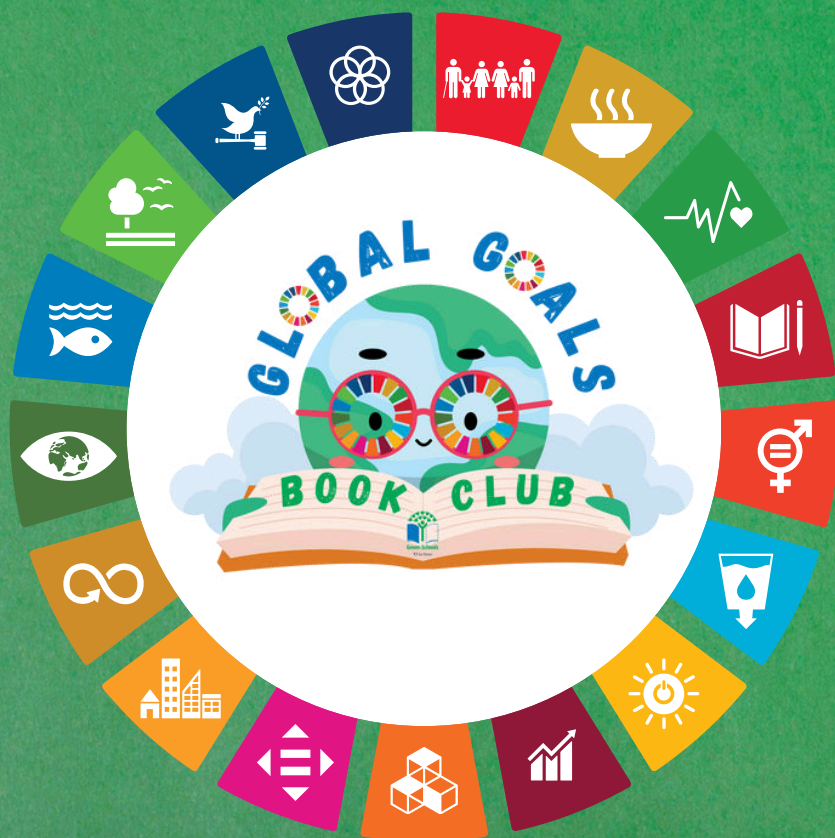
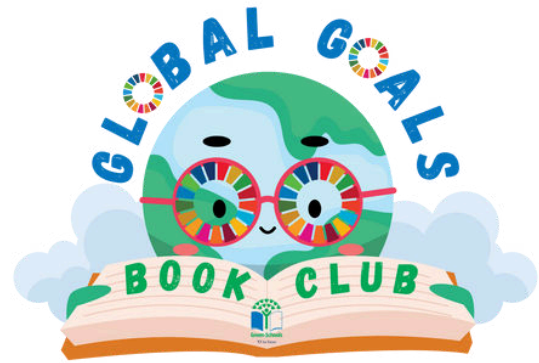


Integrating the Global Goals Book Club into your Green-Schools work: A Guide for teachers



What is the Global Goals Book Club?

The Global Goals Book Club is a fun and engaging way to bring the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to life in your classroom through the power of stories. Each book in the collection has been carefully chosen to connect with one of the 17 Global Goals, making complex global issues accessible and meaningful for children of all ages.



When you choose a book from the Book Club, you'll also have access to ready-to-use teaching resources. These include:

- Discussion questions to spark critical thinking.
- Worksheets and activities that link the story to real-world action.
- A video reading of the book (so every class can join in, even without a copy on hand).

The Book Club supports your Green-Schools work by helping pupils explore environmental and social themes in an age-appropriate way. Stories encourage empathy, imagination, and connection, as well as giving students the chance to reflect on how their own school projects and actions link to global challenges and solutions.

By using the Global Goals Book Club, your school can:

- Embed the SDGs into your curriculum and literacy work.
- Strengthen your Green-Schools Action Plan with creative, story-based approaches.
- Give pupils a deeper understanding of how their everyday choices and school projects contribute to building a fairer, greener world.

How do I link the Global Goals to my Green-Schools Theme?



Use this guide to get a better understanding of the Global Goals and which ones you might decide to work on.

Review

Review the list on the next page named **'How do the SDGs link to my Green-Schools theme?'**

Select

Select your theme and note which SDGs we have connected to the theme (there are many others that you find may connect well too - don't let our list be exhaustive!)

Visit

Visit the [Global Goals Book Club webpage](#) and explore the books that we have carefully curated for your selected goals.

Download

Download the accompanying resources where you can listen to the story online and engage your classroom with activities and worksheets.

Learn

If you are finding it difficult to engage your classroom with the Global Goals, you will find child-friendly definitions of the Global Goals towards to end of this resource

Connect

If you are struggling to connect your theme to a Global Goal, email the Global Citizenship team at globalcitizenship@eeu.antisce.org and we will be happy to help!

How do the SDGs link to my Green-Schools Theme?

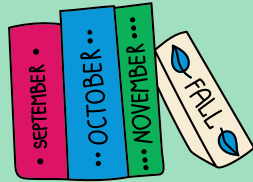


Green-Schools Theme	Linked SDGs	How they connect to Green-Schools Theme	Primary Curriculum Links
Litter and Waste	    11, 12, 13, 14, 15	Reduces pollution; promotes recycling and sustainable communities	• SESE – Science (Materials), • SESE – Geography (Environmental Care), • SPHE (Citizenship) • Visual Arts (Recycled materials)
Energy	   7, 12, 13	Promotes clean energy, efficiency, and climate action	• SESE – Science (Energy & Forces), • SESE – Geography (Weather, Climate), • SPHE (Sustainability)
Water	    6, 12, 13, 14	Supports conservation, access to clean water, and protection of aquatic life	• SESE – Science (Living Things), • SESE – Geography (Water Cycle), • SPHE (Resource care)
Travel	   3, 11, 13	Supports sustainable and active transport, improving health and air quality	• PE, • SPHE (Safety & Wellbeing), • Geography (Transport), • Maths (Distance/time)
Biodiversity	   13, 14, 15	Preserves habitats and species, supports ecosystems, and links to climate resilience	• SESE – Science (Living Things), • Geography (Habitats), • SPHE, • Visual Arts
Global Citizenship Litter and Waste	     1, 10, 12, 13, 14	Links inequality, justice, and sustainability through local waste action	• SPHE (Rights and Responsibilities) • SESE – Geography, • English (Report writing)
Global Citizenship Energy	     7, 10, 12, 13	Explores access to energy, inequalities in energy use, and clean energy for climate justice	• SESE – Science (Energy), • Geography (Climate, global connections), • SPHE (Fairness, equity), • Maths (Data)
Global Citizenship Marine	    6, 12, 13, 14	Connects pollution and marine conservation to global citizenship	• Science (Marine ecosystems), • Geography (Coastal zones), • CSPE
Global Citizenship Travel	     3, 10, 11, 13	Promotes equity, safety, and wellbeing in transport	• PE, • SPHE (Equality), • Geography
Global Citizenship Food & Biodiversity	      2, 3, 12, 13, 15	Links food systems, health, biodiversity and local food production	• SESE – Science (Plants, Living Things), • SPHE (Healthy Eating), • Geography (Farming), • Visual Arts (Nature)

How can I use the Global Goals Book Club in my Green-Schools work?



Green-Schools Committee



- Committee members can select Book Club titles that match the school's Green-Schools theme.
- Use books to spark discussions at committee meetings about real-world issues and solutions.
- Committee members can act as "Book Ambassadors," recommending titles to different classes.

Action Plan



- Plan activities inspired by books: e.g. planting trees after reading *Seeds of Change*, or holding a "Plastic-Free Lunch Day" after *The Mess That We Made*.
- Include creative projects like writing pledges or drawing posters based on book themes.

Informing and Involving



- Share book-inspired projects with the whole school at assemblies.
- Create displays or newsletters showing how Book Club stories connect to your Green Flag theme.
- Invite parents or local library staff to read Book Club titles aloud on special days.

Curriculum Links



- Use stories as starting points for research projects, creative writing, or debates.
- Integrate Book Club titles into literacy, geography, and SPHE lessons.

Day of Action



A whole-school "book-based" Day of Action where each classroom chooses a Goal + Book and completes linked activities, then comes together for a sharing assembly.

How can I support my classroom to understand the Global Goals?

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a vital framework for creating a fairer, safer, and more sustainable world. However, as important as they are, many of the goals, and the language used to describe them, can be difficult for children to fully grasp.

That's why we've developed a child-friendly version of the 17 Global Goals:

- With simple, age-appropriate titles (marked in **Green**)
- One-sentence explanations that make the goals more accessible
- And practical, real-world actions children can take at home, in school, and in their local communities.

Why Child-Friendly SDGs?

- To help teachers introduce the Global Goals in a meaningful and manageable way
- To ensure that learners of all ages can connect with the values and ideas behind sustainable development
- To integrate the SDGs into Green-Schools activities and the wider curriculum (SPHE, SESE, Wellbeing, etc.)

We hope these adaptations will help make the SDGs engaging, relatable, and relevant for your pupils, and support you in bringing global citizenship to life in your classroom.



Child-friendly Global Goals



1: No Poverty → **Everyone Has What They Need**

Description: Make sure all people have enough food, clothes, and a safe place to live.

Action: Run a school swap shop for clothes, books, or toys to help families and reduce waste.



2: Zero Hunger → **No One Goes Hungry**

Description: Help everyone have enough healthy food to eat every day.

Action: Start a school vegetable garden and share the harvest with the community or school meals programme.



3: Good Health and Well-being → **Stay Healthy and Happy**

Description: Help people stay safe, healthy, and feel good in their bodies and minds.

Action: Organise a "Walk on Wednesdays" or "Cycle to School" day to encourage healthy travel habits.



4: Quality Education → **Learn and Help Others Learn**

Description: Make sure all kids get a chance to go to school and learn.

Action: Run a peer education campaign about recycling, reusing, and reducing waste in school (e.g. Litter and Waste).



5: Gender Equality → **Boys and Girls Are Equal**

Description: Make sure boys and girls are treated the same and have the same chances.

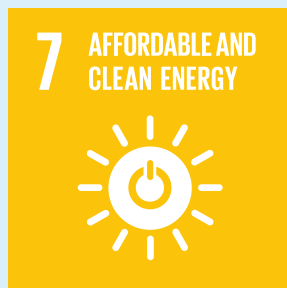
Action: Use your Green-Schools Committee to ensure that all voices are heard equally, and share speaking roles fairly in presentations.



6. Clean Water and Sanitation → **Clean Water for Everyone**

Description: Make sure all people have clean water to drink and toilets to use.

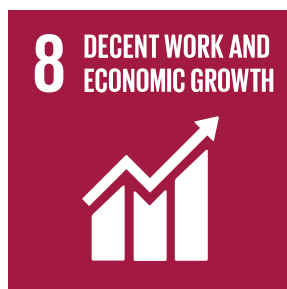
Action: Start a team to check for dripping taps and remind classes to conserve water.



7. Affordable and Clean Energy → **Energy That's Good for the Earth**

Description: Use power that doesn't harm the planet, like sunlight and wind.

Action: Do a classroom energy audit, turn off lights, screens and radiators when not in use.



8. Decent Work and Economic Growth → **Good Jobs for Everyone**

Description: Help make sure people can work in safe jobs and earn enough money.

Action: Host a careers talk featuring local green jobs (e.g., recycling, renewable energy, biodiversity).



9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure → **Build a Better World**

Description: Create things like roads, schools, and inventions that help everyone.

Action: Design a safe, walkable route to school map for younger students or parents.



10: Reduced Inequalities → **Be Fair to Everyone**

Description: Make sure everyone is treated fairly, no matter who they are.

Action: Pair with another school to share your Green-Schools projects and learn from each other.



11: Sustainable Cities and Communities → **Safe and Happy Places to Live**

Description: Make towns and cities nice places where everyone can live safely.

Action: Advocate for a zebra crossing or safe bike path near your school.



12: Responsible Consumption and Production → **Use Wisely, Waste Less**

Description: Don't waste food or things we use — reuse and recycle instead!

Action: Create a "Waste-Free Wednesday" lunch challenge in school.



13: Climate Action → **Protect the Earth**

Description: Help stop climate change by taking care of our planet.

Action: Organise a "Low Carbon Day" with no cars and minimum electricity use.



14: Life Below Water → **Keep Oceans and Rivers Clean**

Description: Take care of fish and all the animals that live in water.

Action: Take part in a beach or river clean-up and share findings with your Green-Schools noticeboard.



15: Life on Land → **Care for Plants and Animals**

Description: Help protect forests, animals, and all nature.

Action: Build a bug hotel or plant wildflowers to support Irish pollinators.

Child-friendly Global Goals



16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions → **Be Kind and Fair**

Description: Help everyone live in peace and follow fair rules.

Action: Start a “Kindness Club” that promotes fair play and peaceful conflict resolution.



17: Partnerships for the Goals → **Work Together to Make a Difference**

Description: People around the world need to team up to help each other.

Action: Partner with another local school, community group, or tidy towns committee on a joint sustainability project.

We hope that these child-friendly descriptions of the Global Goals help make them more accessible, relatable, and easy to explore in your classroom. Our aim is to support you in bringing global citizenship education to life in a meaningful way for your students.



Irish Aid
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

This resource is funded by Irish Aid at the Department of foreign affairs and trade. Irish Aid is the Government’s overseas development co-operation programme which supports partners working in some of the world’s poorest countries. Irish Aid also supports Global Citizenship Education in Ireland to encourage learning and public engagement with global issues.