

# CONSERVATION CLUB

## AGES

Teens

Adults

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

For a conservation book club, gather patrons around a common title to discuss how we can conserve our planet's waterways. The book club component is easily adapted to fit any age group or population by modifying book choices. A complementary activity is to invite a guest speaker to present on the importance of conservation efforts and provide helpful information that patrons can incorporate into letters to their representatives. After the presentation, patrons can ask questions and participate in a letter-writing effort to draw attention to an important environmental cause. Both Conservation Club activities are easily adapted to a virtual program. Suggested runtime: 90 min.



Image source: Shutterstock

## MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

To prepare for the book club, choose your book(s) and procure extra copies for patrons to check out. Prepare a list of discussion questions before an in-person or virtual meeting.

To prepare for the letter-writing campaign, gather paper, pens, envelopes, stamps, and a list of local representatives and their mailing addresses.

## ADAPTATION:

For a passive program, simply create a conservation book display! You could lead an asynchronous discussion on social media about your featured books.

## ADAPTATION:

This program can be adapted for outreach by partnering with a relevant organization (e.g., schools or conservation groups) and holding this event off site.

## GAME/ACTIVITY | LOW COST

**UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS**

An enclosed meeting room works best for a book discussion. Solo-librarian friendly.

**RESOURCES****Web**

“Citizen Science at NOAA” from National Ocean Service:  
<https://bit.ly/3bZvq5w>

**Books**Non-fiction

*Future Sea: How to Rescue and Protect the World's Oceans* (2020) by Deborah Rowan Wright (adult)

*The Nature of Life and Humanity* (2019) by Joseph Stadtmiller (adult)

*The Future We Choose: Surviving the Climate Crisis* (2020) by Christiana Figueres (adult)

*The Water Will Come: Rising Seas, Sinking Cities, and the Remaking of the Civilized World* (2017) by Jeff Goodell (adult)

*The Gulf: The Making of An American Sea* (2017) by Jack E. Davis (non-fiction)

*Oceana: Our Endangered Oceans and What We Can Do to Save Them* (2011) by Ted Danson (adult)

*Junk Raft: An Ocean Voyage and a Rising Tide of Activism to Fight Plastic Pollution* (2017) by Marcus Eriksen (adult)

*The Brilliant Deep* (2018) by Kate Messner (children's)

*Seaside Sanctuary series* (2019) by Emma Carlson Berne (children's)

Fiction

*Ocean Echoes: A Novel* (2016) by Sheila Hurst (adult)

*Nocturne, Opus 1: Sea Foam* (2012) by Norene Moskalski (adult)

*New York 2140* (2017) by Kim Stanley Robinson (adult)

*Great Pacific (Graphic Novel)* (2012–15) by Joe Harris (adult)

*Low. Vol 1 (Graphic Novel)* by Rick Remender (adult)

*On Ocean Boulevard* (2020) by Mary Alice Monroe (adult)

*Tentacle* (2018) by Rita Indiana Hernandez (adult)

*The End of the Ocean* (2020) by Maja Lunde (adult)

*The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See (adult)

*The Wall* (2019) by John Lanchester (adult)

## GAME/ACTIVITY | LOW COST

Whalesong (2016) by Robert Siegel (YA)

And the Ocean Was Our Sky (2018) by Patrick Ness (YA)

Pacifica (2018) by Kristen Simmons (YA)

The Light at the Bottom of the World (2019) by London Shah (YA)

Exodus (2003) by Julie Bertagna (YA)

A Whale of the Wild (2020) by Rosanne Parry (children's)

Stingray City (2016) by Ellen Prager (children's)

The Madre de Aguas of Cuba (The Unicorn Rescue Society) (2020) by Adam Gidwitz and Emma Otheguy (children's)

Journey Under the Arctic (2020) by James Fraioli, Fabien Cousteau, and Joe St. Pierre (children's)

Out of My Shell (2019) by Jenny Goevel (children's)

Hello from Renn Lake (2020) by Michele Weber Hurwitz (children's)

Garbage Island (2018) by Fred Koehler (children's)

Purmaids: Quest for Clean Water (2019) by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen (children's)

Emily Windsnap and the Tides of Time (Emily Windsnap) (2020) by Liz Kessler (children's)

### Picture Books

Alba the Hundred Year Old Fish (2019) by Lara Hawthorne

A Planet Full of Plastic (2019) by Neal Layton

A Dolphin's Wish (2020) by Trevor McCurdie and Cinzia Battistel

Fish: A Tale about Ridding the Ocean of Plastic Pollution (2020) by DK and Brendan Kearney

Little Hector and the Big Blue Whale (2018) by Ruth Paul

Little Turtle and the Changing Sea (2020) by Becky Davies and Jennie Poh

Rocket Says Clean Up! (2020) by Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola

The Boy and the Whale (2017) by Mordicai Gerstein