



## Overview

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is pleased to present educators with the Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum with the book, *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes*. The book features real-life stories of features 100 stories of climate education champions, green inventors & entrepreneurs, environmental justice changemakers, pioneers & trailblazers from 38 countries and 32 U.S. cities who are building a more just, equitable and sustainable future.

***The Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum is a dynamic, solutions-oriented set of lesson plans and classroom activities that make these stories come alive!***

The Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum is a diverse, inclusive, and extensive STEM and solutions-oriented set of individualized lesson plans for each story. It offers multifaceted activities to help you incorporate the principles of sustainability and climate education into your Language Arts and STEM courses. Each lesson plan also includes practical information about sustainable career pathways, to help guide students toward the millions of blue and green jobs that are emerging in the transition to a sustainable economy, and that will help rebuild the planet.

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is committed to a future in which sustainability is at the heart of our economies. Unfortunately, too few students today are obtaining the STEM education they'll need to navigate that new reality, or even a basic understanding of how important sustainability and climate issues are for their future. However, as the news reveals every day, the rebuilding of our world in a sustainable way—one that provides opportunities for everyone, but not at the cost of future generations, or of the planet—is urgent.

The Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum is a dynamic pedagogical tool designed to help teachers hone their students' skills in STEM and ELA. It is aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) state standards as well the Green New Deal and President Biden's Plan for Climate Change and Environmental Justice. It will help prepare your students for the transition to a sustainable economy.

***Our goal is to inspire your students to understand the importance of climate issues and explore the world of sustainability.***

## About the Lesson Plans

We designed the lesson plans to be user-friendly. They provide educators with clear and easy-to-follow guidelines to help them organize their own lessons, while complying with their state's Department of Education requirements. We have taken great care to create lesson plans that are aligned with state standards and that have clear and well-defined assessment methods, both formative and summative. Every assessment is designed with a specific academic goal in mind, and the standards are included along with each lesson plan to make it easier for teachers to plan their classes and design their assessments.

- **Values:** We've identified the values each person embodied as they pursued their goals.
- **Language Arts.** This section is designed to help students develop their critical thinking, reading comprehension, and verbal and written communication skills.
- **STEM Activities.** This section is interactive, engaging, and project-based. It is designed to motivate students to use technology, creativity, and innovation to actively participate in problem solving.
- **Sustainability Innovations.** This section features people and organizations around the world who are tackling similar issues. It directs your students to a wide range of resources so they can continue their exploration with independent projects and science fairs.
- **Sustainable Career Pathways.** This section grounds sustainability practices in the real world. We want students to understand that just as the sustainability problems we are facing are real, so are the solutions to them. In this section we offer students real-world examples of careers in sustainability that they can explore to become part of those solutions.

## Why Standards?

We have designed our lesson plans around state-specific standards to ensure that teachers are able to seamlessly include the lessons in their curriculum, and that students are receiving the best possible training in skills that will ensure their academic success. By aligning our lesson plans with state standards, we ensure that all students have the opportunity to develop the same skills, regardless of their ethnic background or socioeconomic status. Basing our lesson plans on state-specific standards guarantees that students will develop the skills their state expects them to learn; helps them to achieve academic success; and sets them up to succeed in their future professional lives.

**The Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum is aligned with the following state standards:**

**The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)** The NGSS is the national standard, and is becoming a global standard. We model our lesson plans using NGSS, since these standards take into account scientific innovation, and are designed to improve American students' ability to compete internationally towards scientific disciplines and careers. Twenty states use NGSS standards: Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington and the District of Columbia (DC). These states represent over 35 percent

of US students.

**English Learning (ELA)**

- Massachusetts Department of Education State Standards
- California Department of Education State Standards

**Professional Development Educator Module** focuses on how to use climate education as a means to keep students engaged, as they develop the skills they need to succeed in their academic lives.

**Our Team:** We are proud to have an exceptionally strong team comprised of academics, educators, researchers, and youth leaders from a diversity of cultures. We have used a collaborative learning process to develop this companion curriculum. The diverse cultural, professional, and educational backgrounds of our team ensures that we represent diverse points of view, and that each of the lesson plans has a rich, engaging, and global perspective.