

# AP Environmental Science

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Google Classroom Code: Ivkttyp

Welcome to APES! In case you are not familiar with this designation, it is the fun acronym for Advanced Placement Environmental Science. Since you each chose to sign up for this course, I am going to assume that you are excited about our year together and what you will learn! I am sure that you each have a specific reason for selecting this course!

Over the years our school has offered this course we have approached our learning in different ways. Every summer I change the assignment style in an effort to make the work interesting! The individuals signed up for this course should expect to hit the ground running since this is an advanced placement course!

## SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SUMMER

I am always amazed at the number of students who sign up for this course without knowing the content. Below is a list of topics that we will cover during the academic year. I would like for you to be aware of these topics and notice how many times you might hear about some of them over the summer or actually see them. If you have your cellular device with you when you see these, take a few photos and we will share them at the beginning of school :

1. Human population growth
2. Land use, soil erosion, and nutrient depletion of soils
3. Loss of biodiversity, endangered species
4. Non-native (exotic, introduced, invasive) species
5. Food production, food safety, human health
6. Fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas)
7. Renewable resources (biomass, geothermal, hydroelectric, solar, wind, etc.)
8. Nuclear energy
9. Air quality
10. Water quality (surface or groundwater)
11. CO2 and global warming, climate change
12. Recycling or another aspect of waste management (garbage)
13. Biomes, ecosystems, food webs
14. Deforestation
15. Ozone depletion
16. Water resources

## Assignment

Over the summer I would like for you to start preparing to read on a daily basis. This will be a very important part of your college years so start practicing! **I would like for you to select one of the books listed below (copies are available in my room while supplies last) and read it during the summer break, then write a one page paper outlining your thoughts regarding the book.**

The rubric for your paper should include the following:

Points	Points Possible	Category/Idea
	10	What was / were the environmental issue(s) explored in the text
	5	What were your thoughts regarding this book prior to reading it
	10	Student's reaction to the author's position/relationship with respect to the environmental issue(s) involved
	10	What about the book inspired you - <b>give examples</b>
	5	Are you interested in reading this author again or recommending this book - <b>explanation</b>
	10	Explanation of how student has changes after reading this book

**DUE DATE for this assignment is August 9th, 2019**

***A Thousand Mile Walk To The Gulf*** by John Muir (1916)

Taken from his earliest journals, this book records the author's walk from Indiana to the Gulf Coast immediately following the American Civil War. This is an interesting read for those who are interested in confronting the deterioration of our natural environment and gaining knowledge of one of the most influential conservationist in American History. 212 pages

***A Sand County Almanac*** by Aldo Leopold (1949)

*A Sand County Almanac* serves as one of the cornerstones of modern conservation science, policy, and ethics. It has become a conservation classic and has been translated into fourteen additional languages. 295 pages

***A Civil Action*** by Jonathan Harr (1995)

A true account of the legal case between several families in Woburn, Massachusetts (whose children are stricken with leukemia), and two corporations, Beatrice Foods and W.R. Grace. *A Civil Action* is detailed and at times difficult to read. The case is presented in the clearest manner possible and reflects the procedures that take place in the development and prosecution of a trial. The book received the 1995 National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction and was adapted into a film in 1998. 492 pages

***A Walk in the Woods*** by Bill Bryson (1998)

Bill Bryson, a reluctant adventurer if ever there was one, undertakes a grueling hike along the world's longest continuous footpath—The Appalachian Trail. With his offbeat sensibility, his eye for the absurd, and his laugh-out-loud sense of humor, Bryson recounts his confrontations with nature at its most uncompromising over his five-month journey. While on the trail he meets a bizarre assortment of hilarious characters. Bryson's acute eye is a wise witness to this beautiful but fragile trail, and as he tells its fascinating history, he makes a moving plea for the conservation of America's last great wilderness. An adventure, a comedy, and a celebration, *A Walk in the Woods* is destined to become a modern classic of travel literature. 394 pages

***The Legacy of Luna*** by Julia Butterfly Hill (2001)

The author climbed a thousand year-old redwood for what she thought would be a "tree-sit" that would last a couple of weeks. She intended to stop Pacific Lumber from the environmentally destructive process of clear-cutting the ancient redwood and the trees around it. This story was written while she lived on a tiny platform eighteen stories off the ground and is one that only she can tell. Indeed, when she first climbed into "Luna", she had no way of knowing the harrowing weather conditions and the attacks on her and her cause. She had no idea of the loneliness she would face or that her feet would not touch ground for more than two years. 255 pages

***The Battle for Alabama's Wilderness*** by John Randolph (2005)

The grassroots effort to preserve Alabama's Wilderness Areas spanned thirty years, from 1967 to 1997. Early political opposition thought that limiting development of these lands would have a negative impact on the state's timber industry. This book allows all of the people involved, both pro and con, to speak for themselves. This book traces the development of Alabama's environmental movement and the power of grassroots citizen groups who are committed to a common cause. 229 pages