

A New K-12 Curriculum

Planetary Health is a "solutions-oriented, transdisciplinary field and social movement focused on analyzing and addressing the impacts of human disruptions to Earth's natural systems on human health and all life on Earth." ([Planetary Health Alliance, 2025](#))

Environmental Science, Economics & Social Systems

"How does the world work—and for whom?"
Science, equity, sustainability

Systems Leadership

"How can I lead and collaborate for change?"
Collaboration, ethics, courage

Innovation & Entrepreneurship

"What can I design, build, or change?"
Creativity, entrepreneurship, agency

The Planet as a System

"What is my relationship with Earth?"
Systems, ecology, sustainability



Health and Wellbeing

"How does the health of people and communities depend on the health of the planet?"
Public health, climate justice, care.

Human Values, Identity & Purpose

"Who am I? How do I live justly with others?"
Ethics, empathy, belonging

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The [Planetary Health Education Framework](#) depicts key themes for developing future skills for thriving people and planet, through understanding their interconnectedness and enhancing connectedness with nature, self and others.

	K–2 Curiosity & Wonder (Age 3–6)	3–8 Discovery & Connection (Age 7–14)	9–12 Action & Leadership (Age 15–18)
Big Questions?	Who am I? How do I care for people and places around me? What do living things need to be healthy?	How does the planet work, and how do we live well within it? How are people connected to each other and nature? What affects my health and the health of others?	What are the root causes of planetary health challenges? How can I design, lead, and contribute to solutions? What kind of future do I want to shape? What is my purpose?
Core Themes	Human Values & Identity → kindness, ethics, empathy, collaboration Health & Wellbeing → food, movement, rest, care, emotions Planet as a System → weather, seasons, animals, habitats	Environmental Science → water cycles, biodiversity, energy, ecosystem services Health & Wellbeing → public health, mental wellbeing, pollution & climate justice Systems Leadership → teamwork, empathy, communication, conflict resolution	Environmental Science → climate science, environmental chemistry Social Systems → inequality, justice, governance Economics → circular economy, bioeconomy Ecopreneurship → sustainable business models, resilience, creativity
Co-curricular Activities	• Connecting with nature – cultivating oneness • “My Food, My Body, My Planet” – linking nutrition to nature • School garden or compost project • Circle time on feelings and nature stories	• “Plastic Journeys”: trace plastic from school to sea • Design a healthy snack campaign for the school • Local air quality testing & student-led improvement project • Developing stories and narratives for change	• Capstone Project: “Redesign Your Community for Resilience” • Internship & Externship Opportunities with Villars Partner Organisations • <u>Villars Review</u>: Published Essay or Reflective Project on planetary health

A New Narrative: How to Live on Earth

How to Live on Earth is the world’s greatest greatest how-to video — a powerful learning medium that inspires curiosity, critical thinking, and action. It helps learners explore real solutions, challenge their assumptions and dive into three key topics that are essential to creating a sustainable future.

Big Questions
Core Themes
Co-curricular Activities



HOW TO VALUE NATURE

What is nature? What do I value—and what do we value together? What makes nature thrive? How does our economy shape what we protect? How else could we value the living world?

Human Values & Identity → what do we value? who are we, in relation to nature?
Environmental Science & Economics → biodiversity, natural processes, ecosystem services, circular economy, bioeconomy
Innovation → how can technology help us better understand, restore and value nature?

- Explore where nature exists in your classroom and everyday life
- Discover careers and meet people whose work protects or restores nature.
- Imagine a business, city or economic system that values nature as a stakeholder.
- Capstone project: “Designing Nature-Positive Economies”



HOW TO FEED THE FUTURE

Where does our food come from and where does it go? What does it mean to nourish people and the planet? What does it take to build a food system that is healthy, fair and resilient?

Planet as a System → food chains, nutrients, soils, weather patterns and food webs
Health & Wellbeing → individual and community wellbeing through nutrition, movement, rest, public health and climate justice.
Systems Leadership → narratives, empathy, communication and conflict resolution

- “Food Journeys”: trace an ingredient from its origin to our plates
- Design a healthy snack campaign for your school
- Create a student-led project that connects with local producers, chefs and community partners.
- Explore the Planetary Health Diet
- The Invaders: Explore Invasive Alien Species



HOW TO FEEL HUMAN

What does it mean to be human? How do we find purpose, meaning and belonging? What helps people and communities flourish? What does it mean to live wisely in a changing world?

Human Values, Identity & Purpose → empathy, ethics, who I am and who I want to become?
Health & Wellbeing → mental & physical health, nature’s role in helping preserve and restore our energy, habits that help us thrive.
Social Systems → relationships, equity, justice, and shared responsibility

- Connect across cultures and generations through dialogue and shared experiences.
- Discover your and others’ unique strengths and how they can contribute beyond oneself.
- Reflect about identity, purpose and emotions through a creative medium of your choice.
- Contribute your learnings on How to Live on Earth and continue the story.