



# Ecoliterate: How Educators Are Cultivating Emotional, Social, and Ecological Intelligence

By Daniel Goleman, Lisa Bennett, Zenobia Barlow

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## A new integration of Goleman's emotional, social, and ecological intelligence

Hopeful, eloquent, and bold, *Ecoliterate* offers inspiring stories, practical guidance, and an exciting new model of education that builds - in vitally important ways - on the success of social and emotional learning by addressing today's most important ecological issues.

This book shares stories of pioneering educators, students, and activists engaged in issues related to food, water, oil, and coal in communities from the mountains of Appalachia to a small village in the Arctic; the deserts of New Mexico to the coast of New Orleans; and the streets of Oakland, California to the hills of South Carolina.

*Ecoliterate* marks a rich collaboration between Daniel Goleman and the Center for Ecoliteracy, an organization best known for its pioneering work with school gardens, school lunches, and integrating ecological principles and sustainability into school curricula. For nearly twenty years the Center has worked with schools and organizations in more than 400 communities across the United States and numerous other countries.

*Ecoliterate* also presents five core practices of emotionally and socially engaged ecoliteracy and a professional development guide.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“In this pioneering book, Dan Goleman and his collaborators demonstrate—in vivid and compelling fashion—how education can be transformed through a synthesis of these intelligences.”—Howard Gardner, Hobbs Professor of Cognition and Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education

“In the 21st century, we need a new relationship with nature, a redefinition of both environmentalism and ecoliteracy. *Ecoliterate* offers a roadmap for educators—and the rest of us—to that future, one based on empathy, kinship, natural intelligence, and hope. We’re in their debt for showing the way.”—Richard Louv, author of *The Nature Principle* and *Last Child in the Woods*

“Gutsy, eloquent, moving, *Ecoliterate* is a masterpiece of motivation and practical guidance. Yes, it is perfect for educators, but it is also perfect for students, parents, grandparents, and all of us yearning to contribute to life on our planet. *Ecoliterate* will help young people discover their own power—and that genie is impossible to get back in the bottle! I love this book.”—Frances Moore Lappé, author of *EcoMind: Changing the Way We Think, to Create the World We Want*

“Beautifully written, accessible, and urgently important, *Ecoliterate* introduces us to individuals and communities around the country who in very real, practical ways are demonstrating that a new world is possible. No harangue here; this is about hope, embodied in educating our children—head, heart, and hands—to deeply understand how to take care of themselves, their neighbors, and the natural world on which we all depend.”—Michael Ableman, farmer and author of *From the Good Earth, On Good Land, and Fields of Plenty*

“To be *Ecoliterate* is to be equipped to be Earth Citizens, to reach our full potential as human beings. This important book shows us how.”—Vandana Shiva, Founder, Navdanya International and author of *Soil Not Oil*

“Timely, important, healing, and hopeful—*Ecoliterate* is a ‘must read, must implement’ guide to a healthy and sustainable present and future.”—Cheryl Charles, President and CEO, Children & Nature Network

“The Center for Ecoliteracy has for years been a preeminent thought leader for how we can educate our children in a way that creates generations of earth-stewards. *Ecoliterate* is a much-needed guide for exactly how to accomplish this goal and includes great examples that demonstrate the success of their approach.”—Oran B. Hesterman, Ph.D., President and CEO, Fair Food Network

#### From the Back Cover

Hopeful, eloquent, and bold, *Ecoliterate* tells stories of educators, activists, and students who embody a new integration of emotional, social, and ecological intelligence. Building on the success of bestselling author Daniel Goleman’s emotional and social learning paradigm, *Ecoliterate* shows how educators are extending the cultivation of these essential dimensions of human intelligence to include knowledge of and empathy for all living systems.

Through stories ranging from the Arctic to Appalachia and New Mexico to New Orleans, the authors reveal how education that engages in some of the most pressing ecological issues of the day advances academic achievement, fosters resilience, and helps school communities play a vital role in protecting the natural world. The book also includes a professional development guide and exploration of five practices of engaged ecoliteracy: developing empathy for all forms of life, embracing sustainability as a community practice, making the invisible visible, anticipating unintended consequences, and understanding how nature sustains life.

### **Praise for *Ecoliterate***

"One of the most urgent issues facing humanity is fixing our broken relationship with the earth, on which all life depends. To do that, we have to think, feel, and act differently. With vivid examples and lucid analysis, this powerful and persuasive book shows just how much inspired educators and students can achieve together. It should enlighten and invigorate schools and communities everywhere."

—**Sir Ken Robinson**, creativity expert and author of *The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything*

"*Ecoliterate* provides a veritable how-to guide for educators to creatively engage young people in the most important ecological issues of the day, helping them gain knowledge of and empathy for all living systems, which is bound to enrich their lives and protect the future of our planet."

—**Gail Connelly**, executive director, National Association of Elementary School Principals

### **About the Author**

**Daniel Goleman** is an internationally known psychologist, former *New York Times* science reporter, and author of the classic *Emotional Intelligence*.

**Lisa Bennett** is the communications director of the Center for Ecoliteracy, a longtime writer about the environment, health, and education. She is also a former fellow at Harvard University's Center on Press, Politics, and Public Policy.

**Zenobia Barlow** is the executive director and cofounder of the Center for Ecoliteracy and coeditor of *Ecological Literacy: Educating Our Children for a Sustainable World*.

### **Users Review**

#### **From reader reviews:**

##### **Charles Hager:**

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the particular Mall. How about open or even read a book titled *Ecoliterate: How Educators Are Cultivating Emotional, Social, and Ecological Intelligence*? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time with your favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have various other opinion?

**Virginia McNally:**

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book is usually option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the reserve untitled Ecoliteracy: How Educators Are Cultivating Emotional, Social, and Ecological Intelligence can be great book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

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