

Introduction for the Teacher

Going Green is all about taking care of our environment so that our children and our children's children will have clear skies to look at, fresh air to breathe, and clear water to drink. Unfortunately, we humans have been careless with the resources we have – mostly because we are very unaware of our environment and our impact on it. And so this book is all about raising awareness of the problems facing us and our environment and challenging the reader to take steps to make our planet better, even if the steps seem small and unimportant.

This text can be used by learners at a fourth-grade reading level. The content is suitable for middle school and up. A companion volume, **Our Living Planet**, explores the key vocabulary and basic concepts of physical geography. Although the two texts can be used independently of each other, it is recommended that you use **Our Living Planet** first, since its focus is on understanding and appreciating our environment and it provides background information for **Going Green** which focuses on the problems facing the environment.

Each unit begins with an **Illustration** and some **Questions** that can be used to introduce the content of the unit and to activate the learners' thinking about the theme. **Key Vocabulary** is studied on the second page. It is suggested that the learners work with dictionaries and each other to understand the meaning of the key words. There is sufficient space for writing a brief translation of the key word. The teacher can circulate, observe, and help as this activity takes place. After a suitable period of time, the teacher can go through the sentences and words to be sure they are understood correctly.

The **Reading** uses the vocabulary that was introduced on the previous page and explores the idea of going green. It gives reasons for and practical ways of implementing the idea.

A question about the **Main Idea** follows the reading. The reading is also available on **CD**, and it can be played as the learners read along.

The **Comprehension Check** can be used as a review of the reading. It is basically a "True-False" quiz. After the learners' have taken the quiz they can check their answers against the answers in the back of the book. The **Quick Grammar Check** activity also serves as a review of the vocabulary and concepts. The answers are in the back of the book. The **Dictation**, also available on the CD, gives the learners practice in listening, spelling, and writing.

The short **Listening and Performing** activity continues the theme of the unit, but applies it to an everyday conversation, providing practice in colloquial conversational discourse. It is suggested that you first play the CD or read the script while the learners follow along. Then they can practice the conversation in pairs, trying to be expressive. Above all, encourage them to have fun with the conversations. The conversation includes some new lexical items and expressions. The meanings of these items are explored in a **Matching** exercise. The learners are also asked to **Write** sentences with these lexical items. They can be written on a separate sheet of paper and handed in.

The final page suggests a number of **Activities** for following up on and further exploring the topic of the unit. They are practical and doable activities that bring the unit to its logical conclusion: asking your learners to "go green" and take action.