



Bridging the environmental literacy gap with hands-on projects

The Nature Generation (NatGen)

NatGen is a national, environmental nonprofit that inspires and empowers youth to make a difference in their schools and communities. We reach the nation's youth through environmental stewardship programs in literature, science, and the arts. NatGen uses literacy to teach children and young adults the value of science and the environment.

NatGen Seed Grants

To engage and inform youth about environmental issues and science, we offer **NatGen STEM Seed Grants**. These mini grants can be used to fund small-scale start-ups or ongoing projects at nonprofits, schools, community centers, museums, and other entities. **Projects must be inspired by, engage with, and/or use NatGen's Green Earth Book Award (GEBA) books.**

Projects

NatGen funds innovative, hands-on projects that inspire environmental stewardship and sustainability at schools, libraries, and community-based organizations. We have a special focus on socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (SEDI) initiatives. Projects must engage children or young adults in the planning and/or implementation and must use GEBA books in their effort. Projects that have already received Seed Grants are eligible to apply again to continue the work started or to initiate a new task in the ongoing project.

Funding

Awards of up to \$1,000.00 are available.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include schools; libraries; museums; community groups, associations, or centers; faith-based organizations; military or veterans' groups; nonprofits; and individuals. Applicants must work with children and/or young adults and we encourage them to work on or lead the proposed project. We welcome applicants from across the country.

Grants at a Glance

Program: NatGen Seed Grants fund small-scale environmental literacy-related projects that engage youth and incorporate our award-winning GEBA books

Funding: Accepting requests up to \$1,000.00

Deadlines and Important Dates:

Application Period 1 – Summer Seeds:

- Submissions Accepted: December 1 - March 31
- Awards Made by: May 31
- Period of Performance: 12 months from award

Application Period 2 – Winter Seeds:

- Submissions Accepted: June 1 - October 31
- Awards Made by: November 30
- Period of Performance: 12 months from award

Questions on Eligibility or other Assistance:

Contact Ms. Romany Sieferman: RSieferman@natgen.org

Application

Applications must answer the following questions. Please pay attention to word limits.

Projects must be inspired by, engage with, and/or use a Green Earth Book Award (GEBA) book (or books) and tie the project to a specific book's purpose or lesson. Include the following in your application.

A. Applicant

1. Organization name
2. Organization type (*nonprofit, school, community center, etc.*)
3. Organization size (*number of people within the organization; number of students at school; etc.*)
4. Brief description of what applicant/organization does, and its mission
5. Contact person
6. Contact email, address, phone number

B. Project

1. Project Title
2. GEBA Book inspiration: Identify which GEBA book(s) provides the idea for this project and/or will be used in the project itself. Must incorporate one GEBA book in project.
3. Project Description: provide a summary of the proposed project (max: 500 words). Please also include:
 - a. The ways this project incorporates, relates to, or is inspired by the GEBA book(s)
 - b. How the project relates to socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (SEDI) priorities
 - c. What populations any donated books will go if you are distributing books
4. Project Team:
 - a. Describe who will be managing and carrying out this project
 - b. Provide age ranges of the children/young adults who will help conduct this project
5. Project Success: describe what success looks like for this project (max: 200 words)
6. Project Schedule: Period of performance (POP) is 12 months; provide a project schedule within that POP. (Indicate if project will be complete in less than 12 months.)
7. Target Audience: identify how many children/young adults this project will reach and age range.

C. Grant Funding

1. Total amount of funding requested
2. Do you have any matching funds? If so, how much and from where?
3. Is this a new project or will the grant help fund an ongoing project? (Both are allowed)
4. Will the funded amount complete the project? Or will the project be ongoing, and the requested grant amount will fund a portion of the project? Describe.
5. Include a summary budget (i.e., itemized list)
6. **Please note: Staff time is not an allowable expense.**

To review previous grantee projects and see how they have linked GEBA books to projects and to find the complete list of eligible GEBA books, visit [NatGen](#). Email applications to RSieferman@natgen.org.

Grant Reporting Requirements

1. Upon award, review project schedule and discuss opportunities for social media engagement with The Nature Generation (i.e., frequency of project photos, videos, and updates).
2. Mid-way through the project, a project check-in is required with The Nature Generation. The project check-in shall include:
 - a. Short written progress report
 - b. Submission of photos and/or short videos* that show progress and how participants are engaging (Images and project progress to be shared on NatGen's social media and website)
 - c. Any concerns related to completion of the project. Check-ins may also include a phone, Zoom, or email contact.
3. Once the project is complete, a final report must be completed and submitted. The final report shall include:
 - a. Short written final report (guidelines to be provided)
 - b. Digital photos of project progress and children participating*
 - c. Short video(s) interviewing students about their participation in the project and discussing what they learned by participating. [Note: Photos and video will be displayed on NatGen social media platforms, therefore, participating students must have permission from parents and/or guardians to be included in your materials.]
 - d. Note: Seed Grant projects may be asked to present their project to the NatGen Board via Zoom following project completion.

**Note: Permission must be granted from parents/guardians to use photos and/or videos of children.*