

Summer Reading Assignment

Half-Earth: Our Planet's Fight for Life

Edward O. Wilson

Amazon

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Kindle \$12.89; Audible \$14.95

Hardcover \$17.19 new

\$15.14 used

Your summer reading assignment is to read this book and do a little additional research on the author.

Half-Earth provides an excellent opportunity for you to get into the world of Environmental Science. The subject of the book is at once almost overwhelmingly depressing (we're losing all of our favorite critters!) but at the same time the author is providing a possible solution that we can embrace as we go forward.

Biodiversity is one of the three cornerstones of life on Earth, along with the recycling of elements and compounds, and solar energy which drives the whole bus. The Environmental Science AP course will go into each of these areas in detail. For the summer, your focus will be biodiversity.

E.O. Wilson is the most prominent biologist around today. His book came out last spring, although his proposal has been discussed among Wilson and his colleagues for some time and first appeared in a scientific journal three years ago. The idea is relatively new to the rest of the scientific community and public, so you will fairly current in your appreciation of the plight of biodiversity.

Your assignment is to read the book, of course. But I would also like for you to do some internet snooping and find out just who E.O. Wilson is. What is he most famous for, and what topics has he written about? Please spend a little time and write down your thoughts related to the following:

1. The book

You liked it because

You disliked it because

2. The proposal

What will it take to make it happen?

Your opinion on whether it's possible - and why you think so

3. Dr. Wilson and his academic and literary works?

Where did he get his education?

Where and what subjects did he teach?

What topics has he written about?

What is sociobiology?

What is biophilia?

Turn in a typed and printed copy on the first day of school.

Mr. Marschall

"A brave expression of hope, a visionary blueprint for saving the planet."
—STEPHEN GREENBLATT, author of *The Swerve*

HALF- EARTH



*Our Planet's
Fight for Life*

EDWARD O.
WILSON

WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE