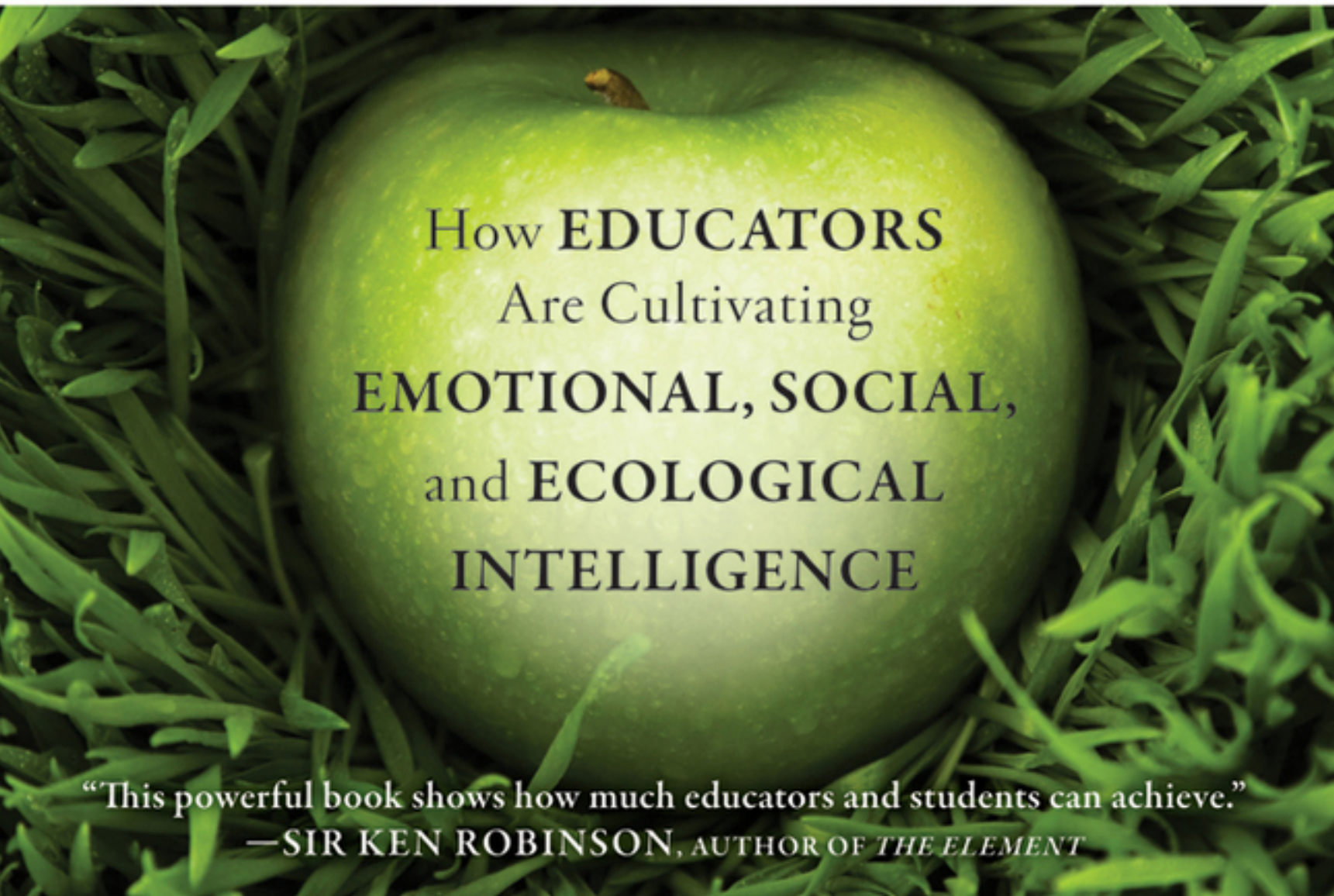


DANIEL GOLEMAN

LISA BENNETT ZENOBIA BARLOW

CENTER FOR ECOLITERACY

ECO LITERATE



How EDUCATORS
Are Cultivating
EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL,
and ECOLOGICAL
INTELLIGENCE

“This powerful book shows how much educators and students can achieve.”

—SIR KEN ROBINSON, AUTHOR OF *THE ELEMENT*

More 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*

“The worlds of thought and action have been fundamentally changed by the delineation of emotional, social, and ecological intelligences. 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

“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*

“If there is one book on education that needs to be read by every teacher on the planet, *Ecoliterate* is that book. With extremely lucid prose that reflects decades of pioneering work, Goleman, Bennett, and Barlow provide the essential navigation points for a pedagogy that can begin to undo the damage of an antiquated educational and economic system. There is an education for system change. An education infused with hope, passion, and beauty.”

—**Laurie Lane-Zucker**, cofounder and former Executive Director, The Orion Society, founder and CEO of Hotfrog

“This book is a treasure. Crucial for educators, a gift to the next generation, a realistic ray of hope for us all. So much ground is covered here—the watersheds where we live as well as the waters of consciousness, how we can change, how we do change, our children finding wisdom while saving this precious earth.”

—**Susan Griffin**, author of *Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her*

“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*

“In the 21st century, we need a new relationship with nature, a redefinition of both environmentalism and ecoliteracy. In *Ecoliterate*, Daniel Goleman, Lisa Bennett, and Zenobia Barlow offer 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*

“Socially and emotionally engaged ecoliteracy can lead to deeply meaningful, inspiring, and effective education. This book shares compelling stories about educators and students who demonstrate the capacity to understand and care about human actions and ecological challenges, and are motivated to take action to make positive differences in today’s world. Implementing this vision of education will excite teachers and students, and also improve environments and quality of living in communities across the globe.”

—**Roger P. Weissberg**, NoVo Foundation Endowed Chair in Social and Emotional Learning, University of Illinois at Chicago, and president and CEO of the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)

“*Ecoliterate* is the story of educators with heart, courage, and vision transforming lives, places, and minds. This is ‘education’ as it should be! Must reading...”

—**David W. Orr**, Paul Sears Professor of Environmental Studies and Politics, Oberlin College

“Preparing our children to live resourcefully in a future few adults can scarcely imagine is daunting for even the most talented educators. Goleman, Bennett, and Barlow convincingly advance a new paradigm for educating children that is founded on the integration of emotional, social, and ecological intelligence. *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

“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

“*Ecoliterate* is a must-have tool for the twenty-first-century educator seeking ways to connect learning and the environment.”

—Cindy Johanson, Executive Director, Edutopia

“With our educational system in drastic need of a makeover, *Ecoliterate* reveals that the key is helping our children understand themselves—their bodies, their communities, and their place in history—in a deep and meaningful way. This book can bring us and our children back to our senses—of taste, touch, and compassion. And its many lessons, resources, and websites help us do that, not someday, but Monday!”

—Milton Chen, senior fellow, the George Lucas Educational Foundation and author of *Education Nation*

“Ecological intelligence is more important today than ever before, and educators are the ideal leaders for this movement to attain a greater understanding of both the environment and ourselves. *Ecoliterate* is a practical and inspirational resource for all educators and communities.

—Linda Darling-Hammond, Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education at Stanford University



ECO LITERATE



ECO LITERATE

How **EDUCATORS**
Are Cultivating
EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL,
and **ECOLOGICAL**
INTELLIGENCE

DANIEL GOLEMAN

LISA BENNETT

ZENOBIA BARLOW

With Professional Development By

CAROLIE SLY

CENTER FOR ECOLITERACY

 **JOSSEY-BASS**
A Wiley Imprint
www.josseybass.com

Copyright © 2012 by the Center for Ecoliteracy. All rights reserved.

Published by Jossey-Bass

A Wiley Imprint

One Montgomery Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94104-4594—www.josseybass.com

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise, except as permitted under Section 107 or 108 of the 1976 United States Copyright Act, without either the prior written permission of the publisher, or authorization through payment of the appropriate per-copy fee to the Copyright Clearance Center, Inc., 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923, 978-750-8400, fax 978-646-8600, or on the Web at www.copyright.com. Requests to the publisher for permission should be addressed to the Permissions Department, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 111 River Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030, 201-748-6011, fax 201-748-6008, or online at www.wiley.com/go/permissions.

Limit of Liability/Disclaimer of Warranty: While the publisher and author have used their best efforts in preparing this book, they make no representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents of this book and specifically disclaim any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. No warranty may be created or extended by sales representatives or written sales materials. The advice and strategies contained herein may not be suitable for your situation. You should consult with a professional where appropriate. Neither the publisher nor author shall be liable for any loss of profit or any other commercial damages, including but not limited to special, incidental, consequential, or other damages. Readers should be aware that Internet Web sites offered as citations and/or sources for further information may have changed or disappeared between the time this was written and when it is read.

Jossey-Bass books and products are available through most bookstores. To contact Jossey-Bass directly call our Customer Care Department within the U.S. at 800-956-7739, outside the U.S. at 317-572-3986, or fax 317-572-4002.

Wiley publishes in a variety of print and electronic formats and by print-on-demand. Some material included with standard print versions of this book may not be included in e-books or in print-on-demand. If this book refers to media such as a CD or DVD that is not included in the version you purchased, you may download this material at <http://booksupport.wiley.com>. For more information about Wiley products, visit www.wiley.com.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Goleman, Daniel.

Ecoliterate : how educators are cultivating emotional, social, and ecological intelligence / Daniel Goleman, Lisa Bennett, Zenobia Barlow.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-118-10457-6 (pbk.), ISBN 978-1-118-22397-0 (ebk.), ISBN 978-1-118-23720-5 (ebk.), ISBN 978-1-118-26220-7 (ebk.)

1. Environmental education--United States. 2. Emotional intelligence--Study and teaching--United States. 3. Social intelligence--Study and teaching--United States. I. Bennett, Lisa, 1959- II. Barlow, Zenobia. III. Title.

GE70.G66 2012

363.70071--dc23

2012011535

Printed in the United States of America

FIRST EDITION

PB Printing

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	xiii
INTRODUCTION: From Breakdown to Breakthrough	1
Five Practices of Emotionally and Socially Engaged Ecoliteracy	12

SECTION ONE: STORIES FROM THE FIELD

PART ONE STANDING STRONG ON A COAL MOUNTAIN 21

1 Lessons from a Coal Miner's Daughter	23
<i>Teri Blanton and Wendell Berry, Kentucky</i>	
How to Mine a Mountain	25
Deconstructing the Meaning of "Cheap"	26
Why Can't We Go Out and Play, Daddy?	30
2 Taking a Power Trip	35
<i>Spartanburg Day School, South Carolina</i>	
Bringing "The Ecosphere" Down to Earth	36
What's My Connection?	40
The Last Mountain	41

PART TWO FROM ANGER TO ACTION IN OIL COUNTRY 43

3 The Heart of the Caribou	45
<i>Sarah James, Arctic Village, Alaska</i>	
Top Ten Oil Producers	48
United States Is Number One in Oil Consumption	53
4 Beyond Whining	55
<i>Kids Rethink New Orleans Schools</i>	
The World's Most Important Energy Source	59
Classroom Exercise: Where's the Oil?	62

PART THREE	SHARED WATER: MOVING BEYOND BOUNDARIES	63
5	Water Wars and Peace	65
	<i>Aaron Wolf, Mediator and Oregon State University Professor</i>	
	The Biggest (Hidden) Use of Water	67
	Ocean Water in a Glass?	68
	The Resilience of Water	71
6	From Restoration to Resilience	77
	<i>Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed, Northern California</i>	
	Freshwater Blues	81
	The Rise of Dead Zones	82
	The New Face of Water Pollution	84
PART FOUR	NOURISHING COMMUNITIES WITH FOOD	87
7	Changing a Food System, One Seed at a Time	89
	<i>La Semilla Food Center, Anthony, New Mexico</i>	
	How to Feed Nine Billion	92
	Test Your “Food IQ”	94
8	Forging the Food Justice Path	99
	<i>Tony Smith, Superintendent of Schools, Oakland, California</i>	
	The Rise of School Food Reform	100
	The Curriculum Connection	105
	Rethinking School Lunch	106
SECTION TWO:	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES	111
9	Cultivating Ecoliterate Learning Communities	113
	<i>Guidelines for Engaging Colleagues</i>	
	Using Circles to Cultivate Deep Listening	118
	Transformation in the Classroom	120
10	Reflection and Practice	123
	<i>Conversation Strategies for Getting Started</i>	
	Going on a Virtual Dive	127
	Professional Development Sample Agendas	130
	CONCLUSION: Hands-On Hope	133
	Notes	135
	Resources	155
	Index	163
	The Center for Ecoliteracy	171
	The Authors	173

To Wendy Williams,
for her heartfelt insight and perseverance

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The three of us met for the first time in the spring of 2009—and immediately hit it off. We had different backgrounds, experiences, and expertise but also a passionate common ground of interest in the potentially great benefit to be realized in the marriage of social and emotional learning with an ecological view of life. The rich conversations and good humor that we have been privileged to share since then have been both a treasure and a delight. And we have many people to thank for the journey that has ultimately resulted in this book—not the least of which are the many educators from whom we have learned so much. While writing this book, our already abundant store of admiration and respect for the work you do has only grown.

We wish to thank the Center for Ecoliteracy’s esteemed board members—Fritjof Capra, physicist and cofounder of the Center for Ecoliteracy, for his brilliant and pioneering work in systems thinking, ecological principles, and leadership; Peter K. Buckley, Center for Ecoliteracy cofounder, for his tremendous insight, skillful blending of hope and realism, and unwavering commitment to education for sustainable living; David W. Orr, who not only originated the phrase “ecological literacy” but has long offered his inimitable inspiration and loyal friendship; and, of course, Wendy Williams, to whom we dedicate this book.

We are tremendously grateful to the entire staff of the Center for Ecoliteracy—especially Carolie Sly, education program director, who contributed the professional development components to the book and generously offered her wise and practical counsel, as well as her good-spirited collegiality, from beginning to end; and Michael K. Stone, senior editor extraordinaire, who contributed a deep knowledge of the subject, a keen ability to spot flaws, and an utterly reliable knack for making things better with the utmost grace.

We also extend our gratitude to Jim Koulias, deputy director, for gently keeping us on schedule and minding the myriad related details with a spirit of joyful support; Alice Lee Tebo, communications coordinator, for her impeccable research,

writing, copyediting, and all-around excellence; Jeanne Henry, administrative coordinator, for her energetic and good-natured ability to juggle a multitude of (often simultaneous) requests; and Karen Brown, creative director, for her perceptive reading, engaging, and reflecting on this work. Our thanks also go to Jim Tyler for his exquisite photographs and Leslie Comnes for her dependable research and editing.

We are also immensely grateful to Center for Ecoliteracy friends and funders, especially Marcia Argyris, Erin Eisenberg, Michele Heller, Frances Moore Lappé and Anna Lappé, Dr. Hanmin Liu, Nancy G. Schaub, Brooks Shumway, and Kat Taylor, as well as foundations including The California Endowment, Chilean Forests Preservation Fund, Heller Family Foundation, Orfalea Foundation, Small Planet Fund of RSF Social Finance, TomKat Charitable Trust, Trio Foundation, and S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation.

And of course, to our friends at Jossey-Bass: many thanks to Kate Gagnon and Lesley Iura for believing in this book long before it was one, and for your consistently kind support throughout the process of it becoming one. A special thanks to Tracy Gallagher, Justin Frahm, and Lisa Theobald for such keen and caring eyes, and to Dimi Berkner for sharing with us her extensive experience.

We are also ever grateful to our dear friend Candice Fuhrman for introducing us to the fine people at Jossey-Bass, and to Rowan Foster for all her help keeping we three authors connected.

Needless to say, this book would not have been written without the remarkable people featured in it. We are enormously grateful for the courage and caring with which you have lived your lives and the generosity and openness with which you shared them with us. It was a privilege to visit with each one of you, to learn from your experiences and your reflections, and, in some cases, to receive the further gift of your friendship. To Wendell Berry, Teri Blanton, Cristina Dominguez-Eshelman, Sarah James, Sandy Neumann, Laurette Rogers, Aaron Sharratt, Tony Smith, Allyn Steele, Jane Wholey, Rebecca Wiggins-Reinhard, and Aaron Wolf: our deepest appreciation and admiration.

We also wish to thank the many other individuals who took time to share their experiences and insights with us—including Emily Allen, Rosa Arciniega, Amber Augustine, Melissa Augustine, Angelamia Bachemin, Jo Baker, Kay Brandhurst, Betty Burkes, Mike Coulson, Danny Do, Chris Dorrance, John Elliott, Mallory Falk, Christopher Garcia, Manuel Garcia, Priscilla Garcia, Tom Gardali, Evelyn Gilbert, Sam Gilbert, Dudley Grady Jr., Kent Halla, Rick Handshoe, Xavier

Hernandez, Darwin Jones, Siona LaFrance, Tom Little, Paul Martin, Omar Mateo, Alfredo Matthews, Bev May, Aaron Mihaly, William “Bopper” Minton, Melinda Monterroso, Stephanie Nelson, Dara O’Rourke, John Parodi, Olga Pedroza, Kelly Quane, Christopher Riehle, Matt Roberts, Ricardo Salvador, Eddie Sam, Stanley Sturgill, Patty Tarquino, Shannon Taylor, Paul Vallas, Patty Wallace, Joan Wright-Albertini, and Vanessa Wyant. We offer a special thanks to Jib Ellison and Chris Jordan, who generously gave of their time and powerful perspectives. Thank you to Tom Komer and Alesha Reardon of SouthWings as well for providing an unforgettable flight over what were once the great mountains of eastern Kentucky.

Finally, we offer both thanks and love to our families, for their many shades of support, patience, and good humor.



ECO LITERATE

