

## About Roots & Shoots

Roots & Shoots is the global youth leadership program of the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI). Founded in 1991, it is now active in almost 100 countries with hundreds of thousands of young people who are inspired by Dr. Jane Goodall to make the world a better place. Dr. Goodall and a group of Tanzanian students founded Roots & Shoots on their shared belief that the world is in peril, and that young people can play a huge role in creating a more hopeful future. Today, Roots & Shoot is growing the next generation of Dr. Jane Goodalls, mobilizing an entire generation of young citizens with the knowledge and skills to become compassionate leaders to make change happen in their own backyards.

## A clear path to action and impact

Roots & Shoots builds on the vision of Dr. Goodall to place the power for creating practical solutions to big challenges in the hands of young people. The program gives them a clear process for taking action and getting results as they:

- Identify challenges for people, animals and the environment in their own communities.
- Collaborate with community leaders and experts to develop a plan to address a specific need.
- Take action through youth-led projects and service campaigns to carry out their plan and address the need they identified.
- Take stock of their impact, celebrate what they accomplished, and apply what they learned to the next issue they decide to take on.

Through this process, young people develop the skills to become compassionate leaders, are engaged in the world around them and develop the behaviors and attitudes to be good stewards of the environment.

## Sharing science-based conservation techniques

To help assess local needs, Roots & Shoots participants use community mapping, a hands-on tool used by leaders in chimpanzee-range countries for conservation planning in their own communities. Roots & Shoots groups head outside to explore their surroundings—both built and natural—making observations and identifying where they could make improvements. Based on their observations, they create a map of all the ways their community could be improved. Their Roots & Shoots community map serves them as a guide for developing a community-specific service campaign.

## Tools and training for educators and mentors

With the guidance of an adult mentor or educator, the Roots & Shoots program model thrives within traditional classrooms, after-school programs, zoos, libraries, faith communities and anywhere else young people have the opportunity to work together.