

A TEACHER'S COMPANION TO

It's Your WORLD

Get Informed
Get Inspired &
Get Going!

by

CHELSEA CLINTON



PenguinClassroom.com
ItsYourWorld.com

About the Author

CHELSEA CLINTON has always been interested in making the world a better place. When she was a child in Little Rock, Arkansas, one of her favorite books was *50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth*, and as a teenager in Washington, DC, she led her school's service club. While at Stanford, Chelsea worked as a reading and writing tutor and volunteered at the Children's Hospital. Today, she is Vice Chair of the Bill, Hillary & Chelsea Clinton Foundation where she helps lead the work of the Foundation across its various initiatives, with a particular focus on work related to health, women and girls, creating service opportunities, and empowering the next generation of leaders. Chelsea holds a BA from Stanford University, an MPH from Columbia University, and an MPhil and doctorate degree in international relations from Oxford University. She lives in New York City with her husband, Marc, their daughter, Charlotte, and their dog, Soren. You can follow her on Twitter at @ChelseaClinton or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/chelseaclinton.

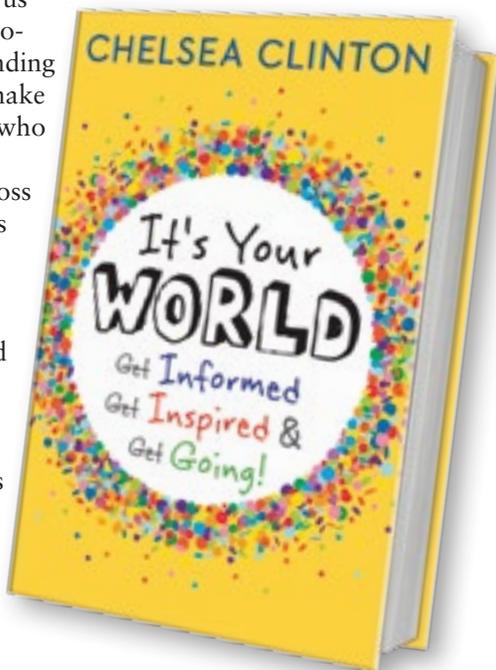
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About the Book

In a book that tackles the biggest challenges facing us today, Chelsea Clinton combines facts, charts, photographs, and stories to give readers a deep understanding of the world around them—and how anyone can make a difference. With stories about children and teens who have made real changes, big and small—in their families, their communities, in our country and across the world—this book will inspire readers of all ages to do their part to make our world a better place.

In addition to informing and inspiring readers about topics including Poverty, Homelessness, Food Insecurity, Access to Education, Gender Equality, Epidemics, Non-Communicable Diseases, Climate Change, and Endangered Species, this book encourages everyone to get going! With suggestions and ideas for action, Chelsea Clinton shows readers that the world belongs to every single one of us, and every one of us counts.



YOU can make a difference.

YOU can make a change.

It's **YOUR** world.

This guide was created by Dr. Rose Brock, an assistant professor at Sam Houston State University. Dr. Brock holds a Ph.D. in Library Science, specializing in children's and young adult literature.

Get Informed!

Using *It's Your World* to Invite Discussion and Writing

For Educators

The following questions may be utilized throughout the study of *It's Your World* as targeted questions for class discussion and reflection, or alternatively, they can be used as reflective writing prompts.

For Students

Part One:

- Before your reading of *It's Your World*, how would you have defined poverty? How has that definition changed after your engagement with the book?
- In your opinion, what are some of the similarities and differences between poverty in the United States and poverty in the rest of the world?
- Discuss the “resource curse.” In what ways does a country or region having a prized commodity work against the people? Do you think there are ways to lessen this? If so, what are your ideas?
- Have you ever given or received a care package? How did this gift make you feel? Though they were founded decades ago to help with hunger after World War II, why are gifts of CARE packages (from CARE) still so important?
- Why do you think it's so difficult for children to share their stories about hunger or poor living conditions? If you were in a similar situation, do you think you'd feel the same? Why or why not? What are some of the resources available to students to help them?

Part Two:

- What's your general opinion of going to school? If you had a choice, would you go? Why or why not?
- Why is attending school sometimes a challenge for children all over the world and how do those with challenges see school as a privilege?
- Compare your school environment with one featured in the book. Are there any ways in which they are similar? How are they different?
- How are jobs for teens in the United States different from jobs held by youths in other places in the world? Are there any commonalities?
- Consider what you've learned about the global status of girls and women. In what ways does gender impact the lives and opportunities of females in many places throughout the world? Is this inequity a problem in the United States as well? If so, in what ways?
- Identify a few of the hurdles women around the world and at home face today, and discuss possible solutions as a class.

Part Three:

- In your opinion, what are the biggest challenges to leading a healthy lifestyle? Why is motivating others to do the same so difficult?
- Do you know your own family's history of health-related issues? Of those, is there something you are choosing to work hard to prevent in yourself? Why?
- Based on what you learned from *It's Your World* about diseases and other health-related issues, what are some things you can do to protect yourself from illness?
- What are some of the most widespread diseases that exist today, and what can you do to inform others about a specific infectious disease? Brainstorm ways as a class.
- In your opinion, what role does mental health play in your overall well-being? If you feel like you struggle with emotional issues, what can you do about it to feel better?
- What role does bullying play in one's mental health? Can you offer some strategies to help deal with bullies?

Part Four:

- What's your understanding of climate change? Did the book help you better understand what it is and isn't? Is there anything about climate change that still confuses you? If so, what?
- If you were to change one thing about how you interact with your environment, what would it be and why?
- Brainstorm the best ways to get students like you active in environmental issues.
- What do you believe are the biggest challenges for protecting endangered animals? Do you have any additional ideas of measures that can be taken to protect them?
- In case you haven't read it cover to cover yet, take a closer look at the table of contents of *It's Your World*. After scanning it, what are some areas of personal interest for you? What is it about these particular topics that resonate with you? Do you have a personal connection that makes these topics meaningful?

“Our world belongs to every single one of us.
My hope is that you read this book
and feel inspired.”



Get Inspired!

Using *It's Your World* for Extended Writing and Research Opportunities

For Educators

The following instructional prompts offer educators an opportunity to dig deeper with learners as they research and explore topics introduced and explained by Clinton in *It's Your World*. Use all or selected prompts below directly with students as a springboard to further learn, connect, and get informed about their world, allowing this second component to inspire and to be called into action in the next section.

For Students

- Have you ever used the expression “I’m STARVING!” to describe feeling hungry for your next meal? Using what you’ve learned from *It's Your World*, research one of the following topics:
 - o Poverty as measured around the world
 - o Malnutrition causes and effects globally
 - o The role of water in conditions of extreme poverty
 - o Global diseases linked to poverty

In addition to your own resources from databases, be sure to visit the following online resources offered by the World Health Organization, the U.N. Development Program, and Oxfam. After gathering this information, select a means to share your information with both classmates and your community at large.

- In 2004, a young boy named Dylan started a program called Lil’ MDGs to educate young people about the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This endeavor was to help combat world hunger and poverty, as well as help mothers and children lead healthier lives, and the goal was to reach MDGs by 2015. Using library and Internet resources, examine the progress of the Lil’ MDGs to learn more about their work, being sure to learn the following:
 - o What was Dylan’s initial inspiration to develop this program?
 - o Who were his partners in this initiative and where did they live?
 - o What goals did this group of young people set?
 - o What are some of the specific accomplishments made by this group?
 - o Now that the deadline has passed, what goals have not yet been met?
Are there ideas to move forward with strategic plans to accomplish them?

After completion, be sure to educate others with your new knowledge about this organization.

- Prior to reading about the section on poverty and homelessness in America (pages 55–69), complete this chart by placing a “+” in the box next to the statements with which you agree and a “0” next to those with which you disagree. You must commit to agreement or disagreement—there are no conditional responses.

Before Reading	After Reading	Statements
		Homelessness is a permanent state.
		Only certain kinds of people are homeless.
		Homeless kids don’t attend school.
		An estimated one million kids at school are homeless at some point in the year.
		Homeless people are mentally ill.

Review these statements in the “Myth Vs Reality” chart on page 59 of *It’s Your World*. Then, spend some time reflecting on your responses. After learning more of the facts on homelessness offered in *It’s Your World*, invite a small group of your classmates to join you in learning more. Select a subset of the homeless population and dig deeply to become more familiar with this group. Groups could include (but are definitely not limited to) military vets and children. After sharing your discoveries with your classmates, engage in further discussion about obstacles and opportunities to assist.

- As shared in *It’s Your World*, microlending is the extension of very small loans to impoverished borrowers. Microloans vary in size and scale and are given throughout the world. Research KivaU.org to learn more about their lending practices, and either working independently or with a small group, draft a simple “How to” presentation that offers an explanation and benefits of supporting such an organization that can be shared with peers in your classroom, the student body, or your community at large.

- Throughout *It's Your World*, world issues and opportunities for activism are highlighted. Based on your interests, select one of the following broad topics:
 - o Humanitarianism
 - o Impact of actions by an individual person
 - o Individual rights
 - o Body health and diseases
 - o Value of education
 - o Environmental concerns

After making your selection, refer back to the section in the book where that topic was discussed. Select an organization or program highlighted that focuses their endeavors in your area of interest. Using the organization's or programs' website and other sources about the group, ask yourself the following: What have you learned about this subject? Why is it important or significant? Is this the best resource for the issue? Is the work they do significant? Create a tool that can inform others using social media and then get the word out—inspire others with your new knowledge.

“ My hope is that this book will show you that you can start making a difference now on issues you care about, in your own way, for your family, your community, and our world. ”

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Get Going!

Using *It's Your World* to Inspire Youth to Create and Join Service Initiatives

For Educators

After inspiring them by sharing what they learned about the work of youth around the world to make it a better place, engage your students to get going! Offer the following examples of service as a catalyst (many more are highlighted in *It's Your World*), being sure to provide advisement and facilitation as learners seek out their own local and global service initiatives.

Do Something!

Investing in Your Community and the World

For Students

- Set up an “Engagement Fair” to highlight service opportunities for other students from your school or community. Work with school administrators to secure a venue where you can inspire others with your new knowledge and encourage them to commit to service as well. Imagine the potential impact of like minded students who all decide they want to commit to finding a way to make your school, your neighborhood, your town, the country, or even the world a better place. As an extension, contemplate ways to take these service opportunities to the next level by proposing a grant-funding opportunity at Do Something www.dosomething.org or raise money to help fund other projects that already support your vision.
- After reading and learning more about the many service opportunities featured in *It's Your World*, select a specific outreach organization or project to serve. Remember, even little things can make a big impact on others. Consider:
 - o Participating in Read to Feed through Heifer International to raise funds to support their work.
 - o Encouraging the adults in your life to volunteer at homeless shelters.
 - o Standing up to bullies online and in real life and supporting kids who are being bullied.
 - o Raising money for No Kid Hungry’s efforts to stop child hunger by having a bake sale at school.
 - o Supporting Every Mother Counts to help women in the United States and around the world have safe, healthy pregnancies.
 - o Being patient and kind to anyone you know with autism, Alzheimer’s, or any challenge that may affect how people communicate and interact.

- o Organizing and participating in the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids' Kick Butts Day.
 - o Donating hair to Locks of Love.
 - o Taking a CPR class.
 - o Helping educate your friends about what the causes and treatments for various diseases are (and what they're not).
 - o Writing to elected officials to tell them how important vaccines and support efforts across the world are.
 - o Talking to your family about buying (RED) products if and when you can to support the Global Fund.
 - o Visiting zoos and national parks.
 - o Helping prevent deforestation around the world (you can learn how from the Rainforest Alliance).
 - o Using reusable shopping bags and water bottles.
 - o Donating books to your local library (or anywhere they will be read!).
 - o Fighting for a recycling program in your town if there isn't one.
- Have a unique idea for giving back to the community? Start your own nonprofit! Here are some ideas from teens who have created their own volunteer opportunity:
 - o With eighty-one gardens run by kids in thirty-one states, Katie, creator of Katie's Krops, helps kids all over the country grow healthy food to donate to people in need. Want to start growing your own garden to help people in need? Visit katieskrops.com to learn more.
 - o Working with Inter-Faith Food Shuttle, North Carolina native William collected 9,000 pounds of food and raised \$11,000 to buy more food to fill backpacks with when school was in session. Learn more about William or how to start your own backpack program at thefooddrivekid.org.
 - o Over the course of almost ten years and with the help of her mother, Pennsylvania native Katherine has raised more than \$300,000 to purchase bed nets to prevent malaria in areas of the world plagued with this disease. Find out more by visiting nothingbutnets.net.
 - o Inspired by the reforestation work of Wangari Maathai in Kenya to fight climate change, Felix, a young man from Germany, launched Plant-for-the-Planet with an initial goal of planting one million trees by 2010 and a current goal of one trillion by 2020. Visit plane-for-the-planet.org for more.
 - o Nellie and Celia from Hong Kong are working to stop the demand for ivory and its use for educational purposes, as well as to persuade the governments to take firm action against poaching. Learn more about how to join conservation efforts of your own at worldwildlifefund.com.

It's Your **WORLD** What will you do?

In *It's Your World: Get Informed, Get Inspired & Get Going*, author Chelsea Clinton combines facts, charts, photographs and stories to give readers a deep understanding of the world around them— and how anyone can make a difference.

But it goes beyond just the pages of this book. #ItsYourWorld is a movement. #ItsYourWorld asks kids and adults to **GET INFORMED** about the world around them and **GET INSPIRED** through stories of the great things kids are doing all around the world. Ultimately, #ItsYourWorld asks everyone to **GET GOING** by providing the resources and reinforcement to do something great. It's Your World. What will do you?

HOW YOU and YOUR STUDENTS CAN GET INVOLVED

Step 1: Read the book!

Step 2: Visit ItsYourWorld.com and check out all of the amazing things other people are doing to help change the world

Step 3: Even the smallest actions can make a difference. Submit your own pledge on itsyourworld.com or just share on social media using #ItsYourWorld



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