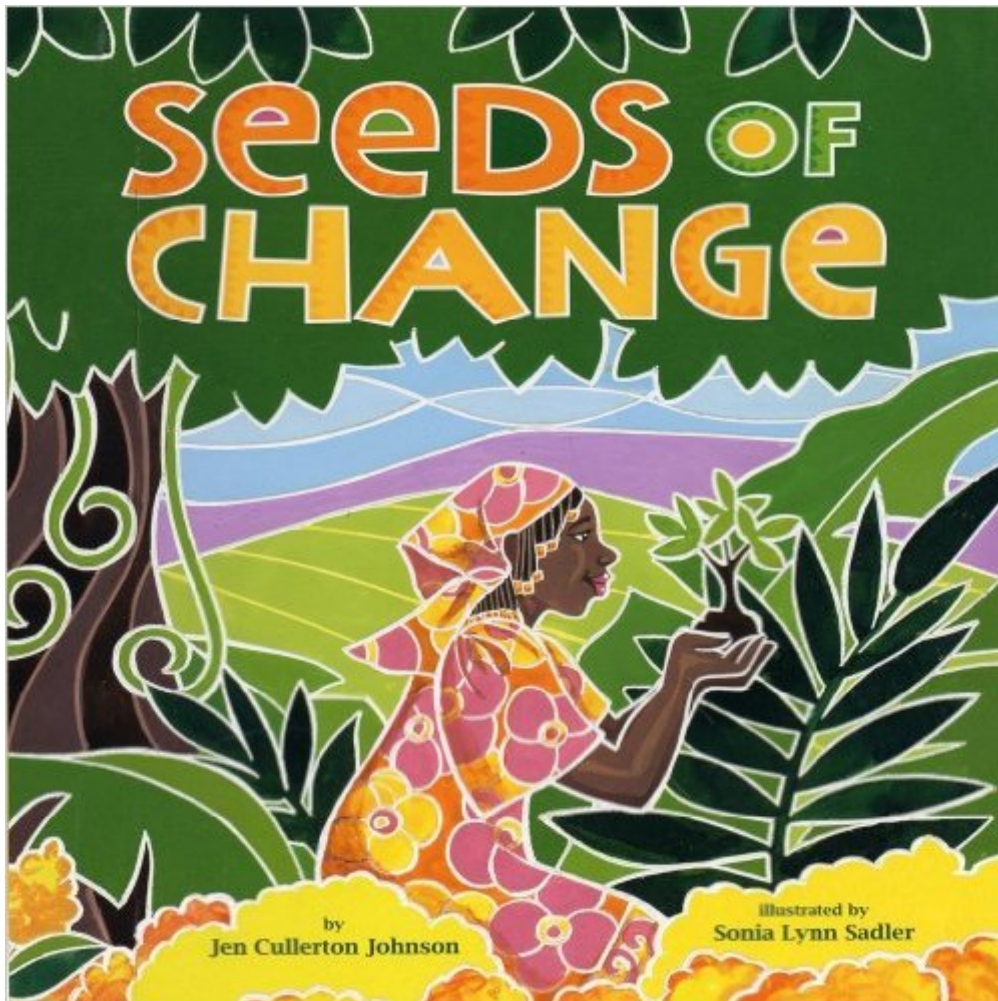


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# Seeds Of Change: Wangari's Gift To The World



## Synopsis

As a young girl in Kenya, Wangari was taught to respect nature. She grew up loving the land, plants, and animals that surrounded her -from the giant mugumo trees her people, the Kikuyu, revered to the tiny tadpoles that swam in the river. Although most Kenyan girls were not educated, Wangari, curious and hardworking, was allowed to go to school. There, her mind sprouted like a seed. She excelled at science and went on to study in the United States. After returning home, Wangari blazed a trail across Kenya, using her knowledge and compassion to promote the rights of her countrywomen and to help save the land, one tree at a time. *Seeds of Change: Planting a Path to Peace* brings to life the empowering story of Wangari Maathai, the first African woman, and environmentalist, to win a Nobel Peace Prize. Engaging narrative and vibrant images paint a robust portrait of this inspiring champion of the land and of women's rights.

## Book Information

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9.2 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (31 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #188,847 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #74 inÂ Books > Children's Books

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Explore the World > Africa #170 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Women

Age Range: 6 - 11 years

Grade Level: 2 - 6

## Customer Reviews

*Seeds of Change* is a worthy read on plenty of levels. The illustrations captivate and the prose flows. So, the book works well even before considering the impact of the story. It doesn't matter if you're eight, eighteen or eighty, the story of Wangari is motivating. And what makes this book on Wangari more appealing than the other children's books on the subject, is it provides more

information on Wangari, including rich quotes. While it may be about a woman and movement in Africa, there is enough information on Wangari the person to help us feel empowered as we read. Now, more than ever, we need to be reminded that dreams are possible. I highly recommend this book. Buy it [here](#) and/or ask your local library to get several copies.

As the oldest daughter in her Kikuyu family, Wangari Maathai did not attend school as a young child. Rather, traditional customs dictated that she help her parents with the farm work and child care. Although she enjoyed her outdoor work and delighted in the majesty of the sacred fig tree, Wangari wanted desperately to follow in her brother's tracks and gain a formal education. Recognizing their daughter's talents and her willingness to learn, Wangari's parents decided to send her to school. Wangari did so well, especially in the sciences, that she attended college and graduate school in the United States. She came back to Kenya to work as a university instructor, but much had changed. Logging and plantation farming had caused extensive deforestation, soil erosion, dirty water, malnutrition, and greater work burdens for women. Wangari's simple but powerful idea to start planting trees grew into a national movement that led to over 30 million new trees planted, and in 2004 she won the Nobel Peace Prize. Rich in its biographical narrative, this picture book gets high marks for its valuable lesson about the importance of educating girls and protecting the environment. Parents and teachers can use this story about the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize to introduce children to basic economic concepts such as scarcity, natural resources, and human resources. Vivid, colorful images rendered in scratchboard and oil work extremely well to highlight Wangari Maathia's background and contributions in environmental activism.

Seeds of Change is an important story. Whether you are studying women leaders, African cultures, or interdependence of the creatures of the natural world, this is a relevant narrative for your library. I am using it in an inquiry unit where questions about trees have led to a study of preserving our environment which ultimately led to a study of sustainable cultures and challenges. The story of Wangari Maathai provides insight into the importance of environmental sustainability, as well as a profound model of dedication and perseverance. The white-bordered figures and flowing lines of the illustrations carry the energy through the life story and the profound message of hope. I would recommend this story of a contemporary real life 'hero' for teaching grades 3-7, but engaging for adults as well.

Love the drawings, and the story is very inspirational to young girls to strive and follow their dreams.. This is a biography of Wangari Mathaai. She fought deforestation in her native Kenya, and was the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004. A champion and advocate for women and children. A woman who was not expected to attend school let alone go to college in the U.S. She went back to Kenya and started the Green Belt Movement to combat deforestation in Kenya. Great cultural lessons from her mother about trees and their significance in the lives of African women were motivations for Wangari to start her movement. In spite of the gender discrimination she faced in her country. The new young trees were planted in long rows looked like green belts, hints the name of the movement. Great story for all ages. I highly recommend

Beautifully illustrated, beautifully told biography of Wangari. My eco-conscious, story-loving, feisty little girls love this book and its message of courage and hope and persistence of the human spirit.

Wangari Maathai came from a small village in Kenya. By sowing small seeds to grow trees and hope, she changed the world. One woman at a time, one village at a time, she offered support as taught by her ancestors. She beat all of the odds and became an amazing trailblazer for African women, Kenyans and environmentalists everywhere. SEEDS OF CHANGE is a beautifully illustrated children's book about the life of an amazing woman, Wangari Maathai. The simple descriptive prose of Cullerton is brought to life by the vivid imagery of Sonia Lynn Sadler. Together these women create an inspiring and empowering children's book about women's rights, being kind to the planet, and one person's ability to make a world of difference. Reviewed by Shawna Marks for The RAWSISTAZ(tm) Reviewers

I truly enjoyed this book. It is book that really teaches children the power of how a source from nature can direct your thinking and values of life. It has been a tool to show my son how to admire and respect nature. Along with this the book also tells how anything is possible. I think it is a wonderful book to share with children especially in these times.

This is an amazing, selfless story about Wangari! Over 900 Students and 70 staff members at an elementary school in Raleigh, NC have had the honor of reading this book! They have all been positively impacted by her life! Read this book now!! You'll start thinking of how you can be a change in your very own community!!

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