

2026 AP Environmental Science Summer Reading



All Creatures Great and Small — James Herriot

You do NOT need complete paragraphs. Bullet points are acceptable.

Highlighting / Annotation Suggestions

As you read, mark passages that relate to:

- Nature or ecosystems
- Farming and agriculture
- Human-animal interactions
- Scientific observations
- Pollution or waste
- Disease
- Sustainability
- Ethics
- Changes in technology or society

Write short notes in the margins when possible.

Important: This log is for YOU. It is intended to help you:

- remember important stories and details
- recognize environmental science themes
- prepare for AP-style questions and discussions

The first APES writing assignment will require you to apply ideas from the book to environmental science concepts, not simply recall plot details.

This assignment is meant to help you think about environmental science while reading. Your notes will help you answer AP-style multiple choice and free response questions when you return to school.

This is NOT meant to be a formal essay assignment. The goal is active reading and thoughtful observation. *THIS IS one of the choices for your summer reading for English. you aren't asked to read a third book!*

Requirements: While reading, keep a running log in a notebook, binder, or digital document.

For each reading session, record:

- Date
- Pages read
- 3–5 brief notes, observations, or reactions