



Dear Teachers,

The Buttonwood Park Zoo has partnered with the Jane Goodall Institute to bring a special opportunity to students of southeastern Massachusetts: **The RS BPZoo Planet Protectors!**

The RS BPZoo Planet Protectors are an **impassioned** group of youth from the New Bedford and Dartmouth areas that are acting as ambassadors to our community and working to improve our most important community assets: our local animal populations, the environment, and the human condition.



The Planet Protectors operate under the auspices of the international youth service program Roots and Shoots. This program gives youth with the opportunity to assess their community, acknowledge its strengths and weakness, and design service projects that will benefit the greater good.

The program is designed to empower students by giving them the tools, resources, and outlets to BE THE CHANGE they want to see in our world.

In 2007 our members wrote letters of comfort to Kenyan youth that have been victims of war, implemented a campaign for increased government protection of the endangered Right Whale, acted as Bristol County representatives for a regional youth summit, participated in regional events, and many more projects.

The Planet Protectors are seeking 10 new delegates to join the program and are hoping one of your students will be a good fit. The successful candidates will:

- **Be motivated and passionate about the environment, animals, and/or the human condition**
- **Currently enrolled in grades 7-12**
- **Be given the opportunity to design and implement projects on and off of zoo grounds**
- **Gain skills relating to youth leadership, public speaking and community engagement**
- **Make connections with an international network of like-minded environmentalists and humanitarians**



If you have a student that is determined to change the world please have them complete the enclosed application or email rootsnshoots@bpzoo.org. Admission to the program is rolling.

For more information about this amazing FREE program contact Erine Anderson, Volunteer Coordinator for the Buttonwood Park Zoo by emailing eanderson@bpzoo.org or calling (508)991-4556 ext.19. To learn more about Roots & Shoots visit www.rootsandshoots.org.