

Nature-study is not synonymous with the old term "natural history," nor with "biology," nor with "elementary science." It is not "popular science." It is not the study of nature merely. Nature may be studied with either of two objects: to discover new truth for the purpose of increasing the sum of human knowledge; or to put the pupil in a sympathetic attitude toward nature for the purpose of increasing his joy of living. The first object, whether pursued in a technical or elementary way, is a science-teaching movement, and its professed purpose is to make investigators and specialists. The second object is a nature-study movement, and its purpose is to enable every person to live a richer life, whatever his business or profession may be.

Liberty Hyde Bailey, 1903
First President American Nature Study Society