

Children's Environmental Literature



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Acknowledgements

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Some of the books in this bibliography were previously compiled for the first edition of *Children's Environmental Literature*, were suggested by PLT/WILD/WET workshop facilitators or the PLT Early Childhood Advisory Committee, or were reviewed and recommended by one of the organizations listed below. Books recommended by these organizations are identified in the book summary using the bolded abbreviations.

ALA

American Library Association
Notable Children's Books
Web site: <http://www.ala.org/>

CCBC

Cooperative Children's Book Center
School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Web site: <http://www.soemadison.wisc.edu/ccbc/>

CLCL

Children's Literature Choice List, 1996 – 2004
Web site: www.childrenslit.com

CHB

Caldecott Honor Book

CMW

Caldecott Medal Winner

NMW

Newbery Medal Winner

OSTB

National Science Teachers Association
Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K-12, 1999-2004
Web site: www.nsta.org

WSN

Children's Books Recommended by Wisconsin's State Naturalists
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Nature Awareness

Age Level

All the Places to Love

four - six

Patricia MacLachlan, 1994

#0060210990

A young boy describes the favorite places that he shares with his close-knit family on his grandparents' farm, and in the nearby hills and woods.

Antler, Bear, Canoe: A Northwood's Alphabet

four - eight

Betsy Bowen, 2002

#061820864X

Through prose and colorful woodcuts the author captures the vibrant magic in each northwoods day.

Boy Who Lived with the Bears and Other Iroquois Stories

six - twelve

Retold by Joseph Bruchac, 1995

#093040761X

This author presents a collection of traditional Iroquois tales in which animals learn about the importance of caring and responsibility, and the dangers of selfishness and pride. CLCL, ALA

Changes

three - six

Marjorie N. Allen, 1991

#001561921

Rhymed text and illustrations describe the changes in nature.

Crinkleroot's Guide to Walking in Wild Places (Crinkleroot Series)

six - ten

Jim Arnosky, 1990

#0027058425

Crinkleroot, the forest dweller, provides tips for walking in wild places and avoiding such hazards as ticks, poisonous plants, and wild animals.

Earth & I, The

three - six

Frank Asch, 1994

#0152004432

This happy book recounts the friendship between a child and the earth.

Earth is Painted Green, The: A Garden of Poems About Our Planet

eight - twelve

Edited by Barbara Brenner, 1994

#0590451340

An illustrated collection of poems from around the world.

Earth Songs

seven - eleven

Myra Cohn Livingston, 1986

#0823406156

A poetic tribute to the earth--its continents, hills, forests and seas.

Earth, Sky, Wet, Dry: A Book of Natural Opposites

five - eight

Durga Bernhard, 2000

#0531332136

Describes a variety of animals and plants, grouping them in such contrasting categories as spring and fall, inside and outside, and big and small.

Echoes for the Eye: Poems to Celebrate Patterns in Nature

eight - twelve

Barbara Juster Esbensen, 1996

#0060243996

Using poetry and paintings, this book explores the repetition of shapes in the natural world. An effective merging of mathematical principles and nature. CCBC

Everybody Needs a Rock

four - eight

Byrd Baylor, 1974

#0684138999

Things to look for when selecting the perfect rock for play and pleasure.

Girl Who Loved Caterpillars, The

seven - twelve

Jean Merrill, 1992

#0399218718

In this retelling of a twelfth-century Japanese story, the young woman Izumi resists social and family pressures as she befriends caterpillars and other socially unacceptable creatures.

Hottest, Coldest, Highest, Deepest

four - eight

Steve Jenkins, 1998

#0395899990

This eye-catching introduction to geography describes some of the remarkable places on earth, including the hottest, coldest, windiest, snowiest, highest, and deepest. CLCL

I Heard a Bluebird Sing: Children Select Their Favorite Poems

five - eleven

Aileen Fisher, 2002

#1563971917

A compilation of 41 nature poems by prolific children's author and naturalist, Aileen Fisher. Fisher's simple and often joyful poetry easily adapts to simulation and finger play activities.

In the Hush of the Evening

three - seven

Nancy Price Graff, 1998

#0060220996

In this gentle read-aloud book, a young boy and his mother watch and listen from his bedroom window as the world gradually darkens. CLCL

Inch by Inch

four - eight

Leo Lionni, 1995

#0688132839

In this classic book, a winsome, winning inchworm is proud of his ability to measure anything under the sun. CHB

Into the Woods: John James Audubon Lives his Dream

six - twelve

Robert Burleigh, 2003

#0689830408

The author imagines a conversation in which Audubon tells his father why he has chosen to live in nature to develop his art. OSTB

Julie of the Wolves

nine and up

Jean Craighead George, 1972

#0064400581

While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost and is befriended by a wolf pack. WSN, NMW

Keepers of the Earth: Native American Stories and Environmental Activities for Children

four - eight

Michael Caduto and Joseph Bruchar, 1999

#1555913857

A selection of traditional tales from various Indian peoples, each accompanied by instructions for related activities dealing with the environment.

Listen to the Rain

three - eight

Bill Martin and John Archambault, 1988

#0805006826

The authors' describe the changing sounds of rain--the slow soft sprinkle, the drip-drop tinkle, the pounding roaring rain, and the silent after-time of rain.

Mother Earth

six - nine

Nancy Luenn, 1992

#0689316682

This book is a joyful celebration of earth. With lyrical words and soft watercolors, the reader is reminded to use her gifts well, and return them with respect.

Muskrat Will Be Swimming

six - twelve

Cheryl Savageau, 1996

#0873586042

A young girl's feelings are hurt when schoolmates make fun of the children who live at the lake, but then her grandpa tells her a Seneca folktale that reminds her how much she appreciates her home. CLCL

My Side of the Mountain

eight - sixteen

Jean Craighead George, 2001

#0141312424

Classic story of a runaway boy who spends a year living in the mountains. WSN, NMW

Nature Did It First!

four - eight

Susan E. Goodman, 2003

#0761324135

Photographic examples of human inventions inspired by nature's designs. CLCL

Nature's Paintbrush: The Patterns and Colors Around You

Susan Stockdale, 1999

#0689810814

With a simple text and bright, jewel-like illustrations, the author explores the many ways in which patterns and colors are helpful to living things. OSTB

four - eight

Night in the Country

Cynthia Rylant, 1991

#0689714734

Beautiful illustrations and lyrical text invites children to look, listen, and explore the special sights and sounds of a country night.

four - eight

Night Owls

Sharon Phillips Denslow, 1990

#0027286819

William and his aunt experience the wonder of a midsummer night.

four - eight

On the Way to the Beach

Henry Cole, 2003

#0688175155

Find a place to sit and watch and listen ... on the beach or in the woods or in a salt marsh. What can you see and hear?

four - eight

Other Way to Listen, The

Byrd Baylor, 1978

#0684156512

A wise, elderly man helps a young person learn how to hear the hills sing and the seeds grow. A wonderful story to encourage kinship with nature.

five - nine

Our Big Home: An Earth Poem

Linda Glaser, 2002

#0761317767

A beautifully illustrated celebration of the air, water, soil, sky, sun, and rain. This vibrant book will inspire and reinforce a young child's sense of wonder. OSTB

five - ten

Peeping and Sleeping

Fran Manushkin, 1994

#0395643392

This visually attractive story evokes the wonders of a nighttime nature walk as a boy and his father search for the source of the strange peeping sounds they hear.

four - eight

Raft, The

Jim LaMarche, 2002

#0064438562

Nicky's summer vacation at his grandmother's cottage in the Wisconsin woods becomes a magical adventure after he finds a decorated raft adrift in the river. Without pushing, his grandmother quietly allows Nicky to discover the wonders of river life. Exquisite pastel drawings accompany this intergenerational story. WSN

four - nine

Sand County Almanac, A

Aldo Leopold, 1982

#0195007778

A set of essays revealing the intimate thoughts and feelings of a man sensing the wonders of nature and describing his "rare sense of ethics and philosophy."

nine and up

Step Into the Night

Joanne Ryder, 1988

#0027779513

A child stands outside her lamp lit home and imagines the lives of night creatures as they move silently in the darkness.

five - eight

Strange Companions

Dayton O. Hyde, 1975

#0876901569

A wilderness survival story featuring a young, runaway boy who ends up marooned in Canada's Northwest Territories. He finds a dead Whooping Crane and decides to raise the egg it left behind.

nine - twelve

Tree in the Wood, The

Christopher Manson, 1993

#1558581928

Based on a traditional folk song, the lyrics explore the intertwining themes of growth, change, and the interrelationships between living organisms. Children will enjoy chanting the "green grass" refrain.

four - nine

Walk When the Moon is Full

Frances Hammerstrom, 1975

#0912278846

Set in Wisconsin, the author describes 13 moonlight walks with her children.

four - eleven

When I Go Camping with Grandma

Marion Dane Bauer, 1995

#0816734496

A child enjoys a camping trip with grandma that includes hiking, canoeing, fishing, and cooking out. CCBC

three - six

When the Wind Stops

Charlotte Zolotow, 1997

#0064434729

Lyrical prose and rich illustrations make this book a beautiful celebration of the cycle of life. ALA

four - eight

Wild Wild Sunflower Child Anna

Nancy Carlstrom, 1987

#0689714459

Spending a day outdoors, Anna revels in the joys of sun, sky, grass, flowers, berries, frogs, ants, and beetles.

three - seven

Your Own Secret Place

six - ten

Byrd Baylor, 1991

#0684161117

The author explores the pleasures to be found in one's very own private place, whether it be a hollow in a tree or a secret sand dune.

Seasonal

Age Level

Did You Hear the Wind Sing Your Name? An Oneida Song of Spring

four - nine

Sandra De Couteau Orié, 1995

#0802774857

A beautiful homage to the Oneida Indians' view of spring. CCBC

Discover the Seasons

three - ten

Diane Iverson, 1996

#1883220432

Rich illustrations and sensitive poetry vividly capture the spirit of the seasons.

How Does the Wind Walk?

four - eight

Nancy White Carlstrom, 1993

#0027172759

A young boy observes the wind's different moods through the seasons of the year.

In the Park

six - nine

Huy Voun Lee, 1998

#0805041281

On the first day of spring, a mother and her son go to the park where they draw Chinese characters representing words related to the season. CCBC

Ordinary Things: Poems from a Walk in Early Spring

ten and up

Ralph Fletcher, 1997

#0689810350

Thirty-three poems recall the sensory experiences of a springtime walk. CCBC

Ring of Earth: A Child's Book of Seasons

eight - twelve

Jane Yolen, 1986

#0152671404

Beautiful poetry and stunning drawings describe the four seasons from the perspectives of a weasel, spring peeper, dragonfly, and goose.

Snowy, Flowy, Blowy

four - eight

Nancy Tafuri, 1999

#0590189735

Rhyming text provides a descriptive word for each month of the year while taking a family through the changes and surprises of the year's cycle.

Spring

Ron Hirschi, 1990

#0525650377

Hirschi uses spare prose and lovely photographs to capture the wonders of spring. This series also includes fall, winter, and summer.

four - eight

Spring Thaw

Steven Schnur, 2000

#0670879614

From streams of melted snow-water snaking down the windowpanes, to newborn lambs nestled in a mound of sun-warmed hay, to red-budded maple trees swollen with rising sap, beautiful illustrations reveal a world awakening from winter. OSTB

four - eight

Spring: A Haiku Story

George Shannon, 1996

#0688138888

Spring is an anthology of 14 haiku which are linked together to create a story about a boy and girl taking a stroll during the spring thaw. CCBC

eight - eleven

Summer Is ...

Charlotte Zolotow, 1967

#0690043031

Rich illustrations and poetic text capture the beauties and joys of each season.

four - eight

Sun Is So Quiet, The

Nikki Giovanni, 1996

#0805041192

A collection of poems about nature and the seasons, complemented by vivid artwork showing flowers, animals, and children of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds.

five - nine

When Winter Comes

Nancy Van Laan, 2000

#0689817789

In this uplifting, joyful book, the author uses rhyming text to ask and answer questions about what happens to plants and animals when winter comes.

three - seven

Winter Eyes

Douglas Florian, 1999

#0688164587

Twenty-eight winter-inspired poems enhanced through crisp, watercolor illustrations. This book doesn't include holidays and religious celebrations. CCBC

five - eleven

Winter Poems

Barbara Rogansky, 1994

#059042873X

A set of late fall to early spring poems supplemented by acrylic paintings by such authors as Shakespeare, Edgar Allan Poe, and Wallace Stevens.

five - fourteen

Aquatic Ecosystems & the Water Cycle

Age Level

All Wet! All Wet!

four - six

James Skofield, 1984

#0060257512

A small boy experiences--along with the animals of meadow and forest--the sights, smells, and sounds of a rainy summer day.

Around the Pond: Who's Been Here?

three - eight

Lindsay Barrett George, 1996

#0688143768

While picking blueberries on a summer day, William and Cammy see signs of animals and their activities including footprints, a dam, and a floating feather. Other books in the exploratory *Who's Been Here?* series with William and Cammy include *In the Woods* and *In the Snow*. WSN

At the Edge of the Pond

six - twelve

Jennifer Owings, 1987

#0316182087

This book explores pond life diversity from the muddy shore to the murky bottom.

Big Rivers, The: The Missouri, the Mississippi, the Ohio

eight - twelve

Bruce Hiscock, 1997

#0689808712

The 1993 Midwest floods are featured in this book about the water cycle. An excellent interdisciplinary selection combining ecological principles with a historical perspective. OSTB

Butternut Hollow Pond

six - ten

Brian J. Heinz, 2000

#0761313257

Describes the interrelationships of organisms in a pond, including predator-prey relationships and food webs. OSTB

Crawdad Creek

six - nine

Scott Russell Sanders, 2002

#0792264924

The author uses soft, watercolor acrylics to encourage readers to explore the wonders of the out-of-doors. In this book two siblings discover an amazing diversity of wildlife in and around their backyard creek...from whirligig beetles and crawdads to rabbits and deer. OSTB

Deer at the Brook

four - eight

Jim Arnosky, 1986

#0688040993

A poetic and pictorial portrayal of the things that happen at a brook as a mother deer and her two fawns come down for a drink.

Grandfather's Dream

Holly Keller, 1994

#0688123392

An elderly Vietnamese man struggles to protect his village's wetlands, bringing home the beautiful cranes that once filled the winter sky.

four - eight

In the Pond

Ermanno Cristini and Luigi Puricelli, 1985

#088708009X

A striking full-color pictorial exploration of marshland life, with additional black and white drawings identifying the featured plants and wildlife. CCBC

three - seven

In the Small, Small Pond

Denise Fleming, 1998

#0805059830

Illustrations and rhyming text describe the activities of animals living in and near a small pond as spring progresses to autumn. CMW

three - six

Insect in the Pond (Nature Close Ups Series)

Hidetomo Oda, 1986

#0817225293

Discusses how diving beetles, water scorpions, dragonflies, and other insects play an important role in maintaining a pond ecosystem.

nine - twelve

Look Closer: Pond Life

Frank Greenaway and Barbara Taylor, 1992

#1879431947

Stunning photographs and very readable text examines the variety of life found in ponds, including the common newt, stickleback, and great diving beetle.

nine - twelve

Marshes and Swamps

Gail Gibbons, 1999

#0823415155

Through detailed illustrations and clearly written text, the author describes different types of wetlands and explains how these areas store freshwater, prevent flooding and erosion, and serve as a refuge for migratory animals. OSTB

four - eight

Minn of the Mississippi

Holling C. Holling, 1978

#0395273994

The history of the Mississippi River Valley is told in text and pictures through the adventures of Minn, a snapping turtle, as she travels downstream. WSN

nine - twelve

My River

Shari Halpern, 1996

#0590472372

Using brief text and striking illustrations, the author portrays the unity of a natural community that depends on one river for life.

four - eight

Paddle to the Sea

Holling C. Holling, 1941

#0395150825

A young Native American boy carves a canoe with a figure inside and names him Paddle-to-the-Sea. Paddle's journey, in text and pictures, through the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean provides an excellent geographic and historical picture of the region. WSN, CHB

nine - twelve

Pond

Gordon Morrison, 2002

#061810271X

Author and nature artist Gordon Morrison transports readers to the pond's edge to sit and enjoy the beauty and abundance of living things. OSTB, CLCL

six - ten

Pond and River

Steve Parker, 2000

#0789458381

A photo essay about the range of plants and animals found in fresh water, examining the living conditions and survival mechanisms of creatures dwelling at the edge of the water, on its surface, or under the mud.

nine - twelve

Pond Year

Kathryn Lasky, 1995

#0763601128

Two girls play in and explore the nearby pond where they discover tadpoles, insects, wildflowers in the summer, and a place to ice skate in the winter. WSN

four - eight

Rain Drop Splash

Alvin Tressalt, 1990

#0688093523

Poetic text and colorful illustrations depict the water cycle in this lush picture book. Young readers can follow the course of a heavy rain as it drenches people and animals, and changes the landscape as it travels from pond to brook, to lake, to river--eventually ending up in the sea. CHB

four - eight

River of Life

Debbie S. Miller, 2000

#0395967902

Lyrical text and lush paintings introduce young readers to the sights and sounds of an Alaskan river and its inhabitants. OSTB

four - twelve

River Story

Meredith Hooper, 2001

#0744582105

This poetic and beautifully illustrated picture book uses cool blues and vibrant greens to follow a river's journey from its beginnings as a bubbly, mountain stream, through countryside, cities, marshes and mudflats, and finally to the sea. CLCL

five - nine

Salamander Rain: A Lake & Pond Journal (Sharing Nature with Children Book)

Kristin Joy Pratt-Serafini, et al, 2001

#1584690178

This combination field guide/treasure hunt book in journal format describes the seasonal changes in a temperate pond community. OSTB

nine - twelve

Secret Language of Snow, The

Terry Tempest Williams, 1984

#0394965744

This book examines over a dozen kinds of snow and snowy conditions through the vocabulary of the Inuit people of Alaska. Textual information also includes the physical properties and formation of the snow, and how it affects plants, animals, and people.

nine - twelve

Squish! A Wetland Walk

Nancy Luenn, 1994

#0689318421

A feast for the senses, *Squish!* provides young children with an introduction to the sights, sounds, and smells of a wetland. WSN

four - eight

Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe

Vera B. Williams, 1984

#0688040721

Mother, Aunt Rosie, and two children take a three-day camping trip by canoe. A good introductory book before a waterway field trip.

six - nine

Toad

Ruth Brown, 1997

#0525457577

An excellent introduction to wetlands, this picture book story of a toad's natural survival in a pond is fun to read and filled with gruesome, yucky pictures.

four - eight

Turtle Splash: Countdown at the Pond

Cathryn Falwell, 2001

#0060294620

Ten Eastern Painted turtles bask on a log. Startled by the activities of other creatures, the number of turtles on the log decreases from ten to one. Combining counting practice with a nature lesson, this book includes factual information about the animals mentioned in the story. CLCL, ALA

four - eight

Water Dance

Thomas Locker, 1997

#0152012842

From a mountain pond to a raging waterfall, and from an ocean mist to a sparkling rainbow, dramatic haiku-like text and lush paintings give water voice and substance in this tribute to water and the water cycle. OSTB

six - twelve

Wetland Walk, A

Sheri Amsel, 1993

#1562942131

Illustrations and rhyming text depict a day-long walk through a marsh and introduce the plants and animals of a wetland environment.

four - eight

What's in the Pond?

Anne Hunter, 1999

#0395912245

In this pocket-sized book, Anne Hunter illustrates the creatures that live in and around a pond, including a water strider, a tadpole, a Red-winged Blackbird, a painted turtle, and more. Each illustration is accompanied by simple yet detailed text describing the animal's characteristics and habits.

four - eight

Where the River Begins

Thomas Locker, 1993

#0140545956

Two young boys and their grandfather go on a camping trip to locate the source of a river. As with Lockers other books, the brief text highlights lush paintings that depict the landscape at different times of the day and in different weather.

five - eight

Forest Ecosystems

Age Level

Counting on the Woods

George Ella Lyon, 1998

#0789424800

On a woodland walk a child counts living beings--two birds, three bugs, six geese tracks, etc. The poetic text ("Four worms, / how the earth turns. / Five nests / where new ones rest") is beautifully enhanced by color photographs. CCBC

four - eight

In Grandpa's Woods

Sharon Hart Addy, 2004

#1931599424

While searching for a location for their play structure, two young children learn from their grandpa how important the forest is to their everyday lives.

four - seven

In the Snow: Who's Been Here?

Lindsay Barrett George, 1991

#0688170560

Walking through the snow-covered woods, two children find signs of animal life (tracks, scattered seeds, a nest), and wonder "Who's been here?" WSN, CCBC

three - eight

In the Woods

Ermanno Cristini and Luigi Puricelli, 1991

#0887080081

This book presents a wordless panorama of the animals and plants of the forest.

four - eight

In the Woods: Who's Been Here?

Lindsay Barrett George, 1995

#0688161634

A walk in the woods with a boy and his younger sister as they discover clues to the animals inhabiting the forest. WSN, CCBC, CLCL

three - eight

Into the Woods: A Woodland Scrapbook

Loretta Krupinski, 1997

#0060264438

This exploration of woodland plants and animals is a delightful blend of textual fact and fancy, accompanied by lovely, watercolor illustrations.

four - eight

Log's Life, A

Wendy Pfeffer, 1997

#0689806361

A Log's Life is a beautifully composed book, combining simple, informative text with life-like compositions to present the array of organisms residing in or on a living tree, as well as a decomposing log. OSTB

five - nine

Night Tree

Eve Bunting, 1991

#1525742555

A family decorates an evergreen tree with food for the forest animals.

four - eight

North Country Night

Daniel San Souci, 1994

#0440410290

When the lights go out not every living thing sleeps. Under a winter's moon, woodland animals search for food and prey. The accompanying watercolor illustrations are exquisite.

four - eight

One Day in the Woods

Jean Craighead George, 1995

#0152163727

Rebecca learns about plant and animal life when she spends the day in the woods looking for the Ovenbird, a warbler reputed to be the wizard of the woods.

nine - twelve

Owl Moon

Jane Yolen, 1987

#0399214577

A father-daughter nighttime woodland walk to see a Great Horned Owl. WSN, CMW

three - eight

Shelterwood

Susan Hand Shetterly, 1999

#0884482111

This story takes the reader on a journey through the woods as an environmentally conscious forester passes on his knowledge to his granddaughter, showing her how he protects forest biodiversity by selectively cutting trees. OSTB

eight - twelve

Temperate Forest

John Woodward, 2003

#0613781953

A comprehensive look at the climate, plants, animals, people, and future of the temperate forest biome.

nine - twelve

Time to Sleep (An Owlet Book)

Denise Fleming, 1997

#0805037624

A warm-hearted story about forest animals settling down for their winter nap; but, like children, they each find a way to put it off a little bit longer. CCBC

four - eight

Waterfall's Gift

Joanne Ryder, 2004

#1578051134

Poetic language and stunning artwork combine in this story about nature, discovery, loss, and healing. A young girl visits the small woodland cabin that her deceased grandfather built, and discovers the joy and healing power of nature.

six - nine

When the Woods Hum

Joanne Ryder, 1991

#0688070574

In this intergenerational story, a young girl experiences the wonder of seeing and hearing the woods fill up with humming cicadas. Seventeen years later she returns with her young son to share that experience.

four - eight

When Will it Snow?

Bruce Hiscock, 1995

#0689310371

A small boy impatiently awaits the first snowfall while the woodland animals prepare for winter.

four - eight

Who Lives in the Forest? (Where Animals Live Book)

Ron Hirschi, 1987

#0396091210

Part of a series on different habitats, this book introduces the inhabitants of the forest, such as rabbits, chipmunks, owls, squirrels, bear, and deer.

four - eight

Whose Tracks Are These?: A Clue Book for Familiar Forest Animals

James Nail, 1994

#1570980780

Clues and striking illustrations detail how to identify tracks found in the woods.

four - eight

Wisconsin Forest Tales

Julia Pferdehirt, 2004

#1931599475

A collection of eight historical fiction stories about Wisconsin forest history. Set in different time periods, each story is told from a child's perspective. Examples include a girl's recounting of the Peshtigo fire and how it affected her family, and a boy's experience in a logging camp.

nine - twelve

Prairie & Meadow Ecosystems

Age Level

Hard Times on the Prairie: Adapted from the Little House Books (Little House Chapter Book Series)

nine - twelve

Laura Ingalls Wilder, 1998

#0064420779

Laura and her family struggle against hardships on the Kansas frontier, including a prairie fire, a grasshopper invasion, and a blizzard.

Hidden Life of the Meadow, The

seven - ten

David M. Schwartz, 1988

#0517570599

Examines the animals, plants, and ecology of a typical American meadow.

In the Tall, Tall Grass (An Owlet Book)

three - six

Denise Fleming, 1995

#0805039414

Rhymed text presents a young child's view of creatures found in the grass from lunchtime until nightfall, such as ants, bees, and moles.

Inside Turtle's Shell: And Other Poems of the Field

six - twelve

Joanne Ryder, 1985

#0027780104

A collection of poems portraying the meadow and its creatures from morning until night.

Life in a Grassland (Ecosystems in Action Series)

nine - twelve

Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, 2002

#0822521393

An examination of the physical features, processes, and different species of plants and animals that make up the ecosystem of the tall grass prairie. OSTB

Matthew's Meadow

seven - ten

Corinne Demas Bliss, 1992

#0152007598

Every year at blackberry time Matthew visits the Red-tailed Hawk in the Black Walnut tree. She teaches him how to use his senses to appreciate nature.

Seasons of the Tallgrass Prairie

five - nine

Carol Lerner, 1980

#068832245X

This book describes the plant life of the tallgrass prairie, season by season, and the role of wildfire in its ecology.

Who Lives In a Prairie? (Where Animals Live Book)

four - eight

Ron Hirschi, 1989

#0399219013

Text and photographs introduce the sights and sounds of life on the prairie, including the prairie dog, dancing birds, and long-tailed weasel.

Urban Ecosystems

Age Level

City Green

five - nine

DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan, 1994

Marcy and her neighbor, Miss Rosa, turn an empty lot into a community garden.

Empty Lot, The

four - eight

Dale H. Fife, 1996

#0871568594

Inspecting an "empty" lot before selling it, Harry finds it occupied by many small animals. He decides to save the lot from the bulldozers. A sweet story with a clear conservation message.

Harvest of Color, A: Growing a Vegetable Garden

four - eight

Melanie Eclare, 2002

#1929927312

A group of children transform a bare patch of earth into a garden. Each child keeps a diary following the growth of their own vegetable. CCBC

Home

four - eight

Jeannie Baker, 2004

#0066239354

Home is a wordless story told through striking collages that illustrates the circle of life by paralleling a young girl's life with an urban neighborhood restoration. ALA

Secret Place

four - eight

Eve Bunting, 1996

#0395643678

A small boy finds a tiny piece of wilderness in the city.

Pigeons

nine - twelve

Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, 1997

#0395698480

A very complete look at the history and habits of pigeons, including an exploration of their intelligence and usefulness as homing pigeons. OSTB

Seedfolks

nine - twelve

Paul Fleischman, 1999

#0064472078

A vacant lot, rat-infested and filled with garbage, suddenly holds promise when a young Vietnamese-American girl plants a small vegetable garden. A moving story portraying multi-cultural urban life through the lives of 13 characters. CCBC

Urban Roosts: Where Birds Nest in the City

eight - twelve

Barbara Bash, 1990

#0316083062

In picture-book format, the author describes 13 birds that find special niches amidst concrete and glass, ranging from finches to peregrine falcons to pigeons.

Animals: General

Age Level

A is for . . . ? A Photographer's Alphabet of Animals

four - eight

Henry Horenstein, 1999

#0152015825

In this sophisticated alphabet book, each page contains one letter and a partial picture of an animal. Seen from unusual perspectives, familiar creatures are made fantastical. A fun, intriguing guessing game in book form. OSTB

Animal Architects

nine - twelve

National Geographic Society, 1987

#0870446126

Beautiful color photographs and descriptive text introduce animals that build nests.

Animal Dads

four - eight

Sneed B. Collard III, 2000

#0618032991

This whimsical picture book explores the different roles of fatherhood.

Animals on the Trail with Lewis and Clark

nine - fourteen

Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, 2003

#0374367469

Retraces the Lewis and Clark journey and blends their observations of previously unknown animals with modern information about the same animals. An excellent combination of both historical and scientific information. OSTB, CLCL

Barn, The

four - eight

John Schoenherr, 1968

#0316774219

A wonderful story about 24 hours in the life of a skunk.

Beauty of the Beast, The: Poems from the Animal Kingdom

three - eleven

Collected by Jack Prelutsky, 1997

#0679970584

An illustrated collection of poems by over 100 poets. Lovely watercolor illustrations add to the beauty of this collection. CCBC, ALA

Big and Little

three - six

Steve Jenkins, 1996

#0395726646

Each spread of *Big and Little* shows animals that are related to each other but vary greatly in size. All featured animals are illustrated on the same scale. CLCL

Borreguita and the Coyote

four - eight

Verna Aardema, 1998

#0679889361

This picture book is a folk tale about a frisky little lamb and a hungry coyote.

- Brother Wolf*** **four - eight**
 Harriet Peck Taylor, 1996
 #0374309973
 This fun-filled Seneca tale "explains" two of nature's mysteries--how the wolf came to be seen as wily and wise, and how birds became colorful. WSN
- Crinkleroot's Guide to Knowing Animal Habitats (Crinkleroot Series)*** **six - ten**
 Jim Arnosky, 1997
 #0689805837
 Take a walk with Crinkleroot through wetlands, woodlands, cornfields, and grasslands. Watercolor illustrations clearly portray the animals in each habitat.
- Eric Carle's Animals, Animals*** **three - eight**
 Eric Carle, 1989
 #0399217444
 From flying fish to dancing butterflies, Eric Carle's colorful collages bring to life poems from authors such as Shakespeare, Lewis Carroll, and Rudyard Kipling.
- Exploding Ants: Amazing Facts About How Animals Adapt*** **nine - twelve**
 Joanne Settel, 1999
 #0689817398
 From small worms that live in a dog's nose mucus to exploding ants to regurgitating mother gulls, this book tells of the unusual ways animals find food, shelter, and safety in the natural world. OSTB
- Fireflies at Midnight*** **four - ten**
 Marilyn Singer, 2003
 #0689811179
 Singer uses poetry and computer enhanced photographs to capture the voices and personalities of a variety of animals during one summer day. CLCL
- Handful of Dirt, A*** **four - eight**
 Raymond Bial, 2000
 #0802786995
 In this lively look at dirt, the author introduces dirt-dwellers, from the tiny creatures that provide food for insects to reptiles and amphibians. OSTB, CLCL
- How Chipmunk Got Tiny Feet: Native American Animal Origin Stories*** **four - ten**
 Told by Gerald Hausman, 1995
 #0060229071
 Large type accented by attractive artwork depict seven tales of nature offering gentle lessons in human behavior. CLCL
- I See Animals Hiding*** **four - eight**
 Jim Arnosky, 2000
 #0439232155
 With simple words and warm watercolor paintings, the author encourages readers to observe how animals have adapted to their surroundings, including the use of protective coloration. CCBC

- If Not for the Cat*** **four - eight**
 Jack Prelutsky, 2004
 #0060596783
 Seventeen haiku poems ask the reader to think about the residents of the animal kingdom, including a mouse, a skunk, a beaver, a hummingbird, and more. ALA
- It's a Jungle in Here*** **three - six**
 Deanne Lee Bingham, 1995
 #0553207504
 A young girl discusses her feelings and actions by comparing herself to different animals.
- Just Us Two: Poems about Animal Dads*** **six - ten**
 Joyce Sidman, 2003
 #076131833X
 Eleven poems, illustrated with cut-paper collages, about unusual animal dads. CLCL
- Lies (People Believe) About Animals*** **nine - twelve**
 Susan Sussman, 1987
 #0807545309
 Presents commonly held beliefs about bats, tarantulas, snakes, porcupines and other animals. and then explains the surprising truths.
- Making Animal Babies*** **three - eight**
 Sneed B. Collard III, 2000
 #0395953170
 In this accessible and informative picture book, take a journey through the animal kingdom and explore the ways animals find and attract mates, and how the reproduction process works. CLCL
- One Is a Snail, Ten Is a Crab: A Counting by Feet Book*** **three - six**
 April Pulley Sayre, 2003
 #0763614068
 A fun counting book featuring animals with different numbers of feet. CLCL, ALA
- Scavengers and Decomposers: The Cleanup Crew*** **nine - twelve**
 Pat Hughey, 1984
 #0689310323
 An often overlooked subject, this book describes the characteristics and habits of various insects, birds, and other animals that clean up waste materials in the environment.
- Scranimals*** **six - ten**
 Jack Prelutsky, 2002
 #0688178197
 In this fantastical, fun book, Prelutsky and illustrator Peter Sis create Scranimal Island, an off-the-map place inhabited by unusual animals from Potatoes to Hippopotamushrooms to a pride of Broccolions.

Secrets of a Wildlife Watcher

Jim Arnosky, 1993

#0688020798

Explains the techniques used in finding wild animals such as owls, turtles, squirrels, foxes, and deer, and in getting close enough to study their behavior.

nine - twelve

Sleepy Heads

Aileen Fisher, 1973

#0837208661

Brief rhymes and illustrations introduce the sleeping habits of different animals.

three - eight

Tracks in the Wild

Betsy Bowen, 1998

#0395884004

This richly illustrated book introduces children to tracks and the ways of life of 13 different animals. A great book before a trek in the woods.

four - eight

What Do You Do When Something Wants To Eat You?

Steven Jenkins, 2001

#0395825148

A unique look at a fascinating subject for children, Steve Jenkins explores the intriguing defense mechanisms creatures use to escape from danger. Kids will enjoy guessing how each animal avoids being eaten, leaving them to wonder, "What would you do if an animal wanted to eat you?".

four - eight

What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?

Steve Jenkins and Robin Page, 2003

#0618256288

Explore the many amazing things animals can do with their ears, eyes, mouths, noses, feet, and tails in this illustrated guessing book. CHB, CLCL

four - ten

When It Is Night, When It Is Day

Jenny Tyers, 1996

#0395715466

The author contrasts nocturnal animals with diurnal animals, encouraging readers to wonder at what is happening, unseen, around them. CCBC

three - six

Whose Footprints?

Molly Coxe, 1990

#0690048378

A mother and daughter discover and identify animal footprints in the snow on an intimate walk through their farm.

three - five

Winter Barn, The

Peter Parnall, 1986

#0027701700

A dilapidated old barn shelters a wide variety of animals, including snakes, porcupines, cats, and a skunk while they wait for the first signs of spring.

four - ten

You Don't Look Like Your Mother (Bowmar Nature Series)

three - eight

Aileen Fisher, 2001

#158653856X

Recounts in verse a robin's introduction to a number of animal infants who don't look like their mothers, including her own.

Mammals

Age Level

About Mammals: A Guide for Children

four - eight

Cathryn P. Sill, 1997

#156145141X

This easy-to-read book defines mammals and discusses their behaviors. OSTB

All About Deer (All About Series)

four - eight

Jim Arnosky, 1999

#0439058740

This charming picture book explores where deer live, what they eat, surprising facts about their antlers, and more. CLCL

Bats! Strange and Wonderful

six - nine

Laurence Pringle, 2000

#1563973278

Accurate illustrations and text provides basic information about the variety and habits of bats, as well as their importance in the ecosystem. CLCL

Bears, Born to be Wild

nine - twelve

Kennan Ward and Karen Ward, 2003

#1930700199

A collection of original photographs of different bear species. Each photo includes both fun and factual information. Includes a glossary.

Beaver at Long Pond

four - six

William T. George, 2000

#0688175198

As the other animals at Long Pond settle down for the night, Beaver leaves his lodge, begins searching for food, and starts his nightly adventure.

Black Bear: North America's Bear

nine - twelve

Stephen R. Swinburne, 2003

#159078023X

Join wildlife biologists to learn about black bear biology, history, and habitat.

Book of Mammals

four - twelve

National Geographic Society, 1998

#0792271416

An illustrated introduction to the world's mammals, describing their physical characteristics, habits, and environment. Includes maps and a pronunciation key.

<p><i>Chipmunk at Hollow Tree Lane</i> Victoria Sherrow, 1994 #1568990286 This story describes how chipmunk gathers and stores food to prepare for winter. WSN</p>	four - eight
<p><i>Chipmunk Song, A</i> Joanne Ryder, 1987 #0525671919 Ryder uses lyrical text and rich illustrations to draw a parallel between different organisms as a child imitates the life of a chipmunk. WSN</p>	four - eight
<p><i>City Foxes</i> Wendy Shattil, 1997 #0882404938 A look at the lives of a fox family living in a city graveyard. OSTB</p>	nine - twelve
<p><i>Come Out, Muskrats</i> Jim Arnosky, 1989 #0688054586 In late afternoon the muskrats come out to swim, dive, and eat water weeds.</p>	three - five
<p><i>Coyote: A Trickster Tale from the American Southwest</i> Gerald McDermott, 1999 #0152019588 Based on a Zuni folktale, this amusing read-aloud follows the antics of Coyote. When he insists the blackbirds teach him to fly, the experience ends in disaster.</p>	four - eight
<p><i>Coyote: North America's Dog</i> Stephen R. Swinburne, 1999 #1563977656 This intriguing look at coyotes examines their behavior and habitat, their complex relationship with man, and their place in Native American folklore. CLCL</p>	nine - twelve
<p><i>Fox's Dreams</i> Keizaburo Tejima, 1987 #0399214550 Wandering through a winter forest, a lonely fox finds companionship.</p>	four - ten
<p><i>Look to the North: A Wolf Pup's Diary</i> Jean Craighead George, 1998 #0064435105 The author lovingly tells the story of three wolf pups from birth to adulthood.</p>	five - nine
<p><i>Mammalabilia</i> Douglas Florian, 2004 #0152050248 A menagerie of twenty-one poems and paintings amusingly portrays animals. CCBC</p>	four and up

- Nuts to You*** **four - eight**
 Lois Ehlert, 1993
 #0152576479
 A rascally squirrel has an indoor adventure in a city apartment.
- Old Bag of Bones: A Coyote Tale*** **four - eight**
 Janet Stevens, 1996
 #0823412156
 Stevens' retelling of a Shoshone tale about the legendary trickster, Coyote. CLCL
- Raccoon at Clear Creek Road (Smithsonian's' Backyard)*** **three - six**
 Carolyn B. Otto, 1995
 #1568991762
 After leaving her newborn kits to search for food, a mother raccoon experiences a series of small natural incidents. CCBC
- Raccoons and Ripe Corn*** **three - seven**
 Jim Arnosky
 #0688104894
 This simple but enjoyable book follows a hungry raccoon family as they feast at night in a field of ripe corn.
- Red Fox Running*** **four - eight**
 Eve Bunting, 1993
 #0688054552
 Rhyming text follows the experiences of a Red Fox as it searches across a wintry landscape for food.
- Seasons of a Red Fox (Smithsonian Wild Heritage Collection)*** **four - eight**
 Susan Saunders, 1991
 #0924483253
 Follow Red Fox through the first year of his life as he learns survival skills.
- Shadows of the Night (Sierra Club Books for Children)*** **four - eight**
 Barbara Bash, 1993
 #0871565625
 Describes the life-cycle, characteristics, and habits of the little brown bat.
- Woodchuck at Blackberry Road*** **four - eight**
 C. Drew Lamm, 1994
 #1568990871
 A woodchuck hibernates in the winter, gives birth in the spring, and teaches her young in the summer how to recognize and escape from predators.
- Ziping, Zapping, Zooming Bats (Let's Read and Find Out Science)*** **five - ten**
 Ann Earle, 1995
 #006445133X
 An easy-to-read introduction to bats, including their biology, behavior, and beneficial role as insect-eaters. Includes instructions on building a bat house. CLCL

Birds

Age Level

Rabbit and the Moon

four - eight

Douglas Wood, 2001

#0971997128

In this retelling of a Cree legend, through the help of Crane, Rabbit fulfills his dream of riding across the sky to the moon. This tale explains how the Whooping Crane came to have long legs and a red blaze on its head.

About Birds: A Guide for Children

four - eight

Cathryn P. Sill, 1997

#12561451479

Text and 15 watercolor illustrations introduce the world of birds from eggs to flight, and from songs to nests.

All About Owls (All About Series)

four - eight

Jim Arnosky, 1995

#043905852X

Arnosky uses easy-to-understand text and wonderful illustrations to cover owl biology and behavior. Other birds in this series include the Wild Turkey. CLCL

Backyard Birds (HarperCollins Nature Study Book)

seven - ten

Jonathan Pine, 1993

#0060210400

This chapter book introduces the habits and behaviors of house sparrows, starlings, robins, wrens, hummingbirds, and nighthawks, with clues for easy identification. Numerous, large watercolor illustrations accompany the text.

Bald Eagle

five - ten

Gordon Morrison, 1998

#0395873282

Through watercolor illustrations and clear text, the reader learns about the eagle's life-cycle. Two levels of information are included; a children's story about a baby eagle plus supplementary information for the older child. OSTB

Bald Eagle, The

nine - twelve

Cheryl L. DeFries, 2003

#0766050572

Examines the habitat and physical characteristics of the Bald Eagle. Includes internet links to Web sites related to Bald Eagles. CLCL

Barn Owl, The (Animal Lives Series)

seven - ten

Sally Tagholm, 2003

#0753456060

Lyrical text and realistic images reveal the life of a Barn Owl, as a breeding pair court, mate, nest, hunt, and raise their young. OSTB

Beaks!**five - ten**

Sneed B. Collard III, 2002

#1570913889

Simple text describes the structure and function of different bird beaks.

Bird Boy**eight - twelve**

Elizabeth Starr Hill, 2003

#0374406596

Chang, a mute Chinese boy whose father uses cormorants to fish, is pleased when he is old enough to help raise a new chick. In the process he learns hard lessons about untrustworthy friends and what it means to prove himself. Youngsters, especially those with disabilities, will identify with Chang. CLCL

Birdsong**four - eight**

Audrey Wood, 2001

#0152000143

This beautifully illustrated book covers a unique topic for kids, 14 birds and their songs. A great way of helping children develop focused listening skills in nature.

Birds: Nature's Magnificent Flying Machines**nine - twelve**

Caroline Arnold, 2003

#1570915164

Focuses on bird anatomy and the physics of flight, including wing and feather design, taking off, flapping, gliding, soaring, and migration. Each spread contains one or two paragraphs with a full-color illustration. CLCL

Book of North American Owls, The**ten and up**

Helen Roney Sattler, 1995

#0395900174

A look at the natural history of owls. CLCL

Catching the Wind (A Just for a Day Book)**four - eight**

Joanne Ryder, 1989

#0688071716

Transformed into a bird for a day, a child joins a flock of wild geese in flight. WSN

Counting Cranes**three - eight**

Mary Beth Owens, 1993

#0316677191

The magnificent Whooping Crane is North America's largest bird. The author uses haiku and exquisite illustrations to count cranes while also featuring a variety of spring and fall migration scenes. Diet and mating information is included.

Dancers in the Garden**four - ten**

Joanne Ryder, 1992

#0871565781

This engaging book follows a hummingbird and his mate on a beautiful summer day. The exquisite watercolor pictures combined with lyrical poetry accurately depict the delicate beauty and amazing flight acrobatics of this little marvel.

Ducks Don't Get Wet

Augusta Goldin, 1999

#0064451879

Describes the behavior of different kinds of ducks and, in particular, discusses how all ducks use preening to keep their feathers dry.

four - eight

Eagle & the Wren: A Fable

Jane Goodall, 2002

#0735817065

When the birds have a contest to see which one can fly the highest, they all learn a valuable lesson about cooperation.

four - eight

Egg, The

Galimard Jeunesse and Pascale de Burgoing, 1992

#0590452665

Follows the growth and development of a hen's egg. Also introduces other egg-laying animals, such as birds, snails, and snakes.

four - eight

Feathers for Lunch

Lois Ehlert, 1990

#0152305513

An escaped housecat fails to catch 12 different birds, getting only feathers for lunch.

three - eight

Filling the Bill (Bowmar Nature Series)

Aileen Fisher, 1973

#0837208645

Naturalist and poet Aileen Fisher authored over 90 nature books for children, uniquely presenting both factual information and sensory experiences from a child's point of view. In this book, she describes in rhyme how hens, hummingbirds, herons, and other fowl use their bills.

three - eight

Flute's Journey: The Life of a Wood Thrush

Lynne Cherry, 1997

#0152928537

A young Wood Thrush makes his first migration from his nesting ground in a forest preserve to his Costa Rican winter home, and back again. Along the way he encounters many perils, including natural predators and habitat loss. WSN

five - nine

Gay-Neck: The Story of Pigeon

Dhan Gopal Mukerji, 1968

#0525304002

This book effectively combines information on birds and bird behavior with a perspective on the Great War and the author's boyhood in India.

ten and up

Hawk Highway in the Sky: Watching Raptor Migration

Caroline Arnold, 1997

#0152000402

Provides information about hawks, eagles, and falcons, and efforts to study them. Profiles the Hawk Watch International Raptor Migration Project in Nevada. OSTB

nine - twelve

Ko-Hoh: The Call of the Trumpeter Swan

nine - twelve

Jay Featherly, 1986

#0876142889

Explains the life-cycle and behavior of the Trumpeter Swan.

Legend of the Loon, The

four - ten

Kathy-Jo Wargin, 2000

#188694797X

This legend is a story of the deep love that stays forever and ever in the sound of the loon that calls across the northern lakes. The *Legend of the Loon* is the story of a magical grandmother and her cherished relationship with her grandchildren.

Little Green

three - six

Keith Baker, 2001

#0152929596

With playful, rhyming text and vibrant collage illustrations, Keith Baker captures the energy and excitement of a hummingbird's zigzagging flight. Budding artists will be inspired by the boy's artistic rendering of this little dynamo's flight.

Loon at Northwood Lake (Smithsonian's Backyard)

four - eight

Elizabeth Ring, 1997

#1568993935

This engaging and realistic look at wildlife features Loon and his mate as they protect their chicks from curious people, egg-hunting eagles and hawks, and ferocious pike throughout a summer at Northwood Lake. Vivid watercolor illustrations accompany the text. CCBC

Our Yard is Full of Birds

four - eight

Anne Rockwell, 1992

#002777273X

Describes backyard birds, from the phoebe and wren to crows and Blue Jays.

Owl Lake

four - eight

Keizaburo Tejima, 1982

#0399214267

As the sun slips behind the lake and the sky darkens, Father Owl comes out and hunts for fish to feed his family. Illustrated with the author's woodcuts.

Peeping in the Shell: A Whooping Crane is Hatched

nine - twelve

Faith McNulty, 1982

#0060241349

The true story of the hatching of an endangered Whooping Crane chick at the International Crane Foundation in Wisconsin.

Raptor! A Kid's Guide to Birds of Prey

nine - twelve

Christyna M. Laubach, et. al, 2002

#1580174752

Over 100 full-color images enhance this "kid friendly" guidebook to the physical characteristics, behavior, and different species of raptors. OSTB

Secrets of Animal Flight, The

eight - twelve

Nic Bishop, 1997

#0395778484

In text and photographs, find out the secrets of animal flight - the principles that keep fliers as different as ladybugs and eagles aloft. CLCL

Sky Dancer

four - eight

Jack Bushnell, 1996

#06880522886

The story of the friendship between a young girl and a wild, Red-tailed Hawk. This thought-provoking book on the relationship between wild animals and man captures both the beauty of nature and the reality of farm life.

Soaring with the Wind: The Bald Eagle

six - nine

Gail Gibbons, 1998

#068813730X

Gail Gibbon's thoroughly researched text and dramatic illustrations present the Bald Eagle in all its grandeur -- hunting, courting, nesting, and hatching. Words that may be unfamiliar are introduced in italicized print and pronunciation guides are provided for difficult words. OSTB

Song for the Whooping Crane

five - twelve

Eileen Spinelli, 2000

#080285172X

A poetic celebration of the Whooping Crane, an endangered species. The "song" refers to the seasonal rhythms of these birds as they migrate to Texas and Florida in October, return to Wisconsin and Canada for the nesting/hatching season in spring, and the graceful courtship dances that bind a mated pair. CLCL

Stellaluna

five - eight

Janell Cannon, 1993

#0152802177

Knocked from her mother's embrace by an attacking owl, Stellaluna lands headfirst in a bird's nest. The baby fruit bat's world is literally turned upside down when she is adopted by the nest's occupants and adapts to their bird habits.

Watching Water Birds

six - twelve

Jim Arnosky, 1997

#0792270738

Arnosky's full-color artwork and first person text provides a look at various species of fresh and saltwater birds, including loons and grebes, mergansers, mallards, wood ducks, Canada Geese, gulls, and herons. OSTB, CCBC, CLCL

When Birds Could Talk and Bats Could Sing

seven - eleven

Virginia Hamilton, 1996

#0590473727

A collection of stories, featuring sparrows, jays, buzzards, and bats, based on African-American tales. CLCL

Whooping Cranes

nine - twelve

Karen Dudley, 1997

#0817245642

A factual look at cranes covering crane biology, habitat, and folklore.

Wings on the Wind: Bird Poems

four - ten

Kate Kiesler, 2002

#061813333X

This beautifully designed and illustrated collection of serious and humorous poems about birds includes such authors as Eleanor Farjeon, Margaret Wise Brown, Carl Sandburg, and Edward Lear. CLCL

Reptiles & Amphibians

Age Level

All About Turtles (All About Series)

four - eight

Jim Arnosky, 2000

#0590481495

An appealing picture book about turtles, including their food habits, shell composition, and survival strategies. This series also includes the frog. CCBC

An Extraordinary Egg

four - eight

Leo Lionni, 1998

#0679893857

In this humorous story, Jessica the frog befriends the animal that hatches from an egg she brought home, thinking it is a chicken.

Box Turtle at Long Pond

six - eight

William T. George and Lindsay Barrett George, 1989

#0688081843

This lyrical, magnificently painted book follows Box Turtle as it searches for food, basks in the sun, and escapes a raccoon.

Foolish Tortoise, The

four - eight

Richard Buckley, 1985

#0887080022

A tortoise realizes the need for a shell after several scary encounters.

Frog Alphabet, and Other Awesome Amphibians, The

four - eight

Jerry Pallotta, 1997

#0590102524

Introduces each letter of the alphabet by describing a related amphibian.

Frog Alphabet Book, The

five - nine

Jerry Pallotta, 1990

#0881064629

A beautifully illustrated book that shows the diversity of frogs and other amphibians from around the world.

Frog Hunt

Sandra Jordan, 2002

#0761315926

This picture book offers lovely, full-color illustrations of wetlands and aquatic creatures as young children search for and release a frog. CLCL

three - seven

Growing Frogs (Read and Wonder Books)

Vivian French, 2003

#0763620521

This terrifically appealing book features simple, amusing text accompanied by color-saturated double-page spreads with scientifically correct paintings. CLCL

four - eight

How to Hide a Meadow Frog & Other Amphibians

Ruth Heller, 1995

#0448409658

A brilliantly colored hide-and-seek nature book. WSN

four - eight

Lizards, Frogs and Polliwogs

Douglas Florian, 2001

#015202591X

A collection of humorous poems about reptiles and amphibians.

five - ten

Outside and Inside Snakes

Sandra Markle, 1998

#0689819986

Exceptional full-color photographs show 18 species of snakes while accurate text describes their behaviors in terms that children will understand. Includes simple comparisons between snake and human features. CCBC

eight - twelve

Salamander Room, The

Anne Mazer, 1991

#0394929454

A boy finds a salamander and thinks of the many ways he can provide it a home. Gradually his cozy bedroom is transformed into a dark forest. WSN

four - eight

Slinky Scaly Slithery Snakes

Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, 2003

#0802776523

Vivid paintings and short paragraphs of text describe the physical and behavioral characteristics of snakes. A world map shows the distribution of twenty of the featured snakes. OSTB

four - eight

Snakes (Lerner Natural Science Book)

Sylvia Johnson, 1986

#0822595036

Graced with over 50 outstanding color photographs and clearly organized text, this excellent introduction to snakes includes their physical characteristics and the way in which they live.

six - twelve

Tale of a Tadpole

five - eight

Barbara Ann Porte, 1997

#0531300498

A family watches as their pet tadpole changes into what they think is a frog, but turns out to be a toad! Accurate illustrations depict the toad's life-cycle. OSTB

Fish

Age Level

About Fish: A Guide for Children

four - eight

Cathryn P. Sill, 2002

#1561452564

Introduces various species of fish, describing their food needs, body structures, protective mechanisms, habitats, and reproduction.

Biggest Fish in the Lake, The

six - ten

Margaret Carney, 2001

#1550747207

This lyrical tale celebrates family relationships and respect for nature as a young girl and her grandfather share their love of fishing. CLCL

Fish is Fish

four - eight

Leo Lionni, 1974

#0394827996

A modern fable of a minnow who wants to follow his frog friend onto land.

What's it Like To Be a Fish (Let's Read and Find Out Science Series)

five - nine

Wendy Pfeffer, 1996

#0064451518

This book clearly explains how a fish's body is perfectly suited to life underwater.

Insects, Earthworms & Snails

Age Level

An Extraordinary Life: The Story of a Monarch Butterfly

nine - twelve

Laurence Pringle and Bob Marshall, 1997

#0531300021

This beautifully illustrated book takes the reader on a journey into the world of one monarch butterfly. CCBC, ALA

Ant Cities

four - eight

Arthur Dorros, 1998

#0064450791

Explains how ants live and work together to build and maintain their cities.

- Ants (Life Story)*** **nine - twelve**
Michael Chinery, 1991
#0816720991
An ant's life-cycle is captured by beautiful close-up photographs and illustrations.
- Brilliant Bees*** **four - eight**
Linda Glaser, 2003
#0761326707
The author explores the physical characteristics and life-cycle of the honey bee. This book features excellent large-scale, colored-pencil illustrations. OSTB
- BUGS*** **four - eight**
Nancy Winslow Parker, 1999
#0833524542
Sixteen insects are described in lively couplets, illustrations, and diagrams.
- Bugs Are Insects (Let's Read and Find Out Science)*** **six - nine**
Anne Rockwell, 2001
#0064452034
Colorful collage illustrations and engaging narrative describe the characteristics and habits of insects. The author explains the difference between insects and spiders, as well as what makes a bug a bug. OSTB
- Bug Faces*** **five - nine**
Darlyne A. Murawski, 2000
#0792275578
This collection of close-up photographs of the "faces" of insects and other arthropods encourages youngsters to make their own observations. CLCL
- Bug Scientists, The (Scientists in the Field Series)*** **nine - twelve**
Donna M. Jackson, 2004
#0618108688
Follow in the footsteps of several bug scientists and take a closer look at the amazing world of bugs. The text is organized into profiles of entomologists, including a scientist that solves crimes and a professor who feeds his students insect-based goodies. Approximately 50% of the text focuses on scientific facts about insects. OSTB, CLCL
- Butterflies in the Garden*** **five - nine**
Carol Lerner, 2002
#0688174787
Lerner vividly depicts flowers that attract butterflies, and explains what butterflies eat and how they grow from caterpillars to adults. OSTB, CLCL
- Butterfly House*** **five - eight**
Eve Bunting, 1999
#0590848844
When a little girl rescues a caterpillar from a Blue Jay, her grandfather helps her make a house to protect the larva and watch it develop before setting it free. WSN

<p><i>Butterfly Seeds, The</i> Mary Watson, 1995 #0688141323 Jake's grandpa gives him some "magic" butterfly seeds before he emigrates with his family to America. After a sea voyage and a stay at Ellis Island, the family finds a home in a crowded tenement. Jake's new neighbors help him plant the "magic" seeds that attract butterflies. This book combines historical fiction with an intergenerational theme. CLCL</p>	<p>five - nine</p>
<p><i>Chirping Crickets (Let's Read and Find Out Science)</i> Melvin Berger, 1998 #0064451801 How do crickets chirp? Kids will enjoy finding out in this illustrated introduction to the biology and behavior of crickets. OSTB</p>	<p>four - eight</p>
<p><i>Clara Caterpillar</i> Pamela Duncan Edwards, 2001 #0060289953 This book looks at the life of a common cabbage butterfly. The story successfully combines scientific information on butterflies with a celebration of the letter "C".</p>	<p>three - five</p>
<p><i>Diary of a Worm</i> Doreen Cronin, 2003 #006000150X In this hilarious picture book, a young worm discovers there are some very good and some not so very good things about being a worm. CLCL</p>	<p>four - eight</p>
<p><i>Dragonfly Beetle Butterfly Bee (Maryjo Koch Series)</i> Maryjo Koch, 1999 #0765107619 Honored as Scientific America Book of the Year.;beautiful full-color illustrations and instructional text combine to grace this charming, poetic look at insects.</p>	<p>nine -twelve</p>
<p><i>Fireflies (Early Bird Nature Books)</i> Sally M. Walker, 2001 #0822530473 A fact-filled look at the fireflies life-cycle, characteristics, and behaviors. Explains how this insect uses bioluminescence to attract a mate. OSTB</p>	<p>eight - eleven</p>
<p><i>Fireflies in the Night (Let's Read and Find Out Book)</i> Judy Hawes, 1991 #0064451011 Brief, clearly written text tells of a young girl learning about fireflies from her grandfather.</p>	<p>five - ten</p>
<p><i>From Egg to Butterfly</i> Shannon Zemlicka, 2002 #0822507137 Follows the development of a butterfly from the egg its mother lays on a plant to the fully developed insect that flies away. OSTB</p>	<p>four- eight</p>

From Flower to Flower: Animals and Pollination

ten and up

Patricia Lauber, 1987

#0517555395

Text and illustrations describe the many ways that flowers are pollinated with emphasis on the role of bees.

Gotta Go! Gotta Go!

three - seven

Sam Swope, 2000

#0374327572

"I don't know much, but I know what I know. I gotta go! I gotta go! I gotta go to Mexico!" Making the journey seems impossible for the slow-moving caterpillar, until a transformation occurs that will help her fulfill her destiny.

Honeybees (Jump Into Science Series)

five - nine

Deborah Heiligman, 2002

#0792266781

Simple, informative text and vibrant artwork highlight the activities of these insects and their amazing sense of community, while a hands-on activity encourages kids to learn about communication through a bee dance. OSTB

How to Hide a Butterfly & Other Insects

four - eight

Ruth Heller, 1992

#044840477X

Rhyming text describes how insects use camouflage to protect themselves. WSN

Insectlopedia: Poems and Paintings

five - twelve

Douglas Florian, 1998

#0152013067

Children will delight in the playful language and hilarious illustrations while they learn about twenty-one insects, from swooping dragonflies and twirling whirligig beetles to marching army ants and feasting mosquitoes. CCBC, CLCL

Insects

four - eight

Robin Bernard, 2002

#0792266706

Engaging illustrations and carefully-worded text describe the development and behaviors of insects. OSTB

Insects and Their Homes (Nature Close-ups Series)

nine - twelve

Hidetomo Oda, 1986

#0817225285

Discusses how leaf-cutting bees, ants, bagworms, and other insects make their homes.

Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices

six - adult

Paul Fleischman, 1992

#0064460932

Fourteen poems celebrating insects are designed to be read aloud by two voices--sometimes alternating, sometimes merging. NMW

Ladybugs: Red, Fiery, and Bright

Mia Posada, 2002

#0876143346

This picture book uses rhyming text to describe the life cycle of the ladybug. OSTB

four - eight

Leaping Grasshoppers

Christine Zuchora-Walske, 2000

#082253634X

A wonderful book for the grasshopper-loving child. Vivid photographs and simple text introduces the physical characteristics and behavior of grasshoppers. OSTB

four - eight

Life and Times of the Honeybee

Charles Micucci, 1997

#039586139X

A well-organized, delightful introduction to the life of the honeybee, covering both historical and natural history background. Includes an excellent review of the role of bees and the beekeeper in honey production.

seven - twelve

Magic School Bus, Inside a Beehive (Magic School Bus Series)

Joanna Cole, 1996

#0590257218

After the class visits a beekeeper, the Magic School Bus shrinks and flies into a beehive. When Ms. Frizzle tells everyone to "be a bee", the adventure begins.

six - nine

Pill Bug's Life, A (Nature Up-close Series)

John Himmelman, 2000

#0516267981

This book follows the life of a common, and easily observed, garden creature. The story begins with the birth of a pill bug and continues through the seasons.

four - eight

Simon and Schuster - Children's Guide to Insects and Spiders

Jinny Johnson, 1997

#0689811632

This large format book identifies over 100 insects and arachnids in short paragraphs of text accented by large, full-color paintings and photographs. OSTB

nine - twelve

Snail's Spell, The

Joanne Ryder, 1998

#0140508910

A boy shrinks to the size of a snail and experiences its world. Ryder's unique simulation books also feature a caterpillar/butterfly and a chipmunk. WSN

four - eight

Starting Life Butterfly (Starting Life Series)

Claire Llewellyn, 2003

#1559718684

This bright, bold picture book illustrates the life-cycle of butterflies. *Starting Life Butterfly* also covers the topics of migration, predation, and ecosystems. OSTB

four - eight

Thinking About Ants

six - nine

Barbara Brenner, 1996

#1572552093

Thinking About Ants asks the reader to imagine what it would be like to be an ant, describing their appearance, what they eat, and where and how they live. Large pictures and brief text make this a good read-aloud book. OSTB, CCBC

Two Bad Ants

four - eight

Chris Van Allsburg, 1988

#0395486688

When two ants desert their colony, they experience a dangerous adventure that convinces them to return to the safety of their home.

Under One Rock: Bugs, Slugs, and Other Ughs

four - eight

Anthony D. Fredericks, 2001

#1584690275

A young boy decides to look closely under a rock and discovers eight creatures. This rhythmic, engaging story with close-up illustrations includes "Field Notes" containing brief facts about the creatures featured in the poem. OSTB

Waiting for Wings

three - seven

Lois Ehlert, 2001

#0152026088

Through simple, rhyming text and vibrant color collage, Ehlert follows the life-cycle of four butterflies. Includes butterfly and flower facts and identification tips, as well as a guide to planting a butterfly garden. CLCL, ALA

What's That Bug? Everyday Insects and Their Really Cool Cousins

nine - twelve

Nan Froman, 2001

#0316296929

An entomologist's view of nine familiar orders of insects. OSTB

What's Under the Log?

four - eight

Anne Hunter, 1999

#0395754968

Anne Hunter shows the creatures that scurry away when you turn over a log. Each illustration is accompanied by simple yet detailed text explaining the nature and habits of the animals. WSN

When It Comes to Bugs

three - eight

Aileen Fisher, 1986

#0060218223

Child-friendly poems about different bugs including spiders, dragonflies, and ladybugs.

When the Bees Fly Home

four - eight

Andrea Cheng, 2002

#0884482382

The son of a beekeeper, Jonathan is physically unable to help with the work. But with his mother's support he finds a way to help the family with his unique talents.

Where Butterflies Grow

four - eight

Joanne Ryder, 1996

#0525672842

In this lushly illustrated story, readers become a caterpillar growing into a butterfly.
WSN

Wonderful Worms

three - six

Linda Glaser, 1992

#1562940627

Describes the physical characteristics, behavior, and life-cycle of the common earthworm. Children will delight in reenacting worm behavior. WSN

Spiders

Age Level

About Arachnids: A Guide for Children

four - eight

Cathryn P. Sill, 2003

#1561450383

Full-page watercolor paintings and simple text depict 16 kinds of arachnids, including their physical characteristics, behavior, and life-cycle.

Lady and the Spider, The

five - nine

Faith McNulty, 1986

#0060241926

A spider has made her home among the green hills and valleys of a lettuce leaf. How is the spider to know that the lady intends to eat that very lettuce for lunch?

Once I Knew a Spider

four - eight

Jennifer Owings Dewey, 2002

#0802787002

The true story of a pregnant lady who develops a relationship with a spider. This gentle story parallels the mother's pregnancy and the spider's life-cycle. OSTB

Spectacular Spiders

four - eight

Linda Glaser, 1999

#0761303863

A typical day for the common garden spider is described as the spider spins its web, catches a meal, and explores its environment.

Spinning Spiders

five - ten

Melvin Berger, 2003

#006028697

In an easy-to-read style, the author describes how arachnids differ from insects, how they catch and eat their prey, and how their webs protect them. OSTB

Three Brave Women

five - eight

C.L.G. Martin, 1991

#0027624455

Her family's humorous anecdotes help Caitlin face her fear of spiders.

Very Busy Spider, The

four - eight

Eric Carle, 1995

#0399229191

Colorful and inviting illustrations depict an industrious spider spinning a web, plus other animal behaviors and sounds.

Plants: General

Age Level

Buried Treasure: Roots and Tubers

nine - twelve

Meredith Sayles Hughes and Tom Hughes, 1998

#0822528304

Relates the history and describes the use and production of roots and tubers such as potatoes, yams, carrots, radishes, and parsnips. Includes recipes. OSTB

Compost! Growing Gardens from your Garbage

four - eight

Linda Glaser, 1996

#1562946595

In this picture book, a little girl explains how her family turns garbage and garden waste into soil using their compost bin. Information on composting is provided.

Counting Wildflowers

four - eight

Bruce McMillan, 1986

#0688028594

Number concepts 1 - 20 are presented in full-page color photographs of wildflowers.

Dandelion Adventure

four - seven

L. Patricia Kite, 1998

#0761300376

A spring wind sends seven dandelion seed parachutes sailing through the air. Each lands in a different place (garden, sidewalk crack, park, woodland, etc.). This appealing picture book makes a story of the dandelion's life-cycle. WSN

Dandelions: Stars in the Grass

four - eight

Mia Posada, 2000

#1575053837

This cheerful book uses rhyme to explore the life of the dandelion. OSTB

From Seed to Plant (Rookie Read-About Science Series)

six - eight

Allan Fowler, 2001

#0516216821

Describes the development of a seed into a plant by means of pollination, fertilization, and seed dispersal. Good beginner book on plants.

From Spore to Spore: Ferns and How They Grow

nine - twelve

Jerome Wexler, 1985

#039608317X

Ferns are fascinating. This book explores their life-cycle and propagation techniques.

Gardener, The

Sarah Stewart, 1997

#0374325170

Set in the depression era, this series of letters relates what happens when Lydia Grace goes to live with her uncle after her father loses his job. She takes her love of gardening with her, transforming a city rooftop into a garden. CHB

five - twelve

Mushrooms

Millicent Selsam, 1986

#0688062490

Discusses the history, structure, and varieties of mushrooms.

nine - twelve

Planting a Rainbow

Lois Ehlert, 1988

#0152626093

This educational and enjoyable book helps children understand how to plant bulbs, seeds, and seedlings, and nurture their growth.

three -seven

Plants on the Trail with Lewis and Clark

Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, 2003

#0618067760

Describes the journey of Lewis and Clark through the western United States, focusing on the plants they cataloged, their uses for food and medicine, and the plant lore of Native American people. Great mix of history and botany. OSTB

nine - twelve

Plants That Never Ever Bloom

Ruth Heller, 1999

#0698115589

In *Plants that Never Ever Bloom*, rich, colorful illustrations and informative, rhyming verse unlock a world where mushrooms glow at night and seaweed grows to be gigantic--without a flower in sight! WSN

five - eight

Pumpkin Book, The

Gail Gibbons, 2000

#0823416364

Vivid pictures and simple text shows the cultivation and harvesting of pumpkins. OSTB

four - eight

Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden

George Levenson, 2002

#1582460787

This story illustrates the circle of life as pumpkin seedlings grow, sprout, bud, and bloom, then break down into rich soil from which seeds sprout again. OSTB

four - eight

Reason for a Flower, The

Ruth Heller, 1999

#0698115597

Brief text and illustrations explain plant reproduction and the purpose of a flower. WSN

five - eight

<p><i>Red Poppy, The</i> Irmgard Lucht, 1995 #0786800550 In this striking illustrated, large-format picture book, close-up, detailed paintings portray the life-cycle of a brilliant poppy flower. CLCL</p>	<p>four - eight</p>
<p><i>Seed Grows, A: My First Look at a Plant's Life Cycle (My First Look at Nature Book)</i> Pamela Hickman, 1997 #1550742000 This book uses simple text to investigate life-cycles in a backyard garden. CCBC</p>	<p>three - seven</p>
<p><i>Seed Leaf Flower Fruit</i> Maryjo Koch, 1999 #0765107635 Artist Maryjo Koch combines scientific fact, charming tidbits of information, and captivating watercolor illustrations to celebrate plants.</p>	<p>nine - twelve</p>
<p><i>Seeds on the Go (Bowmar Nature Series)</i> Aileen Fisher, 1977 #0837224004 Rhyming text and illustrations describe how seeds travel.</p>	<p>three - eight</p>
<p><i>Seeds, Stems, and Stamens: The Ways Plants Fit into Their World</i> Susan E. Goodman, 2001 #0761318747 Color photographs and concise text describe plant adaptations. OSTB</p>	<p>eight - twelve</p>
<p><i>Slime Molds and Fungi</i> Elaine Pascoe, 1998 #1567111823 Using natural science projects, this book explores and explains the different types and characteristics of slime molds and fungi.</p>	<p>nine - twelve</p>
<p><i>Something is Growing</i> Walter Lyon Krudop, 1995 #0689319401 A planted seed goes berserk in this humorous story. CLCL</p>	<p>five - eight</p>
<p><i>Ten Seeds</i> Ruth Brown, 2001 #0375806970 A counting book about predator/prey relationships and plant life-cycles. OSTB, CLCL</p>	<p>three - six</p>
<p><i>Wildflowers Around the Year</i> Hope Ryden, 2001 #0395858143 Beautiful photographs illustrate 38 different wildflowers. Accompanying text describes habitat, adaptations, and human uses of the plants. CLCL</p>	<p>nine - fourteen</p>

Trees

Age Level

Apple Pie Tree, The

four - seven

Zoe Hall, 1996

#0590623826

Describes an apple tree as it grows, flowers, and produces fruit, while in its branches robins make a nest, lay eggs, and raise a family.

Are Trees Alive?

four - eight

Debbie S. Miller, 2002

#0802788017

This delightful story poetically compares the similarities between the parts of a tree and the parts of a child's body. Rich illustrations accompany the text.

Around the Oak

five - nine

Gerda Muller, 1991

#0525452397

Three children observe the animals and plants of the forest, including a 300-year-old giant oak. Observation and listening skills are stressed, making this a good book before a nature hike.

At Grandpa's Sugar Bush

three - six

Margaret Carney, 2002

#1550746715

With his grandpa, a young boy shares the tasks involved in making maple syrup. CCBC

Autumn Leaves

three - seven

Ken Robbins, 1998

#0439149886

This book examines the characteristics of different kinds of leaves, focusing on their shapes. Also explains how and why leaves change color. CCBC, CLCL

Big Tree, The

six - ten

Bruce Hiscock, 1999

#1563978105

This story follows a maple tree from its seedling stage during the American Revolution to its maturity in the twentieth century. WSN

Busy Year, A

three - seven

Leo Lionni, 2004

#0375827374

Mouse twins befriend a tree and watch it grow and change during the year.

Gift of the Tree, The

six - nine

Alvin Tresselt, 1992

#0688106846

The role of an oak tree in the cycle of nature is revealed as an ancient tree--even as it dies and returns to the earth--provides nourishment for new life. WSN

Have You Seen Trees?

Joanne Oppenheim, 1995

#0590466917

The rhythmic language and lush paintings of this joyful poem celebrate different trees--from young to old, short to tall, and throughout the seasons. CLCL

three - eight

Hello Tree!

Joanne Ryder, 1991

#0525673105

The author uses realistic illustrations and descriptive text to encourage children to experience the unique properties of trees through their senses.

five - nine

How Do Apples Grow?

Betsy Maestro, 1993

#0064451178

Brief text and soft, watercolor illustrations describe flower structure and fertilization.

six - nine

In a Nutshell (Sharing Nature with Children Book)

Joseph Anthony, 1999

#188322098X

An acorn drops from a great oak and grows. Animals nibble at it, a fire threatens it, but it eventually towers high in the forest, observing the human scene below. At the end of its life-cycle, its energy passes into other forms--including a cherry pie enjoyed by a young boy. Gorgeous illustrations accompany this story.

three - eight

Meeting Trees

Scott Russell Sanders, 1997

#0792241401

On a walk through the woods, a boy and his father share what they know about the bark, leaves, and fruit of different tree species.

four - eight

My Favorite Tree: Terrific Trees of North America

Diane Iverson, 1999

#1883220939

My Favorite Tree examines the characteristics of 26 North American trees through the eyes and experiences of children.

four - twelve

Oak & Company

Richard Mabey, 1983

#0688019935

The author follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later.

six - ten

Oak Tree

Gordon Morrison, 2000

#0395956447

Readers follow the tree and its inhabitants through the seasons. Detailed, realistic line drawings with watercolor washes illustrate the yearly cycle, while black-and-white drawings provide additional facts. CCBC

five - ten

<p><i>Old Elm Speaks</i></p> <p>Kristine O'Connell George, 1998 #0395876117 Through enchanting paintings and imaginative, humorous text the author invites us to look closely at trees. This book captures trees throughout the year in short poems, free verse, and haiku.</p>	five - ten
<p><i>Once There Was a Tree</i></p> <p>Natalia Romanova, 1989 #0140546774 This story is about an old tree split by lightning and then felled by a woodsman. All that remains is a stump. However, the old tree brings life to others, for one-by-one a beetle, ant, titmouse, frog, and a bear make the stump their own. WSN</p>	six - ten
<p><i>Sky Tree: Seeing Science through Art</i></p> <p>Thomas Locker, 1995 #0060248831 Magnificent paintings and lyrical text invite children to experience the life of a tree and its relationship to the sky. Includes a reflection question on each page.</p>	five - nine
<p><i>Sugaring-off Party, The</i></p> <p>Jonathon London, 1995 #0525451870 In this intergenerational story, Paul's grandmother describes her first sugaring-off party where they made maple syrup and served it on snow for dessert.</p>	four - eight
<p><i>Tell Me, Tree: All About Trees for Kids</i></p> <p>Gail Gibbons, 2002 #0316309036 Simple yet appealing book about the parts of a tree and their functions, the growth of trees, and the different types of trees. CLCL</p>	four - eight
<p><i>Tree for All Seasons, A</i></p> <p>Robin Bernard, 2001 #0792294270 Color photographs illustrate the yearly changes in a sugar maple tree.</p>	four - eight
<p><i>Tree is Growing, A</i></p> <p>Arthur Dorros, 1997 #0590453009 Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow. Detailed drawings are carefully labeled while sidebars provide examples from different species. CCBC</p>	four - eight
<p><i>Why Do Leaves Change Color? (Let's Read and Find Out Science)</i></p> <p>Betsy Maestro, 1994 #0064451267 Brightly colored illustrations and text explains how leaf color change occurs. Includes simple instructions for hands-on activities using leaves.</p>	five - nine

Woodpile**five - nine**

Peter Parnall, 1990

#0027701557

Combining lyrical text with ink, pencil, and watercolor drawings, the author depicts the creatures that make a home in his woodpile. Children will enjoy looking for the "hidden" aspects of the drawings. This book indirectly conveys the importance of trees to man and wildlife.

Ecological Concepts & Environmental Issues

Age Level***Aani and the Tree Huggers*****seven - eleven**

Jeannine Atkins, 2000

#1584300043

Based on true events in India in the 1970s, young Aani and the other women in her village defend their forest from developers--explaining that they provide food, fuel, and homes for animals--by wrapping their arms around the trees. CCBC

Acting for Nature: What Young People Around the World Are Doing to Protect the Environment**nine - twelve**

Sneed B. Collard III, 1999

#1890771244

This inspiring book describes the efforts of fifteen ordinary, young people to protect the environment in their communities.

And Then There Was One: The Mysteries of Extinction (Sierra Club Books)**nine - twelve**

Marjorie Flacklam, 1993

#0316259829

Examines the many reasons for the extinction and near-extinction of animal species. Discusses how some near-extinctions have been reversed through special breeding programs and legislation to save endangered species.

Big Book for Our Planet, The**nine - fourteen**

Edited by Jean Craighead George

#0525451196

Nearly thirty stories, poems, and non-fiction pieces by such notable authors as Natalie Babbitt, Marilyn Sachs, and Jane Yolen demonstrate some of the environmental problems now plaguing our planet.

Butterfly Count**six - eight**

Sneed B. Collard III, 2002

#0823416070

A gentle, intergenerational story with an environmental message. Amy and her mother search for a very special butterfly on land her great-great-grandmother donated to a conservation group. This lovely book features watercolor illustrations of prairie plants plus information about butterflies and how to attract them. OSTB

- Chattanooga Sludge: Cleaning Toxic Sludge from Chattanooga Creek*** **six - twelve**
 Molly Bang, 1996
 #015216345X
 Blending a picture book format with nonfiction content, the author describes a scientist's experimental use of microbes to turn toxic sludge into clear water. Good introduction to ecology and the scientific method.
- Common Ground: The Water, Earth and Air We Share*** **eight - twelve**
 Molly Bang, 1997
 #0590100564
 In the past, villages could bring sheep to the "common ground" of the village. The outcome--lots of sheep and not enough grass--provides a historical example of natural resources depletion. Without offering solutions, but instead prompting discussion and reflection, the author continues with similar vignettes related to the seas, forests, fossil fuels, and water of our world. CCBC
- Day They Parachuted Cats on Borneo, The: A Drama of Ecology*** **nine - twelve**
 Charlotte Pomerantz, 1971
 #0201091667
 When DDT, used to kill malaria-spreading mosquitoes, kills the cats, it causes a plague of rats. A true story that illustrates the interconnectedness of nature's components.
- Echoes of the Elders*** **seven - twelve**
 Chief Lelookska, 1997
 #078942455X
 This collection of five tales represents the first written record of Chief Lelookska's tellings of the ancient myths and legends of the Northwest Coast Indians. These often humorous, sometimes frightening stories, teach us that we should treat the oceans, the land, and its creatures with respect and reverence. CLCL, ALA
- Exotic Invaders: Killer Bees, Fire Ants, and Other Alien Species are Infesting America!*** **nine - twelve**
 Jeanne M. Lesinski, 1996
 #0802783902
 From the dangers of imported fire ants to killer African honeybees, six brief chapters profile selected 'alien species' infesting this country. Big letters and details about each invader combined with eye-catching photos and "how you can help" sidebars will grab kids' attention. CLCL
- Falcons Nest on Skyscrapers*** **five - nine**
 Priscilla Belz Jenkins, 1996
 #0060211040
 Describes the decline of the Peregrine Falcon due to DDT poisoning, and it's recovery due to captive breeding programs. CLCL
- Firebug Connection: An Ecological Mystery*** **nine - twelve**
 Jean Craighead George, 1993
 #0060214902
 When Maggie's firebugs fail to metamorphose and grow large and explode instead, she uses scientific reasoning to determine the cause of their death.

Forest

Laura Godwin, 1998

#0060266643

An appealing story about the relationship between humans and wild animals. A young girl hears a noise in the forest. When she and her mother go to investigate, they find a small fawn and take it home "just for tonight".

four - eight

Frog Girl

Paul Owen Lewis, 2001

#1582460485

This story is based on the traditions of the Northwest Pacific native people. When the frogs suddenly vanish from the lake behind her village, a young Native American girl is led to the frog village underneath the lake and learns what she must do to save both the frogs and her own people. WSN

nine - twelve

Frog Odyssey

Snape, 1992

#067174741X

When a construction project forces the frogs to lose their pond, they venture into the city to find a new home. A delightful, often humorous tale told from the frog's perspective. The ecological issues forming the underpinning for this story are balanced by the fun elements of the frogs' march.

four - eight

Global Warming: The Threat of the Earth's Changing Climate

Laurence Pringle, 2003

#1587172283

Laurence Pringle describes global warming, exploring its past, present, and possible future damage to our climate, ecology, and economy.

nine - fourteen

Goose's Story

Cari Best, 2002

#0374327505

A young girl finds a Canada Goose with a badly injured foot. Shunned by the other geese, the goose is unable to search for food, swim, or fly away. The girl wants to help, but her family cautions her to let nature take its course. CLCL

four - eight

Hawk, I'm Your Brother

Peter Parnall, 1986

#0689711026

Determined to learn to fly, Rudy adopts a hawk hoping that their kinship will bring him closer to his goal. A touching story, useful for sparking discussion on the ethics of keeping captive wildlife. CHB

three - ten

Hey, Little Ant

Phillip Hoose and Hannah Hoose, 1998

#1883672546

This playful, thought-provoking story features a conversation between a little boy and the ant hovering in the shadow of his shoe. The story brings up questions about ethics and peer pressure, encouraging the very youngest child to decide for themselves--to squish or not to squish?! WSN

four - eight

<i>Just a Dream</i>	nine - twelve
Chris Van Allsburg, 1990	
#0395533082	
Walter refuses to sort and recycle trash. When he dreams of an overcrowded, polluted future, he starts to understand the importance of taking care of the earth.	
<i>Keepers of the Animals: Native American Stories and Wildlife Activities for Children</i>	four - twelve
Michael Caduto and Joseph Bruchar, 1997	
#1555910947	
A collection of tales and myths focusing on the relationship between man and nature.	
<i>Lorax, The</i>	four - twelve
Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)	
#0394823370	
Dr. Seuss uses humor and rhyme in this classic story about ecological balance and the hazards of overexploiting natural resources. WSN	
<i>Magic School Bus, At the Waterworks, The</i>	six - nine
Joanna Cole, 1988	
#0590403605	
When Ms. Frizzle takes her class on a field trip to the waterworks, everyone ends up experiencing the water purification system.	
<i>Missing Gator of Gumbo Limbo, The: An Ecological Mystery</i>	nine - twelve
Jean Craighead George, 1992	
#006020396X	
Nature detective Liza K. searches for a missing alligator and in the process studies the delicate ecological balance keeping her outdoor home beautiful.	
<i>Morning on the Lake</i>	five - eight
Jan Bourdeau Waboose, 1997	
#1550745883	
Three stories link together in this book celebrating cross-generational relationships and the interdependence of nature and man. In the first, the grandchild and the grandfather encounter a loon family; in the second, they observe an eagle; and lastly, they see a pack of timber wolves. CCBC, CLCL	
<i>Night of the Pufflings</i>	six - twelve
Bruce McMillan, 1995	
#0395708109	
Children rescue baby puffins that failed to reach the sea on their maiden voyage. ALA	
<i>Old Turtle</i>	five- nine
Douglas Wood, 2001	
#0439309085	
Discover how Old Turtle brings peace to all the beings of the world in this classic fable of respect for the earth and human diversity. An environmentally conscious, gender-balanced tale illustrated with soft, liquid watercolors.	

Once a Wolf: How Wildlife Biologists Fought to Bring Back the Gray Wolf

ten - fourteen

Stephen R. Swinburne, 2001

#0395898277

This book explores the life of a wolf, from its ecosystem function to its historical persecution. OSTB, CCBC, CLCL

Pig Tale

four - eight

Olivia Newton-John, 2001

#0613178394

Ziggy proudly invites other piglets to see his father's creations, made from "junk" he has been saving. A good introduction to recycling for young children.

Princess Who Danced with Cranes, The

four - seven

Annette LeBox, 1997

#0929005872

Princess Vivian loves to play in the marsh and see the cranes. When the marsh is filled in to create more lawn, Vivian convinces her father to restore it.

Race to Save the Lord God Bird, The

eleven and up

Phillip Hoose, 2004

#0374361738

The tragedy of extinction is explained through the dramatic story of a legendary bird, the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, and of those who tried to possess it, paint it, shoot it, sell it, and save it. ALA

Raptor Rescue! An Eagle Flies Free

seven - eleven

Sylvia A. Johnson, 1995

#1550745883

This book focuses on the work of the Gabbert Raptor Center in Minnesota, piggybacking the story of an injured Bald Eagle with a first-hand look at wildlife rescue, rehabilitation, and eventual release. CCBC

Recycle Every Day

four - eight

Nancy Elizabeth Wallace, 2003

#0761451498

Minna has a school assignment to create a recycling poster. The project engages her rabbit family, which spends the week practicing different techniques.

River Ran Wild, A: An Environmental History

six - ten

Lynne Cherry, 2002

#0152163727

A story of restoration and renewal. Learn how the modern-day descendants of the Nashua Indians and European settlers were able to combat pollution and restore the beauty of the Nashua River. WSN

Roadside, The

eight - eleven

David Bellamy, 1988

#0356135683

This book presents the story of the plant and animal life by a disused farm track, and what happens when man threatens to destroy it by building a six-lane road.

She's Wearing a Dead Bird on Her Head

five - nine

Kathryn Lasky, 1997

#0786811641

To save endangered birds, two women help educate the public and pass legislation. WSN, CLCL

Snake in the House, A

four - eight

Faith McNulty, 1994

#0590447580

An escaped snake finds many clever places to hide throughout a house, while the boy who brought him home continues to search for him. A fun story with an important lesson ... wild animals belong in the wild. WSN

Swan Song: Poems of Extinction

ten - fourteen

J. Patrick Lewis, 2003

#01568461755

Poems by renowned children's poet J. Patrick Lewis are illustrated by wood engravings to commemorate the lives and deaths of 20 animals species that have become extinct in the past three centuries. CLCL

There Once Was a Sky Full of Stars

six - twelve

Bob Crelin, 2003

#193155904X

This beautifully illustrated book helps children discover the magic of the night sky and the growing problem of light pollution.

There's an Owl in the Shower

nine - twelve

Jean Craighead George, 1997

#064406822

Protecting spotted owls in the old growth forests of California has cost Borden's father his job as a logger. To retaliate, Borden plans to kill any spotted owl he sees. Changes occur when he and his father find themselves caring for an owlet.

Where Does the Garbage Go?

five - nine

Paul Showers, 1994

#0064451143

Filled with graphs, charts, and diagrams, this book explains how we deal with too much garbage and provides easy ways to be a part of the solution.

Where Once There Was a Wood

five - ten

Denise Fleming, 2001

#0613286987

Inspired by events in her own backyard, author Denise Fleming creates a poignant yet hopeful portrait of our disappearing natural environment. CCBC, ALA

Who Really Killed Cock Robin?

nine - twelve

Jean Craighead George, 1991

#0525427007

Two ecology-conscious children try to trace the imbalances in the environment that might have caused the death of the town's best-known robin.

Wildlife Detectives: How Forensic Scientists Fight Crimes Against Nature

nine - twelve

Donna M. Jackson, 2000

#0395869765

A fascinating book about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory where scientists work to solve crimes against wildlife. OSTB, CCBC

Wilson's World

five - eight

Edith Thatcher Hurd, 1971

#0060227508

Wilson paints a beautiful world, but soon makes it unlivable with too many people and cities. On his second try he creates an environmentally friendly landscape.

Window

five - ten

Jeannie Baker, 1991

#06880899186

A wordless picture book portraying the view from a boy's bedroom window from birth to age twenty, depicting urban sprawl. An excellent, value-neutral, introduction to a discussion of environmental sustainability.

Wolf Who Loved Music, The

nine - twelve

Christopher Gallaz, 2003

#156846178X

After mentioning that she may have seen a wolf in the woods that she thinks was attracted by her violin playing, a young girl is saddened when police and hunters kill the animal. A discomfoting book, this selection is a useful preface to a discussion of environmental attitudes and behaviors. CLCL

Wump World

four - eight

Bill Peet, 1981

#0395311292

The Pollutians invade the Wump World and turn the green meadows into a concrete jungle.

Biographies

Age Level

Aldo Leopold: Protector/Wild

nine - twelve

Della A. Yannuzzi, 2002

#0761324658

This biography, full of vivid photographs, chronicles Leopold's life, including the health-related career changes that led him to protect the Gila National Forest. Different career opportunities are interwoven in this book.

Bird Watching with Margaret Morse Nice

nine - twelve

Michael Elsohn Ross, 1997

#1575050021

Chronicles the life and career of Margaret Morse Nice, who devoted more than eighty years to studying and writing about birds. OSTB

Boy Who Drew Birds: A Story of John James Audubon

seven - ten

Jacqueline Davies, 2004

#0618243437

This book focuses on a short period in the famous naturalist's youth, revealing how he pioneered a banding technique essential to our understanding of birds.

Girls Who Looked Under Rocks: The Lives of Six Pioneering Naturalists

ten - fourteen

Jeannine Atkins, 2000

#1584690119

This book describes the lives, from early childhood to maturity, of six award-winning scientists: Maria Merian (b.1647), Anna Comstock (b.1854), Frances Hamerstrom (b.1907), Rachel Carson (b.1907), Miriam Rothschild (b.1908) and Jane Goodall (b.1934). OSTB, CCBC

Into the Deep Forest with Henry David Thoreau

nine and up

Jim Murphy, 1995

#0395605229

A sketchbook format introduction to an important naturalist and his writing for young children. Text is excerpted from Thoreau's own writings and describes a journey into the deep forest of Maine. The accompanying oil paintings and pencil drawings capture the quiet beauty of nature. CCBC

John Muir: My Life with Nature

ten and up

Joseph Cornell, 2000

#1584690097

An introductory biography into the life of John Muir, told in his own words.

Johnny Appleseed

four - eight

Steven Kellogg, 1988

#0688064175

Exploring the life of John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed), highlighting his love of nature and his kindness to animals.

Pond Watching with Ann Morgan

nine - twelve

Michael Elsohn Ross, 2000

#1575053853

Describes the life and work of Ann Haven Morgan, who studied, taught, and wrote about the animals of ponds and streams and the importance of an ecological approach to conservation. Also serving as a field guide, text boxes on almost every page introduce aspects of pond ecology. OSTB

Rachel Carson: Preserving a Sense of Wonder

eight - twelve

Thomas Locker and Joseph Bruchac

#1555914829

This handsome picture book biography presents the life and accomplishments of Rachel Carson. Locker's lyrical paintings re-create important scenes in her development and are accompanied by memorable quotes from Carson, together with Bruchac's poetically rendered biography.

Rachel: The Story of Rachel Carson

five - nine

Amy Ehrlich, 2003

#0152162275

As a young girl, Rachel Carson loved being outside, exploring and learning about the natural world. Amy Ehrlich's lucid prose, complemented by luminous paintings, tells a memorable story of courage, the power of the written word, and--most of all--the importance of following your heart. OSTB, CCBC

Six Little Chickadees, A Scientist and Her Work

nine and up

Ada Graham, 1982

#005900750X

Looks at the studies of Corelia Stanwood, a scientist who began to study birds in the early days of ornithology.

Story of Rachel Carson and the Environmental Movement, The

four - eight

Leila M. Foster, 1990

#0516047531

Describes the life of ecologist Rachel Carson, with emphasis on the importance of her books for the environmental movement.

**The Tree of Life: A Book Depicting the Life of Charles Darwin
Naturalist, Geologist and Thinker**

nine - twelve

Peter Sis, 2003

#0374456282

Presents the life of the famous nineteenth-century naturalist from childhood to university studies to career. Darwin's curiosity and passion for detail resulted in extensive notebooks, diaries, and published writings, sections of which are effectively combined with detailed pen and ink watercolor illustrations from Caldecott Honor illustrator Sis to portray the essence of the man and his work.

Woods Scientist, The (Scientists in the Field)

seven - twelve

Stephen R. Swinburne, 2002

#061804602X

Sue Morse's childhood fascination with forests and wildlife led to a career as a wildlife specialist and photographer. Swinburne sketches her early life and then takes the reader on a tracking expedition with Morse to learn about the behaviors and habitat needs of a variety of animals. OSTB, CCBC

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