



## Explore Your Parks!

Come for a visit and then extend your experience by visiting your local library and checking out one of these great children's books. Read more on selected topics. Have favorite books to share. Contact us at [massparks@state.ma.us](mailto:massparks@state.ma.us) with your favorite environmental book.

## Animal Signs & Tracks

Ackerman, Diane. Animal Sense. A. A. Knopf. 2003.

A collection of poems that tells how such animals as alligators, bats, penguins, bumblebees, and skunks use their different senses. Grades PreK-3. ISBN: 0375823840.

Berger, Melvin. Insect Lives. Newbridge.

The fascinating world of insects is revealed to students, as well as the important role these creatures play in the balance of nature. Grades 1-4. ISBN: 1567842208.

Glaser, Linda. Wonderful Worms

Travel through the life of a worm. Using simple yet descriptive words with wonderful above and below ground illustrations, children will delight in acting like a worm. Grade PreK. ISBN: 1562947303.

Hoose, Phillip & Hannah. Hey, Little Ant. Ten Speed Press. 1998.

What would you do if the ant you were about to step on looked up and started talking? Would you stop and listen? What if your friends saw you hesitate? That's what happens in this funny, thought-provoking book. Originally a song by a father-daughter team, this conversation between two creatures, large and small, is bound to inspire important discussions. It might even answer that classic childhood question: To squish or not to squish? Grades PreK-3. ISBN: 1883672546.

Larson, Gary. There's a Hair in my Dirt. HarperCollins Publishers. 1998.

A true to form Gary Larson twisted tale about the life of a worm and other aspects of nature underground. Grades 4-8. ISBN: 0060932740.

Mazer, Anne. The Salamander Room. Knopf. 1991.

A young boy finds a salamander and thinks of the many things he can do to make a perfect home for it. Grades PreK-2. ISBN: 0679861874.

Ryder, Joanne. Chipmunk Song. Penguin Putnam. 1990.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be... a...Chipmunk? This beautiful book looks at being a chipmunk from the eyes of a 4-year-old girl, from the warmth of a cozy den to the harsh realities of weasels and hawks. This book encourages children to live in harmony with their surroundings. Grades PreK-2. ISBN: 0140547967.

Ryder, Joanne. The Snail's Spell. Penguin Putnam. 1988.

Brilliant illustrations and a short text invite an unnamed sleeping, pajama-clad child into a garden teeming with wildlife. The boy gradually shrinks until he is so small he experiences things as a snail would. Grades PreK-2. ISBN: 0140508910.

Ryder, Joanne. Catching the Wind. Morrow, William and Co. 1989.

Imagine waking up on a crisp autumn morning and changing into a Canada goose. In this nature fantasy a girl is transformed into a migrating goose, returning home to her bed after a full day of taking part in the experiences of the flock. This book has good science and invites the child to imagine and act out an animal's life. Grades PreK-2. ISBN: 0688133339.

Wood, Audrey. Quick As A Cricket. Childs Play International, 1990.

Pictures of snails, ants, and toads. Grade PreK. ISBN: 0-85953-151-1.

Hunter, Anne. What's Under the Log? Houghton Mifflin. 1999.

What are the things that scurry away when you turn over a log? With beautifully detailed illustrations, Anne Hunter shows the creatures a child might find there—a sowbug, a salamander, a millipede. Each illustration is accompanied by simple yet detailed text explaining the nature and habits of the animals that find shelter under a log. Grades PreK-3. ISBN: 0395754968.

Parker, Nancy Winston and Joan Richards. Bugs. Wright, Greenwillow Books. 1987.

Includes general information, jokes, and brief descriptions of the physical characteristics, habits, and natural environment of a variety of common insects. Grades K-3. ISBN: 0688082963.

Ehlert, Lois. Nuts to You. Harcourt. 1993.

A rascally squirrel has an indoor adventure in a city apartment. Grades PreK-2. ISBN: 0152050647.

Fleming, Denise. In the Tall, Tall Grass. Holt. 1991.

Rhymed text (crunch, munch, caterpillars lunch) presents a toddler's view of creatures found in the grass from lunchtime till nightfall, such as bees, ants, and moles. Grades PreK-K. ISBN: 0805039414.

## Biodiversity

Wood, Douglas. Old Turtle. Scholastic. 1992.

The Old Turtle teaches humans the value in all living things. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0439309085.

Williams, Terry Tempest. Between Cattails. Scribner and Sons. 1985.

A simple introduction to the plant and animal life that flourishes in a marsh. Grade K-4. ISBN: 0684183099.

Taylor, Barbara. River Life. DK Publishing. 1998.

Examines, in text and photographs, the various animals and plants that live in and along a river. Grade 2-7. ISBN: 0789434784.

Pfeffer, Wendy. A Log's Life. Simon and Schuster. 1997 After an oak tree falls in the forest, it has another life as home to a variety of creatures. As it decays over time, it provides food and shelter to porcupines, ants, mushrooms, salamanders, and many others, until it eventually turns into a mound of rich black earth. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0689806361.

Hunter, Anne. What's Under the Log? Houghton Mifflin. 1999.

What are the things that scurry away when you turn over a log? With beautifully detailed illustrations, Anne Hunter shows the creatures a child might find there—a sowbug, a salamander, a millipede. Each illustration is accompanied by simple yet detailed text explaining the nature and habits of the animals that find shelter under a log. ages 4–8. ISBN: 0395754968.

Fredericks, Anthony D. Under One Rock: Bugs, Slugs, and other Ughs. Dawn Publications, 2001.

“No child will be able to resist looking under a rock after reading Frederick’s rhythmic, engaging story. He has masterfully combined scientific fact and a clever cumulative story to create an entertaining book that will teach young children about the critters that can be found living under rocks.” Grades PreK-5. ISBN: 1584690275.

## Careers

Stone, Marti. The Singing Fir Tree. Putnam. 1992.

In his quest to find the perfect wood for his masterpiece, a woodcarver tries to cut down the town's beloved singing fir tree. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0399222073.

London, Jonathan. The Sugaring-Off Party. Dutton. 1994.

Paul's grandmother describes her first sugaring-off party at Tante Loulou's farmhouse where they boiled maple sap into syrup and poured it on snow to make a delicious dessert. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0616017057.

Lasky, Kathryn. Sugaring Time. MacMillan. 1983.

Text and photographs show how a family taps the sap from maple trees and processes it into maple syrup. Grade 2-7. ISBN: 0808584456.

Jordan, Sandra. Christmas Tree Farm. Orchard Books. 1993.

Describes the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm in Rhode Island throughout each season of the year. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0785798978.

Community Helpers Series. Capstone Press. 2003.

Abrams, Kathleen and Lawrence. Logging and Lumbering. Silver Burdett. 1980.

Discusses the work of loggers, activities at sawmills, various products derived from trees, and measures taken to insure a continued supply of lumber. Grades 3+. ISBN: 0671340077.

## Conservation

Ray, Mary Lyn. Pumpkins: A Story for a Field. Harcourt Children’s Books. 1996.

A heart-warming story of a man that harvests and sells a bountiful crop of pumpkins so that he will be able to preserve the field from developers. Grades K-3. ISBN: 015201358X.

Rand, Gloria. Fighting for the Forest. Holt and Company. 1999.

When they find blue logging markings in the ancient forest where they like to hike, a boy and his father try to save the trees from being cut down. Includes information about how to find and enjoy ancient forests. Grade K-2. ISBN: 0805054669.

Kellogg, Steven. Johnny Appleseed. Morrow Junior Books. 1988.  
John Chapman loved animals and nature so much that he left home to live in the wilderness. Wherever he roamed, he cleared the land to plant apple trees. He gave the trees to settlers who followed, thus earning the fond name "Johnny Appleseed."

Johnson, D.B. Henry Builds A Cabin. Houghton Mifflin. 2002.  
Inspired by the life of Henry David Thoreau, and illustrated with nature-filled paintings by author and artist D. B. Johnson, Henry Builds a Cabin is a thoughtful and beautiful meditation on what a home can be. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0618132015.

Geisel, Theodor (Dr. Seuss). The Lorax. Random House. 1971.  
In this classic story, the Once-ler describes how his greedy actions destroyed a beautiful and thriving environment. Children will enjoy the colorful characters and rhyming verse and adults will appreciate the subtle messages about the negative effects of deforestation, habitat destruction, and air and water pollution. ISBN: 0394823370. (also available in Spanish)

Ehrlich, Amy. Rachel: The Story of Rachel Carson. Harcourt. 2003.  
Amy Ehrlich's lucid and loving prose, complemented by Wendell Minor's luminous paintings, tells a memorable story of the power of the word, the power of the individual, and--most of all--the importance of following your heart. Grades 1-4. ISBN: 0152162275.

Atkins, Jeannine. Girls Who Looked Under Rocks The Lives of Six Pioneering Naturalists. Dawn. 2000.  
The six women portrayed in this book—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)—all grew up to become award-winning scientists, writers and artists, as comfortable with a pen as with a magnifying glass. They each overcame opposition and found ways to pass on their vision of how all lives in nature are beautifully connected. Grades 4-5. ISBN: 1584690119.

Aliki. Johnny Appleseed. Prentice-Hall. 1963.  
Retells the wandering of John Chapman whose devotion to planting apple trees made him a legendary figure in American history. Grades K-3. ISBN: 0671667467. (also available in Spanish)

CCC

Freedman, Russell. Children of the Great Depression. Clarion Books 2005.  
This is a book told by chorus, featuring the voices of those who endured the Depression, and is embellished with black-and-white photos. Grade 4-8. ISBN-10: 0618446303 ISBN-13: 978-0618446308

Landau, Elaine. The Great Depression. Children's Press(CT) 2007.  
Dramatic and defining moments in American history come vividly the life in the Cornerstones of Freedom series. Grade 4-8. ISBN-10: 0531187675 ISBN-13: 978-0531187678

Cooper, Michael L. *Dust to Eat: Drought and Depression in the 1930s*. Clarion Books 2004.s  
Background information on the Great Depression and the Roosevelt administration's response, the text's strength is the very human face it puts on the overwhelming tragedy of the Dust Bowl years. Grade 4-7. ISBN-10: 0618154493

Brown, Harriet, *Welcome to Kit's World, 1934 : Growing Up During America's Great Depression*, American Girl 2002.  
Scrapbook History Two titles in the American Girls Collection provide a unique perspective on history with a handsome square scrapbook presentation, including vintage-style postcards and pullout souvenirs. Grade 4-8. ISBN-10: 158485359X

Koller , Jackie French . *Nothing to Fear*, Gulliver Books Paperbacks 1993.  
New York City youngster Daniel Garvey is around 11 when the Depression begins, he sees the toll first in his neighborhood, as friends' families are evicted, and then in his own family. Grade 5-9. ISBN-10: 0152575820

Kudlinski, Kathleen. *Franklin Delano Roosevelt: Champion of Freedom*, Aladdin 2003.  
One of the most popular series ever published for young Americans, these classics have been praised alike by parents, teachers, and librarians. With these lively, inspiring, fictionalized biographies -- easily read by children of eight and up -- today's youngster is swept right into history. Grade 4-8. ISBN-10: 0689857454

Panchyk, Richard. *Franklin Delano Roosevelt for Kids: His Life and Times with 21 Activities*, Chicago Review Press 2007.  
Franklin Delano Roosevelt's enduring legacy upon the history, culture, politics, and economics of the United States is introduced to children in this engaging activity book. Kids will learn how FDR, a member of one of the founding families of the New World, led the nation through the darkest days of the Great Depression and World War II as 32nd U.S. President. Grade 4-8. ISBN-10: 1556526571

O'Brien, Jeanne. *My Great-grandfather's Footlocker*, BellaRoots; 1st edition 2008.  
A compelling story written for young people about the Civilian Conservation Corps. Finding an old footlocker unlocks a flood of memories about The Great Depression and Gramps experiences as a Civilian Conservation Corps enrollee. Grade 4-8. ASIN: B001EPAD70

Whitman, Sylvia. *This Land Is Your Land: The American Conservation Movement*, Lerner Publishing Group 1994.  
This interesting historical overview traces the American conservation movement from its beginnings in 1870, when a group of prominent citizens visited Yellowstone and decided that the federal government should preserve the area, through today, when the major concerns are recycling, oil spills, and nuclear disaster. Numerous quotes add to the book's effectiveness, as do a variety of sepia-tinted photographs. Grade 5-7. ISBN-10: 0822517299

## Ecosystems

Robertson, Kayo. *Signs Along the River: Learning to Read the Natural Landscape*. The Court Wayne Press, 1990.

“A primer in ecology for the curious of all ages, this book will help children understand and enjoy some of the sights, sounds and goings-on in the natural world around us.” Ages 6-9. ISBN: 0-911797-22-X.

McCauley, Jane R. Let's Explore A River. National Geographic Society. 1988.  
Three children accompany their father in a canoe and explore the plant and animal life along a river near their home. Grade K-4. ISBN: 0870447467.

Lerner, Carol. A Forest Year. Morrow. 1987.  
Describes how seasonal changes in a forest affect the plants and animals that live there. Grade 3-7. ISBN: 0688064132.

## Endangered Species

Wright, Alexandra. Will we miss them? Endangered Species. Charlesbridge Publishing. 1992.  
This intriguing book introduces children to the fascinating lives and challenges of endangered species from the unique perspective of an 11-year-old author. The book helps readers learn about endangered species as the first step toward saving them. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0881064882.

Facklam, Margery. And Then There Was One – The Mysteries of Extinction. Sierra Club Books. 1990.  
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. Grades 2-6. ISBN: 0316259829.

## Fire

Rius, Maria and J. M. Parramon. The Four Elements – Fire. Barrons. 1984.  
A story of fire for very young children. PreK-1. ISBN: 0812035984.

## Forests

Taylor, Barbara. Forest Life. DK Publications. 1993.  
Discusses the plants and animals that live in forests. Includes the weasel, giant wood wasp, and slippery jack mushroom. Grade 2+. ISBN: 0613108043.

Shetterly, Susan Hand. Shelterwood. Tilbury House. 1999.  
Sophie watches her grandfather harvest trees that will be cut into boards to build houses and furniture, but lets the tallest, wind-firm trees stay, to drop their seeds and start a new generation. Deer and birds and even a bear share the forests shelter, and Sophie discovers that when we take care of the woods, it provides for us for generations to come. Grade 2-6. ISBN: 0884482561.

Owen, Roy. My Night Forest. Simon & Schuster. 1994.

This story takes children on a nighttime journey deep into the forest and into the lives of five animals: an owl, wolf, bear, deer, and mouse. The story explores what these night creatures hear, see, smell, taste and touch in the middle of the night in the forest. PreK.

Lerner, Carol. A Forest Year. Morrow. 1987.

Describes how seasonal changes in a forest affect the plants and animals that live there. Grade 3-7. ISBN: 0688064132.

Jaspersohn, William. How the Forest Grew. Greenwillow Books. 1980.

Describes the gradual transformation of a cleared farm field into a dense forest. Grade K-3. ISBN: 068811508X.

Cowan, Mary Morton. Timberrr!: A History of Logging in New England. Millbrook. 2003.

An illustrated history of the New England forests, from colonial days when settlers freely used the trees for warmth and housing to today's tensions between environmentalists and the logging industry. Grades 3-7. ISBN: 0761318666.

## Geology

Thorson, Kristine and Robert M. Stone Wall Secrets. Bt Bound. 2003.

A grandfather gives his grandson a lesson in geology, history, and family pride as they examine the stone walls defining his New England farmstead. Grade 3-7. ISBN: 0884482294.

Hooper, Meredith. The Pebble in My Pocket: A History of Our Earth. Viking Childrens Books. 1996.

A girl finds a pebble on the ground and asks, "Where did you come from, pebble?" The answer unfolds through words and pictures. Grades 3-5.

Deike, Ruth G. Stone Wall Secrets: Exploring Geology in the Classroom: Teachers Guide. Tilbury House. 2003.

Ruth Deike has incorporated the imagery and discoveries of Stone Wall Secrets with hands-on classroom activities that illustrate basic earth science concepts for students. Grades 3-7. ISBN: 0884481964.

## Habitats

Snape, Julie and Charles. Frog Odyssey. Simon and Schuster. 1992.

When a construction project forces the frogs to lose their pond, they venture into the city to find a new home. Grade K-2. ISBN: 067174741X.

Smith, Howard. Small Worlds: Communities of Living Things. Scribner. 1987.

Describes a number of small self-contained communities, including a sand dune, tidal pool, old barn, and vacant lot, and examines the ways in which the plants and animals interact. Grade 4+. ISBN: 068418723X.

Schwartz, David M. The Hidden Life of the Meadow. Crown. 1988.

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

Ryder, Joanne. The Snail's Spell. Penguin Putnam. 1988.

Brilliant illustrations and a short text invite an unnamed sleeping, pajama-clad child into a garden teeming with wildlife. The boy gradually shrinks until he is so small he experiences things as a snail would. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0140508910.

Mazer, Anne. The Salamander Room. Knopf. 1991.

A young boy finds a salamander and thinks of the many things he can do to make a perfect home for it. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0679861874.

George, Lindsay Barrett. In the Snow: Who's Been Here? Greenwillow. 1995.

Companion book to In the Woods: Who's Been Here., William and Cammy take another journey of discovery. Clue after clue tells them and young readers what bird or animal has been there before and left its trace behind. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0688170560.

George, Lindsay Barrett. In the Woods: Who's Been Here? Greenwillow. 1995.

Siblings William and Cammy set off on an autumnal walk through the woods near their house. Although they don't see any wildlife on their trek, they do observe traces of creatures' activities--including a northern oriole's nest, the remains of a red squirrel's meal, a monarch butterfly's cocoon, and a mud dauber's home. Two of the examples involve predator-prey relationships that may upset very young listeners, but for most children this will be an excellent introduction to classroom nature units and the perfect prelude to a walk in the woods. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0688161634.

George, Lindsay Barrett. Around the Pond: Who's Been Here? Greenwillow. 1996.

Take a walk of discovery along the path to a pond. A page of text discusses clues left by an unseen animal, ending with the question, "Who's been here?" The opposite page presents the information in visual form, with the follow-up double-page spread revealing the animal. Grade PreK-3. ISBN: 0688143768.

## Old Growth Forests

Rand, Gloria. Fighting for the Forest. Holt and Company. 1999.

When they find blue logging markings in the ancient forest where they like to hike, a boy and his father try to save the trees from being cut down. Includes information about how to find and enjoy ancient forests. Grade K-2. ISBN: 0805054669.

## Parks

Wishinsky, Frieda. Man Who Made Parks: The Story of Parkbuilder Frederick Law Olmsted. Tundra Books. 1999.

When the great cities of North America were being developed, there was little thought to creating "green spaces." Frederick Law Olmsted combined his childhood love for nature with the structured beauty of the great parks of London and Paris to turn a neglected, swampy area into one of the most

acclaimed parks in North America: Central Park in New York City. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0887764355.

Stone, Lynn M. America's National Parks. Rourke Publishing. 2002.

Discusses the history and purpose of national parks and describes some prominent examples including Denali National Park in Alaska and Saguaro National Park in Arizona. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 158952313X.

Schullery, Paul D, John Cleese, and Brian Batesw. America's National Parks: The Spectacular Forces That Shaped Our Treasured Lands. DK Publishing. 2001.

Combines gorgeous photographic spreads with fascinating information about the geology of each park, describing the geothermal and volcanic pressures, wind and water erosion, and glacial carving that have worked together over the years to create the famous landscapes of the parks. All Grade. ISBN: 0789480166.

Hill, Lee Sullivan. Parks Are To Share. Lerner. 1997.

Explains what a park is, how and why parks are built or preserved, and why parks are important to us, using examples of different kinds of parks from around the country. Grade K-3. ISBN: 1575050684.

## Recreation

Tafari, Nancy. Do Not Disturb. Greenwillow Books. 1987.

The movements and actions of a family camping in the woods cause the forest creatures to also move, scurry, and make noise. Grade PreK+. ISBN: 0688065414.

Stynes, Barbara White. Walking with Mama. Dawn. 1997.

What sweet intimacy a mother and child share when walking together in nature! The toddler, way up high in a backpack, can see so very far. It's bouncy and warm, too. Mother and child not only discover the wonders of nature but also deepen the wonders of love. Grade K-2 ISBN: 1883220572.

## Recycling

Woods, Samuel G. Recycled Paper: From Start to Finish. Gale Group. 2000.

Demonstrates how waste paper is recycled into useful household products at the Marcal paper mill. Grade 2-7. ISBN: 1567113958.

Skidmore, Steve. What a Load of Trash!: Rescue Your Household Waste. The Milford Press, Inc. 1991.

Humorous illustrations accompany a discussion of the problems of waste disposal and of recycling as one possible solution. Grade K-6. ISBN: 1878841270.

Showers, Paul. Where Does the Garbage Go? (Let's-Read-and-Find-out Science Book). Harper Collins. 1993.

Explains how people create too much waste and how waste is now recycled and put into landfills. ISBN: 0064451143.

McQueen, Kelly and David Fassler. Let's Talk Trash: The Kid's Book About Recycling. Waterfront Books. 1991.

Discusses trash and the different ways in which it can be handled, with an emphasis on recycling. Incorporates the thoughts, questions, and drawings of children. Grade K-6. ISBN: 0914525204.

Harlow, Rosie. Garbage and Recycling. Houghton Mifflin. 2002.

Explaining the difference between biodegradable and non-biodegradable garbage, this book shows how glass, metal, and wool can be easily recycled. How Can I Help? boxes give suggestions for the young environmentalist who wants to recycle at home. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 075345503X.

Gibbons, Gail. Recycle!: A Handbook for Kids. Little, Brown, and Company. 1996.

Explains the process of recycling from start to finish and discusses what happens to paper, glass, aluminum cans, and plastic when they are recycled into new products. Grade K-3.

## Stewardship

Willis, Terri. Land Use and Abuse. Scholastic. 1992.

Describes the many ways in which human beings harm the land and discusses some possible ways of correcting and preventing these abuses. Grade 6+. ISBN: 0516055070.

Van Allsburg, Chris. Just a Dream. Houghton Mifflin. 1990.

When he has a dream about a future Earth devastated by pollution, Walter begins to understand the importance of taking care of the environment. Grade 1-5. ISBN: 0395533082.

O'Connor, Karen. Garbage. Lucent Books. 1989.

Examines the dumping of garbage in oceans, on land, in the air, and in space and suggests possible solutions to this problem of waste pollution. Grade 4+. ISBN: 1560061006.

Miles, Betty. Save the Earth: An Action Handbook for Kids. Knopf. 1991.

An overview of the environmental problems of land, atmosphere, water, energy, plants, animals, and people. Includes projects and a section on becoming an environmental activist. Grade 4+. ISBN: 067981731X.

Giono, Jean. The Man Who Planted Trees. Chelsea Green Publishing Co. 1985. Jean Giono's beautiful allegorical tale is legendary.

Written in the 1950's, its message was ahead of its time, inspiring readers to rediscover the harmonies of the countryside and prevent its willful destruction. Grade 4+. ISBN: 1570625387.

Di Salvo-Ryan, Dyanne. City Green. Morrow, William and Co. 1994.

Marcy and Miss Rosa start a campaign to clean up an empty lot and turn it into a community garden. Grades K-3. ISBN: 068812786X.

Cooney, Barbara. Miss Rumphius. Viking Press. 1982.

As a child Great-aunt Alice Rumphius resolved that when she grew up she would go to faraway places, live by the sea in her old age, and do something to make the world more beautiful--and she does all those things, the last being the most difficult of all. Grades PreK-2. ISBN: 0140505393.

Burns, Diane. Arbor Day. Carolrhoda Books. 1989.

Describes the history of Arbor Day and how it is celebrated. Grades K-4. ISBN: 087614346X.

## Trees

Van Laan, Nancy. A Tree For Me. Random House. 2000.

In this book a child climbs five different trees, looking for a place to hide. Each tree reveals an increasing number of animals already in residence until finally the perfect tree is found. The author uses repetition and counting to explore the residents of a tree. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0679893849.

Undry, Janice May. A Tree is Nice. Harper Trophy. 1987.

Trees are beautiful. They fill up the sky. If you have a tree, you can climb up its trunk, roll in its leaves, or hang a swing from one of its limbs. Cows and babies can nap in the shade of a tree. Birds can make nests in the branches. A tree is good to have around. A tree is nice. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0064431479.

Stone, Marti. The Singing Fir Tree. Putnam. 1992.

In his quest to find the perfect wood for his masterpiece, a woodcarver tries to cut down the town's beloved singing fir tree. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0399222073.

Spirin, Gennadii and Natalia Romanova. Once There Was A Tree.

Dial Books. 1985. An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0140546774.

Sohi, Morteza E. Look What I Did With A Leaf. Scholastic. 1993.

The author gives creative ideas on making animals out of different shaped leaves. Colorful illustrations make it easy for anyone to create a nature critter. A brief field guide to leaves can be found at the back of the book. PreK-K. ISBN: 0802774407.

Silverstein, Shel. The Giving Tree. Harper Collins. 1964.

A moving parable about the gift of giving and the capacity to love, told throughout the life of a boy who grows to manhood and a tree that selflessly gives him her bounty through the years. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0060256656.

Shetterly, Susan Hand. Shelterwood. Tilbury House. 1999.

Sophie watches her grandfather harvest trees that will be cut into boards to build houses and furniture, but lets the tallest, wind-firm trees stay, to drop their seeds and start a new generation. Deer and birds and even a bear share the forests shelter, and Sophie discovers that when we take care of the woods, it provides for us for generations to come. Grade 2-6. ISBN: 0884482561.

Schwartz, David. Maple Tree. Mari Inc.

Depicts the life cycle of a maple tree. Grade K-3. ISBN: 1574715569.

Sanders, Scott Russell. Meeting Trees. National Geographic Society. 1997.  
As a boy and his father walk in the woods near their home, they share what they know about the bark, leaves, and fruit of the different species they see. Grades 1-4. ISBN: 0792241401.

Sams, Carl R. II and Jean Stoick Lost in the Woods. 2004.  
A magnificent Photographic Fantasy about a little fawn traveling through the woods. Ages 5-10. ISBN: 0-9671748-8-0.

Reed-Jones, Carol. The Tree in the Ancient Forest. Dawn. 1995.  
Structured like "This Is the House that Jack Built," this environmental rhyme aims to show the interdependence of living things in the ancient forests. Grade K-3. ISBN: 1883220319.

Parnall, Peter. Apple Tree. MacMillan. 1987.  
Describes the many ways an apple tree interacts with insects, birds, and other animals during a full year of its development. Grade K-3. ISBN: 0027701603.

Pascoe, Elaine. Seeds and Seedlings. Gale Group. 1996.  
Describes how seeds are formed, how they grow, what they look like, how they reproduce, and how they make food and provides instructions for related hands-on science projects. Grade 6+. ISBN: 1567111785.

Maestro, Betsy. Why Do Leaves Change Color? HarperCollins Children's Books. 1994.  
Explains how leaves change their colors in autumn and then separate from the tree as the tree prepares for winter. Grades 1-4. ISBN: 0064451267.

Hiscock, Bruce. The Big Tree. Atheneum Books – MacMillan. 1991.  
Follows the development of a large old maple tree from its growth from a seed during the American Revolution to its maturity in the late twentieth century. Grade 4+. ISBN: 1563978105.

Applebaum, Diana. Giants in the Land. Houghton Mifflin. 1993.  
Giants in the Land is an incredible look at the role the giant pine trees of New England played in the history of the United States, especially in the years preceding the Revolutionary War. Grades 3-6. ISBN: 0395647207.

## Watersheds

Yolen, Jane. Letting Swift River Go. Little, Brown. 1991.  
The story of the building of the Quabbin Reservoir in western MA. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0316968609.

Tressalt, Alvin. Rain Drop Splash. Mulberry Books. 1946.  
Follows the rain as it travels through a pond, a brook, a lake, and a river down to the sea. Grade K+. ISBN: 0688093523.

Schmid, Eleanor. The Water's Journey. North-South Books. 1989.

Children will gain a greater understanding of watersheds and of the important role that the water cycle plays in supporting life on Earth as it follows the water from the mountains to the ocean. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 078577260X.

Cherry, Lynne. A River Ran Wild. Harcourt. 1992.

An environmental history of the Nashua River, from its discovery by Indians through the polluting years of the Industrial Revolution to the ambitious clean-up that revitalized it. Grades K-4. ISBN: 0152163727.

Carlisle, Norman and Madelyn. Rivers. Children's Press. 1982.

Describes how a river begins and grows and how it influences the land that it flows through. Also discusses the many ways people use rivers and the importance of keeping them clean and unpolluted. Grades K-4. ISBN: 0516416456.

## Wildlife

Yolen, Jane. Owl Moon. Philomel Books. 1987.

On a winter's night under a full moon, a father and daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl. Grade PreK-2. Ages Preschool – 8. ISBN: 0399214577.

Turner, Ann. Heron Street. Harper & Row. 1988.

Over the centuries as people settle near the marsh by the sea, herons and other animals are displaced. Grade K-4. ISBN: 0060261846.

Tison, Annette and Talus Taylor. Amazing Animal Builders. Penguin Putnam Books. 1989.

Describes nests and homes which animals build for themselves. Grade 1-6. ISBN: 0448215519.

Stone, Lynn. Birds of Prey. Children's Press. 1983.

Briefly discusses the physical characteristics and habits of owls, vultures, hawks, and eagles. Grade K-4. ISBN: 0516416766.

Showers, Paul. The Listening Walk (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out-Science-Book). Crowell. 1993.

A little girl and her father take a quiet walk and identify the sounds around them. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0064433226.

Sherrow, Victoria. Chipmunk at Hollow Tree Lane. Soundprints. 1994.

Describes how Chipmunk gathers and stores food to prepare for winter. Grade K-3. ISBN: 1568990294.

Schwartz, David M. In A Tree. Gareth Stevens Publications. 1999.

Children will delight in discovering the inhabitants of a tree in this colorful mystery book. Each organism's anatomy is revealed through up close observations of one feature and then a large scale photograph of the entire organism. The simple text and photographs reveal a caterpillar, raccoon, and other animals. A wonderful book to stimulate the imagination and sharpen observation skills before a nature hike. Grade PreK-2. ISBN #: 1574712195.

Schoenherr, John. The Barn. Little, Brown. 1968.

Twenty-four hours in the life of a skunk who, while seeking his own food, must avoid becoming the prey of an owl. Grades PreK-2. ISBN: 0316774219.

Ryder, Joanne. Chipmunk Song. Penguin Putnam. 1990.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be... a...Chipmunk? This beautiful book looks at being a chipmunk from the eyes of a 4-year-old girl, from the warmth of a cozy den to the harsh realities of weasels and hawks. This book encourages children to live in harmony with their surroundings. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0140547967.

Ryder, Joanne. Catching the Wind. Morrow, William and Co. 1989.

Imagine waking up on a crisp autumn morning and changing into a Canada goose. In this nature fantasy a girl is transformed into a migrating goose, returning home to her bed after a full day of taking part in the experiences of the flock. This book has good science and invites the child to imagine and act out an animal's life. Grade PreK-2. ISBN: 0688133339.

Hutchins, Pat. Goodnight Owl! MacMillan. 1972.

A humorous look at an owl's daytime attempt to sleep in a tree shared with a variety of noisy wildlife. A fun imaginative story for a class simulation. Grade PreK-3. ISBN#: 0689713711.

Carle, Eric. The Grouchy Ladybug. Harper Collins. 1996.

A grouchy ladybug, looking for a fight, challenges everyone she meets regardless of their size or strength. Grades PreK-K. ISBN: 0064434508.

Carle, Eric. The Mixed-Up Chameleon. Harper Collins. 1988.

A bored chameleon wishes it could be more like all the other animals it sees, but soon decides it would rather just be itself. Cutouts along the edges of the pages display various animals and colors. ISBN: 0064431622.

Carle, Eric. The Tiny Seed. Scholastic. 1987. In the autumn, a strong wind blows flower seeds high in the air and carries them far across the land. One by one, many of the seeds are lost – burned by the sun, fallen into the ocean, eaten by a bird. But some survive the long winter and, come spring, sprout into plants, facing new dangers – trampled by playing children, picked as a gift for a friend. Soon only the tiniest seed remains, growing into a giant flower, and when autumn returns, sending its own seeds into the wind to start the process over again. Grades PreK-3. ISBN: 0689842449.

Carle, Eric. The Very Hungry Caterpillar. Philomel Books a Division of Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, 1971.

One sunny Sunday, the caterpillar was hatched out of a tiny egg. He was very hungry. He eats, makes a cocoon, and later wakes up transformed! Grade PreK. ISBN: 0399208534, found bn. Also available in Spanish.

Brooks, Bruce. Predator. Farrar Straus Giroux. 1991.

Survival in the wild creates a hierarchy of predators and their prey; this interaction among the animals forms the basis of a complex ecological system known as the food chain. Grades 3-7. ISBN: 0374361118.

