



Suggested Additional Texts for Blandy and CCPS K-3 Literacy Project

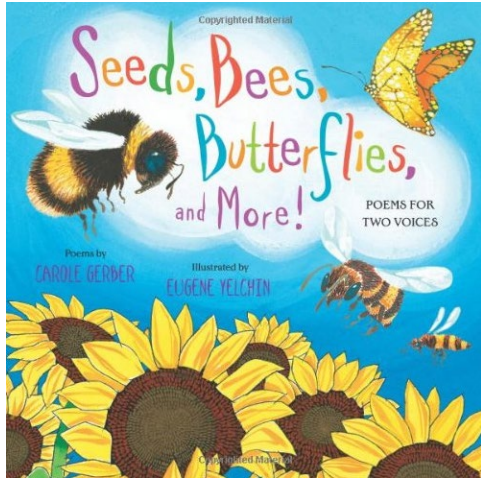


BLANDY
EXPERIMENTAL FARM



University
of Virginia

Reading level: PK-3
Lexile: 540L



Availability:
Loudoun Public Library
- Physical (2 copies)
Blandy (1 copy)

Book Description: Interactions and life cycles are explored through poems designed for two readers.

Writing something like this would be a great way to demonstrate learning.

[Overview of *Seeds, Bees, Butterflies, and More: Poems for Two Voices*](#)

2018 Sci SOLs

K.7 (life needs), 1.4 (plant needs/parts), 1.5 (animal needs/adaptations), 2.4 (life cycles), 2.5 (ecosystem interactions), 2.8 (plants as resources), 3.5 (ecosystem interactions)

Topics:

Plants

- Parts
- Life cycles (plant and insect)

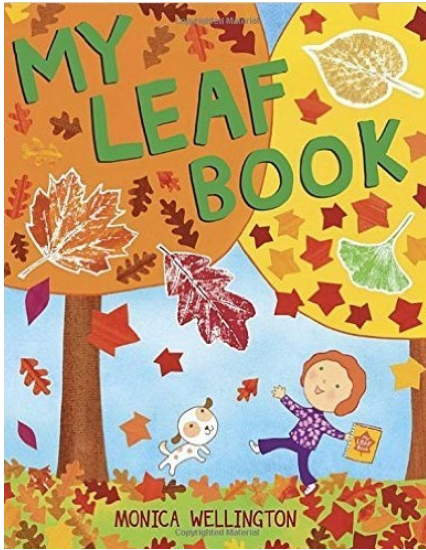
Ecosystem Interactions

Poetry

Cooperation

Reading level: PK-2

Lexile: 450L



2018 Sci SOLs

Process skills, .1 all grades

Book Description: The narrator visits an arboretum and notices all the different colors and shapes of the fall leaves. Inspired, she decides to create a leaf book journal to document her observations.

This is an excellent book for practicing sci process skills, especially classification and observations.

Read Aloud of [My Leaf Book](#)

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Physical (6 copies)
- eBook (1 copy)

Loudoun Public Library

- Physical (3 copies)
- Blandy (1 copy)

Topics:

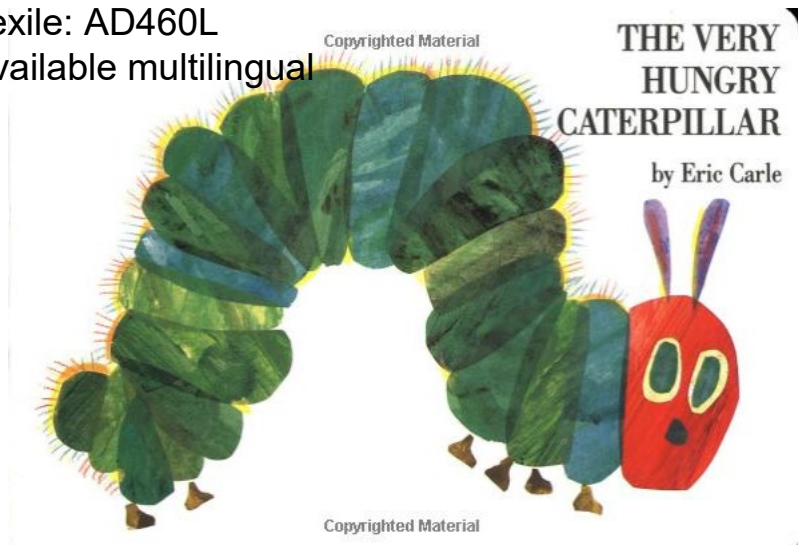
Investigation/Journaling

Colors, Shapes,
Classification

Reading level: K-1

Lexile: AD460L

Available multilingual



Book Description: An egg hatches on a leaf, and then a caterpillar eats increasing sets of plant foods (1-5 sets), then 10 mixed non-plant foods, then a leaf.

Each meal takes place on a different day of the week, Sunday - Sunday.

The caterpillar then completes its life cycle.

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Physical (11 copies)
- Audiobook
- ebook

Loudoun Public Library

- Physical (36 copies)

Blandy (1 copy)

Video of reading: [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#)

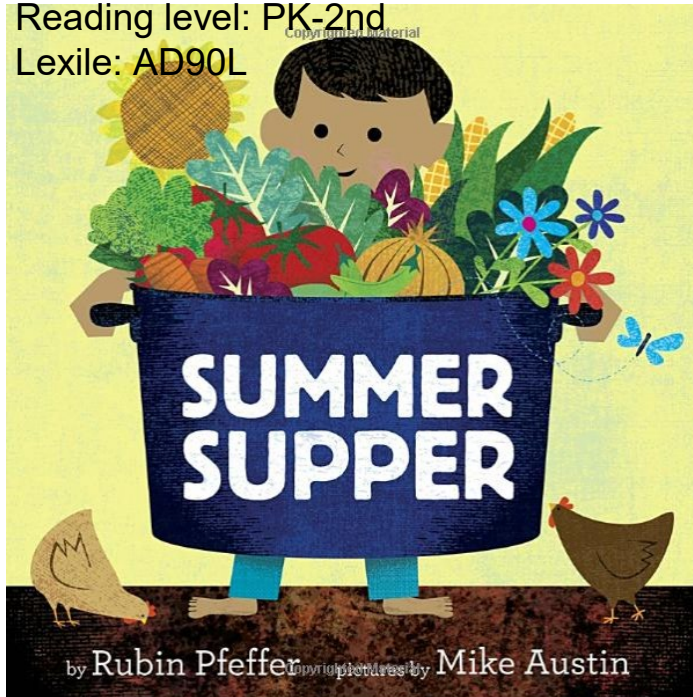
2018 Sci SOLs

K.3 (physical properties/ shapes colors), K.7 (life needs), K.10 (change over time), 2.4 (life cycles)

Topics:

Counting
Patterns
Colors
Food
Life cycle

Reading level: PK-2nd
Lexile: AD90L



Availability:

- Handley Public Library
- Physical (2 copies)
- Loudoun Public Library
- Physical (3 copies)

Book Description:

Every word in this book starts with “S”.

This book goes through the process of preparing soil (including soil ecosystems), planting and growing seeds, harvesting, selling, preparing a communal meal, celebrating community, cleaning up, and an amusing midnight snack.

Video of Reading [Summer Supper](#)

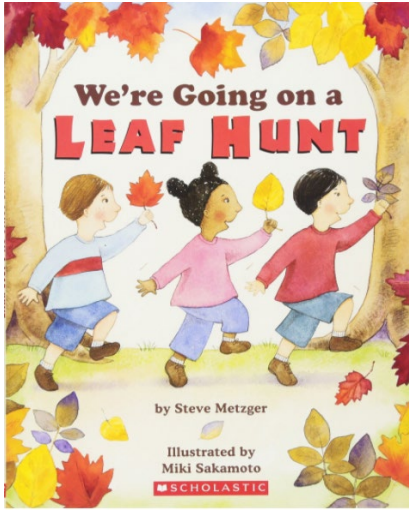
2018 Sci SOLS

- K.3 (phys properties) K.7 (life needs)
1st: 1.4 (plant structure/function)
1.5 (life needs)

Topics:

- Food
Plant Parts
Letter S
Cooperation

Reading level: PK-3rd
Lexile: AD410L



Book Description:

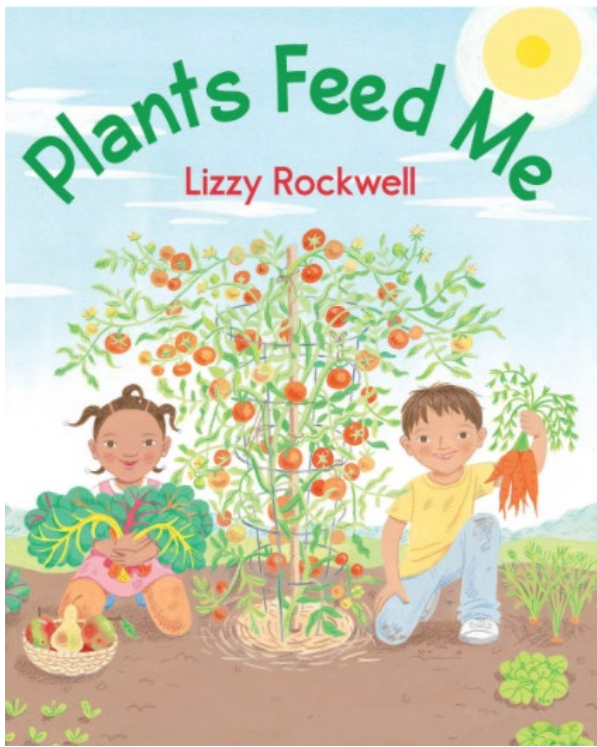
Three friends go on a long walk to look for leaves. The text is repetitive to encourage emerging readers to read along. Elements of the walk are described using sensory vocabulary and physical properties. Upon finding a snake, the friends retrace their steps (encouraging recall and prediction).

Video of Reading [We're Going On a Leaf Hunt](#)

Availability:
Loudoun Public Library
- Physical (15 copies)

2018 Sci SOLS
K.1 (classify), K.3 (physical properties) K.5 (senses)

Topics:
Senses
Shape
Colors
Classification



Availability:
Loudoun Public Library
- Physical (1 copy)

Reading level: PK-2nd
Lexile: 320L

Book Description:

Types of food plants, and the parts of those plants we eat, are interspersed throughout a description of the plant life cycle, how we process plant foods, and different types of plants.

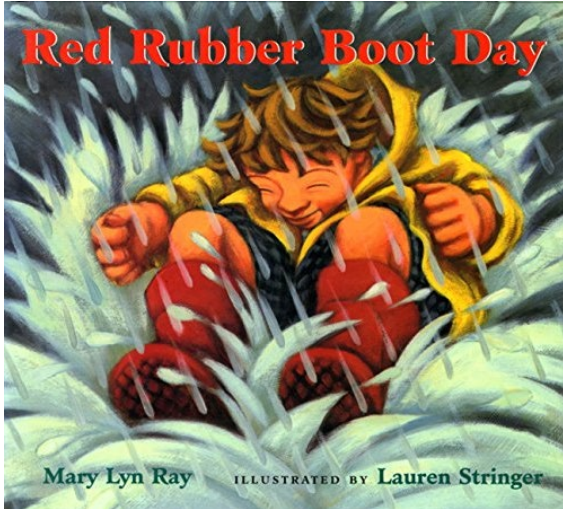
Video of Reading [Plants Feed Me](#)

2018 Sci SOLS

K.7 (life needs), K.10 (change),
1.4 (plant structure/function) 1.5
(life needs), 2.4 (life cycles)

Topics:
Food
Plant Parts
Plant life cycle
Types of plants

Reading level: PK-3rd
Lexile: AD480L



Book Description:

What do you do on a rainy day?

This book follows a kid exploring indoor activities before deciding to go outside in red rubber boots to splash in puddles. There he meets a barefoot neighbor.

Senses, descriptive terms, community are all invoked. Then the weather changes.

Video of Reading [Red Rubber Boot Day](#)

Availability:

- Handley Public Library
 - Physical (1 copy)
- Loudoun Public Library
 - Physical (2 copies)
- Blandy (1 copy)

2018 Sci SOLS

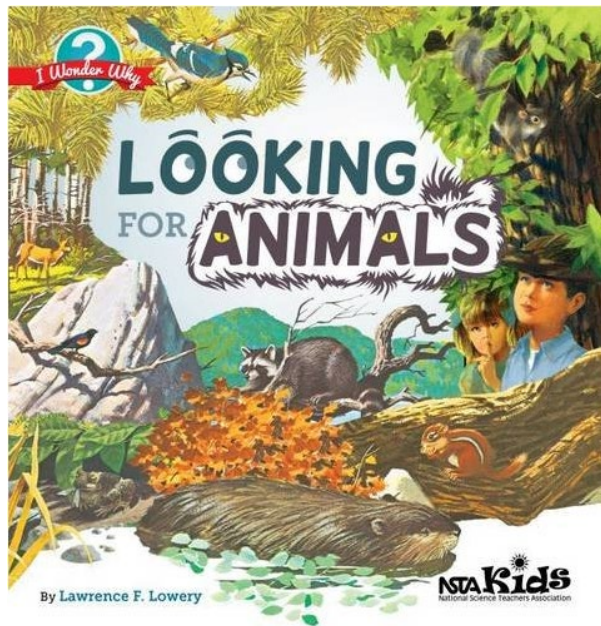
K.3 (phys properties), K.4 (water), K.5 (senses), K.9 (patterns), 1.7 (weather changes), 2.6 (weather characteristics and measuring), 2.7 (weather affects behavior/land)

Topics:

Weather
Adjusting to weather
Physical properties

Reading level: K-3

Lexile: 480L



Book Description:

Each two-page spread shows an animal in different parts of its habitat: the first in which it is easy to pick out, and the second in which it is camouflaged.

The animals are shown in their natural habitat, engaging in normal behaviors.

Video of Reading: [Looking for Animals](#)

Availability:

- [National Science Teaching Association](#)
- [Amazon](#)
- Blandy (1 copy)

2018 Sci SOLS

1.5 (animal life needs), 2.5 (habitat/ecosystem), 2.8 (plants as resources), 3.4 (adaptations), 3.5 (ecosystems & interactions)

Topics:

- Colors/Texture
- Ecosystem Interactions
- Adaptations (camouflage)

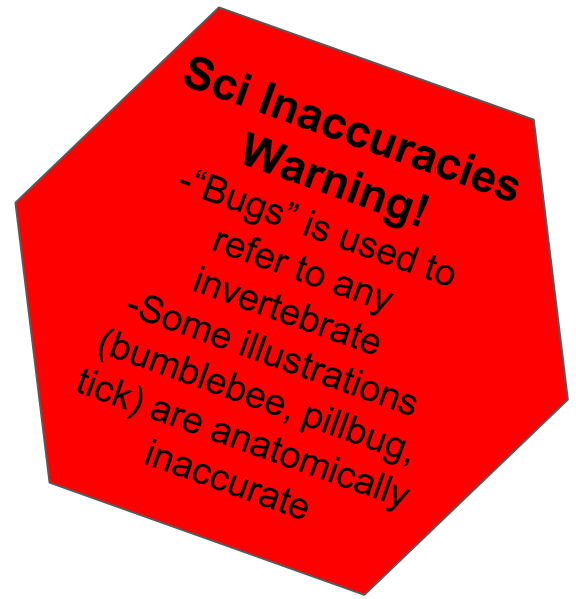
Reading level: PK-3
Lexile: AD200L



Book Description:

A multitude of invertebrates are shown engaging in different types of movement, predation, camouflage, and other behavioral and physical adaptations.

All “bugs” are identified at the end of the book.



Video of Reading: [Some Bugs](#)

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Hardcopy (2 copies)
- eBook

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (7 copies)

2018 Sci SOLs

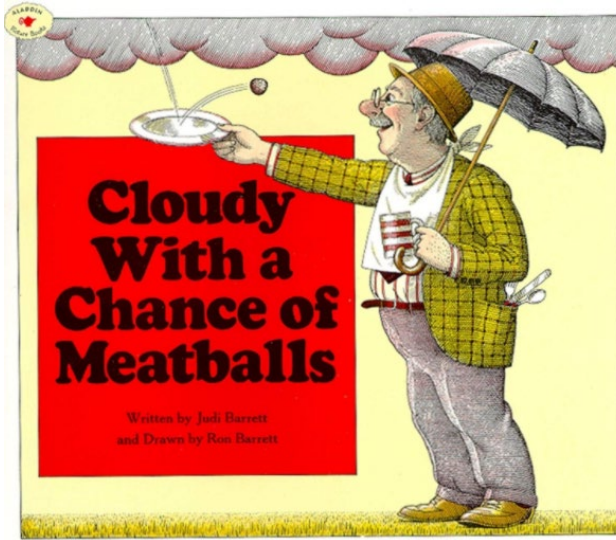
K.7 (life needs), 1.5 (animal life needs), 2.5 (habitat/ecosystem), 3.4 (adaptations), 3.5 (ecosystems & interactions)

Topics:

- Ecosystem Interactions
- Adaptations

Reading level: PK-3

Lexile: AD730L



Book Description:

This classic fiction tale is narrated by a grandfather. Chewandswallow is an imaginary town where food falls from the sky. The community starts to suffer as the food weather becomes increasingly severe and the townsfolk have to flee.



Video of Reading: [Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs](#)

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Hardcopy (6 copies)

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (16 copies)

2018 Sci SOLs

K.7 (life needs)

1.5 (animal life needs)

2.5 (habitat/ecosystem)

3.4 (adaptations), 3.5 (ecosystems & interactions)

Topics:

- Weather
- Human Impact
- Weather affects humans
- Food

Reading level: PK-3

Lexile: AD660



Book Description:

The activities of a hot summer city day, sweltering and dry, is told from the perspective of a little girl waiting for rain.

The language is highly descriptive. The reader can almost feel the shift from parched and sere to a joyous community dance in the rain.

Video of Reading: [Come On Rain](#)

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Hardcopy (2 copies)

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (2 copies)

Hoopla online audiobooks

Blandy (1 copy)

2018 Sci SOLS

- K.3 (physical properties)
- K.10 (change over time)
- 1.7 (weather/seasonal changes)
- 2.6 (types of weather)
- 2.7 (weather affects living things and habitats)

2015 Social Studies SOLs

- 3.13 (diverse communities)

Topics:

- Adjustment to weather
- Physical properties

Reading level: PK-3

Lexile: AD520L



Book Description:

A windy day in a village causes havoc by ripping laundry off of lines, stealing scarves, and mail!

Video of Reading: [The Wind Blew](#)

Availability:

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (5 copies)

Blandy (1 copy)

2018 Sci SOLS

1.7 (weather/seasonal changes)

2.6 (types of weather)

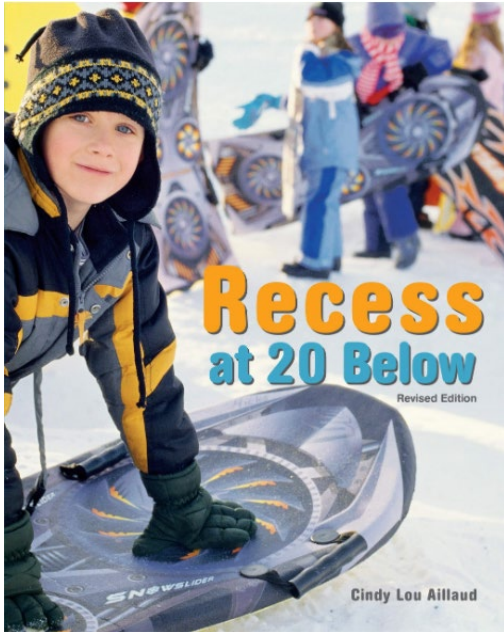
2.7 (weather affects living things and habitats)

Topics:

- Weather patterns

Reading level: K-5

Lexile: AD900L



Book Description:

How cold is too cold to play? It depends on how you prepare and what you expect to do! The voice of the narrator is a child describing the accommodations (dressing warmly), activities (too dry for snowballs, too deep for swings), and outcomes (breath freezes around their faces) of winter recess in Alaska.

2018 Sci SOLS

K.5 (senses)
1.7 (weather/seasonal changes)
2.6 (types of weather)
2.7 (weather affects living things and habitats)

2015 Social Studies SOLs

3.13 (diverse communities)

Video of Reading: [Recess at 20 Below \(2004 ed\)](#) read in AK at -10F!

Availability:

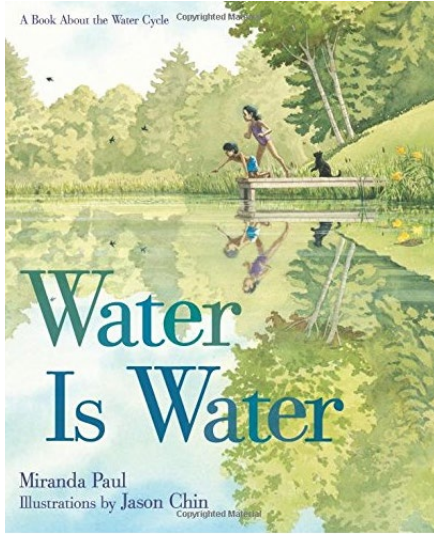
Hoopla online eBook (2004 and 2019 eds)
Blandy (1 2004 ed copy)

Topics:

- Adjustment to weather

Reading level: PK-2

Lexile: 240L



Book Description:

This book follows water as it transforms through different phases, and is used in different ways. The text is repetitive “Water is water until it heats up. Steam is steam until...”, however a more in depth story is told through illustration and continuity of visual elements from one page to the next. The end of the book has an in-depth investigation of water. How does it transform and move? Where can it be found? How much water is there?

Video of Reading: [Water is Water](#)

Sung as a song: [Water is Water](#)

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Hardcopy (4 copies)

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (5 copies)

Topics:

Water

- Phases
- Cycle
- Uses

Seasons/Cycles

2018 Sci SOLS

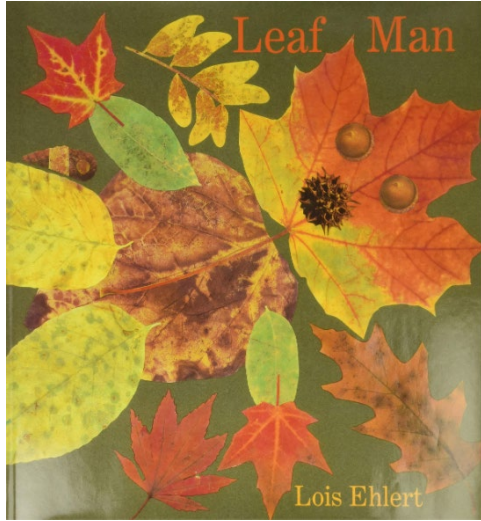
- K.4 (water)K.9 (weather/season patterns)
- 1.7 (weather/seasonal changes)
- 2.3 (phases of matter)
- 2.7 (weather affects living things and habitats)
- 3.7 (water cycle)

2015 Social Studies SOLs

- 3.13 (diverse communities)

Reading level: PK-3

Lexile: 260L



Book Description:

Whole and cut leaves are arranged into scenes containing animals, plants, and other elements of the habitat. “Leaf Man” is blown by the wind over these various landscapes. Leaves used in the book are identified on both inner covers.

This would make an excellent example of an artistic nature journaling activity.

Video of Reading: [Leaf Man](#)

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Hardcopy (11 copies)

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (17 copies)

Topics:

Leaf shapes (classification & physical properties)

habitats

Art Activity

Journaling/ storytelling

2018 Sci SOLS

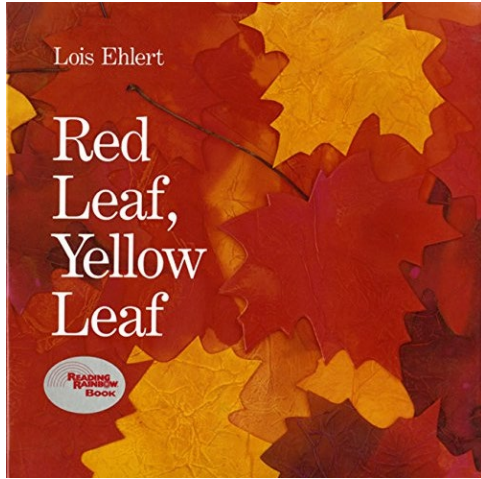
K.3 (size, color)

1.4 (plant structure)

2.5 (habitats)

Reading level: PK-3

Lexile: AD530L



Book Description:

Focusing on the life cycle of a red maple, this story is narrated by a child describing the life of “their maple tree”. They describe the tree sprouting in the forest, being collected for sale in a nursery, planting and care of the tree, as well as interactions with animals.

Colorful paper collages are visually stimulating, and both throughout the book and at the end scientific elements are identified and described.

Video of Reading: [Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf](#)

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Hardcopy (2 copies)

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (14 copies)

Blandy (1 copy)

Topics:

Plant life

Seasons

Plant needs

Human impacts/careers

2018 Sci SOLS

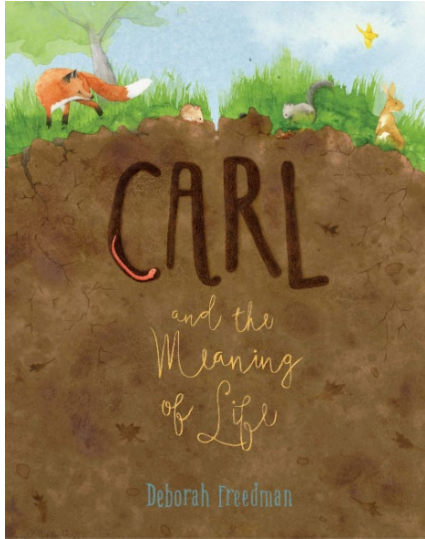
K.10 (change)

1.4 (plant structure)

2.4 (life cycles),

2.5 (habitats), 2.7 (weather/seasons)

Reading level: PK-3
Lexile: 210

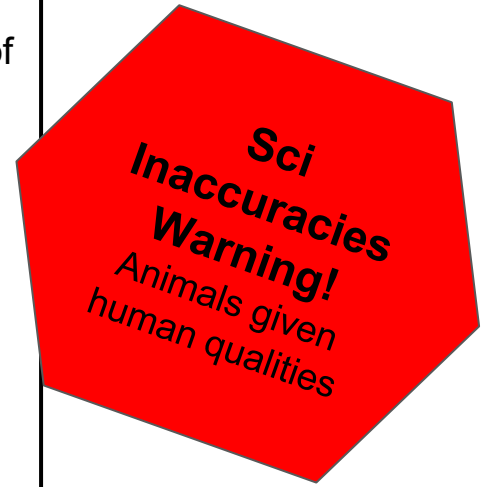


Book Description:

Carl, the worm, feels challenged to find the meaning of his life. He journeys through his ecosystem, asking various organisms “Why do I do what I do?”

Each organism gives an element of its role in the ecosystem, one that does not match Carl’s.

While asking, Carl stops tunneling through the soil, which becomes compacted and the ecosystem collapses. He returns to tunneling and all the other organisms eventually return.



Video of Reading: [Carl and the Meaning of Life](#)

Availability:

Handley Library

- Hardcopy (3 copies)

Loudoun

- Hardcopy (3 copies)
- eBook (2 copies)

Hoopla online audiobooks

2018 Sci SOLs: K.10 (change), K.11 (resource use), 1.8 (natural resources), 2.5 (ecosystems and interdependence), 2.8 (plants as resources), 3.5 (ecosystems and interdependence), 3.6 (soils), 3.8 (events affect ecosystems)

2015 Social Studies SOLs: 1.10, 2.11, 3.8

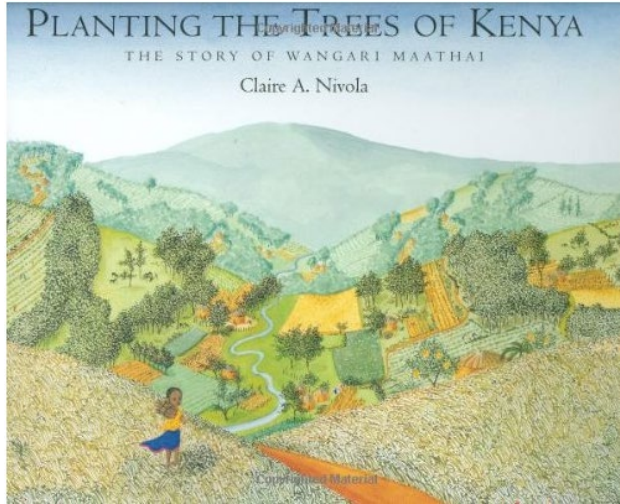
Topics:

- Ecological interactions
- Soil

- Responsibility
- Purpose

Reading level: K-3

Lexile: AD870L



Book Description:

When Wangari was a child in Kenya, the land was full of trees, lush and green. However when she came back after schooling abroad, the trees had been cut, and the land was getting desertified. She organized her community to plant and care for trees. As a result, water was again trapped in the soil and the land grew green again.

This is an interpretation of the [Green Belt Movement](#) for young readers.

Video of Reading: [Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai](#)

Availability:

Handley Public Library

- Hardcopy (2 copies)

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (5 copies)

Blandy (5 copies)

2018 Sci SOLs: K.10 (change), K11 (resource use), 1.4 (plant needs), 1.8 (natural resources), 2.5 (ecosystems and interdependence), 2.8 (plants as resource), 3.5 (ecosystems and interdependence), 3.6 (soils), 3.7 (water), 3.8 (events affect ecosystems)

2015 Social Studies SOLs: K.3 (sequence events), 1.10 (helping/respect), 2.8 (resources), 3.11 (improvement actions)

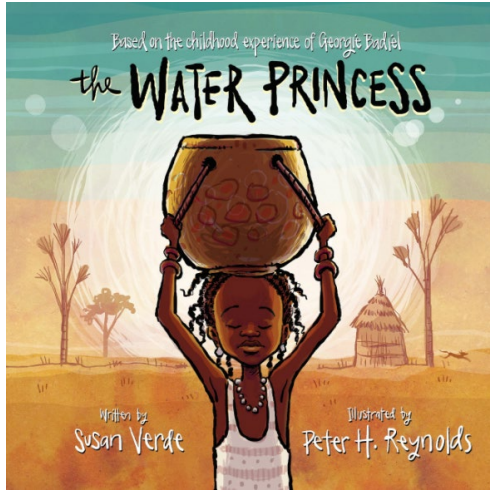
Topics:

- Ecological interactions
- Soil/Water
- Resources
- Needs

- Citizen
- Human impact

Reading level: K-3

Lexile: 480L



Book Description:

Gie Gie and her mother have to spend all day, every day, walking to get water, then walking home. When they get home, they cook, bathe, and clean. Gie Gie dreams of a time when water is closer and she could spend her time doing other things.

This is based on the life experience of Georgie Badiel, a fashion model and founder of the [Georgie Badiel Foundation](#).

Video of Reading: [The Water Princess](#)

Availability:

Loudoun Public Library

- Hardcopy (6 copies)

- eBook

Blandy (1 copy)

2018 Sci SOLs: K.4 (water), K.7 (life needs), K.11 (resource use), 1.4 (plant needs), 1.8 (natural resources), 3.7 (water), 3.8 (events affect ecosystems)

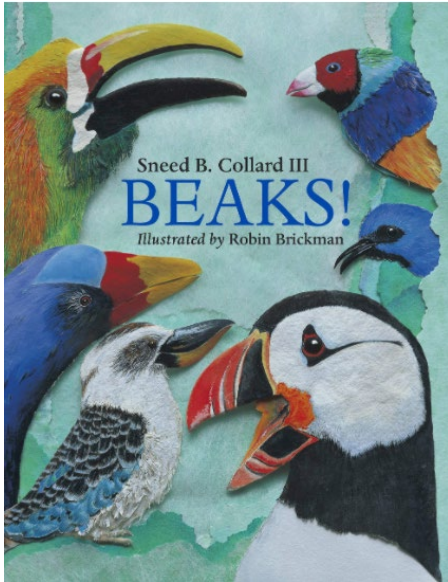
2015 Social Studies SOLs: 2.8 (resources), 3.8 (different cultures & resources)

Topics:

- Water
- Resources
- Needs

Reading level: 1-3

Lexile: IG970L



Book Description:

Different types of beaks are body-part “tools” evolved for specific functions. Each page highlights a different type of beak and describes how it is used to help the bird survive in its habitat.

A inference “quiz” at the end asks readers to try to figure out how an assortment of beaks could be used.

Video of Reading: [Beaks!](#) (with a visit with a bald eagle)

Availability:

Handley Public Library
- Hardcover (2 copies)
Blandy (4 copies)
Hoopla eBook (2)

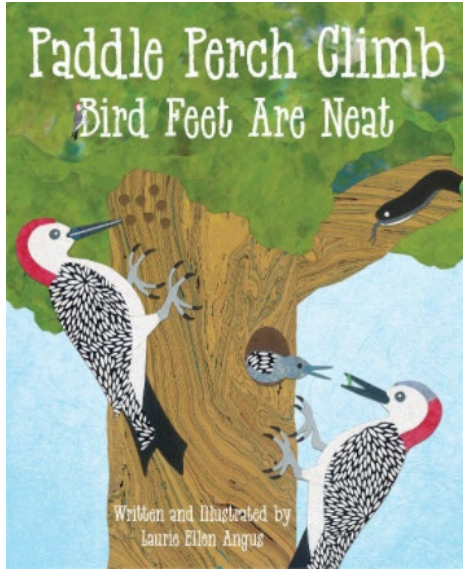
2018 Sci SOLs: 1.5 (animal needs),
2.5 (habitats), 3.4 (interdependence)

Topics:

- Adaptations
- Food chain

Reading level: PK-3

Lexile: AD480L



Topics:

- Adaptations
- Food chain
- Ecological interactions

Book Description:

Multiple types of bird foot adaptations are described in an investigative manner. On one page just the legs of a bird are shown with the repeated statement, “if you had _____ type of legs, you could...”, and on the next page not only is the bird shown using their legs, but also a predator in their ecosystem with a short warning text to draw the reader’s attention to the danger.

Video of Reading: [*Paddle Perch Climb: Bird Feet are Neat*](#)

2018 Sci SOLs: 1.5 (animal needs), 2.5 (habitats), 3.4 (interdependence), 3.5 (ecosystem interactions)

Availability:

Handley Public Library
- Hardcopy (5 copies)
Loudoun County Library
- Hardcopy (1 copy)
Blandy (4 copies)