

## Kindergarten

[A BIRD IS A BIRD](#). 2015. Lizzy Rockwell. Illus. Lizzy Rockwell. Holiday House. 32pp. ISBN-10: 0823430421. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Easily accessible text explains the features that make birds different from other groups of animals. The text is accompanied by realistic but not overly technical paintings of various birds.

[ABOUT HABITATS: POLAR REGIONS](#). 2015. Cathryn Sill. Illus. John Sill. Peachtree Publishers. 32pp. ISBN-10: 1561458325. STANDARD 2: EARTH SCIENCE. Full-page plates and concise sentences make this book a perfect fit for young learners who want to know more about characteristics of polar regions. Glossary, bibliography, and additional website resources are included.

## First Grade

[ANIMAL MOUTHS](#). 2015. Mary Holland. Arbordale. 32pp. ISBN-10: 1628555610. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Photographs of various animals and descriptions of how they ingest their food provide a perfect segue into activities related to structure and function. The “For Creative Minds” section extends the learning.

[RAINDROPS ROLL](#). 2015. April Pulley Sayre. Simon & Schuster/Beach Lane Books. 40pp. ISBN-10:148142064X. STANDARD 2: EARTH SCIENCE. Beautiful photographs provide an up-close view of raindrops in natural settings, and the text is lyrically appealing. The “Splash of Science” section provides additional science content.

## Second Grade

[BILBY: SECRETS OF AN AUSTRALIAN MARSUPIAL](#). 2015. Edel Wignell. Illus. Mark Jackson. Candlewick. 32 pp. ISBN-10: 0763667595. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Introduce

students to a lesser-known Australian marsupial! Vivid paintings portray this species in the rugged Australian terrain.

[WHAT IN THE WORLD: NUMBERS IN NATURE](#). 2015. Nancy Raines Day. Illus. Kurt Cyrus. Beach Lane Books. 32 pp. ISBN-10: 1481400606. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Written in rhyme and accompanied by watercolor illustrations, this book presents numbers in nature from 1 through 10 plus very large numbers.

### **Third Grade**

#### [A PASSION FOR ELEPHANTS: THE REAL LIFE ADVENTURE OF FIELD SCIENTIST](#)

[CYNTHIA MOSS](#). 2015. Dial Books (Penguin). 32pp. ISBN-10: 0399187251. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. This picture book biography describes the work of photographer and animal-rights activist Cynthia Moss who devoted her career to the study and preservation of the African elephant. Endnotes provide additional resources.

#### [TREE OF WONDER: THE MANY MARVELOUS LIVES OF A RAINFOREST TREE](#). 2015. [Kate](#)

[Messner](#). Illus. Simona Mulazzani. Chronicle Books. 36pp. ISBN-10: 1452112487.

STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Poetic language introduces readers to the many lifeforms that make their homes on the almendro tree. Sidebars and endnotes provide more detailed information for the teacher or advanced reader.

### **Fourth Grade**

#### [THE GREAT MONKEY RESCUE: SAVING THE GOLDEN LION TAMARINS](#). 2015. Sandra

Markle. Millbrook Press Trade. 48pp. ISBN-10: 1467780308. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE.

Readers learn not only about the plight of the golden lion tamarin but also about the scientists and volunteers who have worked for decades to save them. Photographs extend

readers' appreciation of these unique animals.

**HOW TO SWALLOW A PIG: STEP-BY-STEP ADVICE FROM THE ANIMAL KINGDOM.**

2015. Steve Jenkins and Robin Page. HMH Books for Young Readers. 32pp. ISBN-10: 0544313658. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Eighteen unique animal behaviors are explained in easy-to-understand language. Detailed paper collages add visual interest to every page.

**Fifth Grade**

**THE CALL OF THE OSPREY.** 2015. Dorothy Hinshaw Patent. Illus. William Muñoz. HMH

Books for Young Readers. 80pp. ISBN-10: 0544232682. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Through vivid photographs and engaging text, readers will learn about the plight of the Montana osprey who are suffering from mercury poisoning due to poor mining practices decades ago. Equally important is the story of the scientists who study living organisms in their natural habitats.

**WANGARI MAATHAI: THE WOMAN WHO PLANTED MILLIONS OF TREES.** 2015. Franck

Prevot. Illus. Aurelia Fronty. Charlesbridge. 48pp. ISBN-10: 158089626X. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. This picture book biography details the life of the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Wangari Maathai, an environmentalist and political activist who devoted her life to the reforestation of her native Kenya.

**Primary Honorable Mention**

**CLOUDS: A COMPARE AND CONTRAST BOOK.** 2015. Katharine Hall. Arbordale. 32pp.

ISBN-10: 1628554576. STANDARD 2: EARTH SCIENCE. Full page photographs of cloud types makes this an excellent accompaniment to weather observations. The "For Creative

Minds” section includes water cycle experiments to extend the science content.

**EGGS: NATURE'S PERFECT PACKAGE.** 2015. Steve Jenkins and Robin Page. Illus. Steve Jenkins. HMH Books for Young Readers. 32pp. ISBN-10: 0547959095. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Eggs from various species are depicted and categorized by aspects such as shape and size. Additional information at the end includes development of chick and alligator embryos as well as size and habitat of each species.

**SIMPLE MACHINES: WHEELS, LEVERS AND PULLEYS.** 2015. David A. Adler. Illus. Anna Raff. Holiday House. 32pp. ISBN-10: 0823435725. STANDARD 1: PHYSICAL SCIENCE. Through commonly known applications such as slides, simple machines are presented in a manner that introduces young learners to ways that they are used for work and play. Cartoon-style illustrations accompany the text.

### **Intermediate Honorable Mention**

**ADA BYRON LOVELACE AND THE THINKING MACHINE.** 2015. Laurie Wallmark. Illus. April Chu. Creston Books. 40pp. ISBN-10: 1939547202. STANDARD 4: ENGINEERING. This picture book biography details the innovative spirit of Ada Byron Lovelace who overcame gender barriers to pursue her love of science and mathematics. Ada wrote the first computer program decades before a computer existed, and in so doing, created the field of computer programming.

**CURIOUS CRITTERS: MARINE.** 2015. David Fitzsimmons. Wild Iris. 32pp. ISBN-10: 1936607727. STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE. Eye-catching photographs and reader-friendly text reveal incredible details about twenty different marine animals. Endnotes provide opportunities to extend the learning.

**THE INVENTOR'S SECRET: WHAT THOMAS EDISON TOLD HENRY FORD.** 2015. Suzanne Slade. Illus. Jennifer Black Reinhardt. Charlesbridge. 48pp. ISBN-10: 1580896677.

STANDARD 4: ENGINEERING. Even readers who are already familiar with the accomplishments of Edison and Ford, will be pleased to learn about the friendship between these two great inventors. Extensive endnotes provide plenty of resources for student research projects.