



Science trade books for children are an important tool for learning about science, developing scientific attitudes and stimulating an interest in reading. This twelfth annual bibliography of science trade literature is conceived as an effective way to interest youngsters in learning about science through books and, secondarily, to introduce adults to the wide variety and high quality of science books for children. The bibliography can also be used by school and public librarians as an effective selection tool, through its quality ratings symbols, which can aid professionals in making purchase decisions.

In October 2016, the Salt Lake-Moanalua Public Library sent out letters to approximately 44 children's book publishers requesting copies of their latest children's science publications. That solicitation was supplemented with some additional purchased titles, resulting in a total of 122 titles, which are divided into 14 subject headings in this bibliography. Although publishers usually confined their contributions to the current year's production, actual receipts were subject to the interpretations and personal discretion of the marketing staff at the individual publishing houses. With some exceptions, most of the titles in this bibliography were published in 2017 and 2016.

The following eight factors were used as a guide by the two librarians (with respective backgrounds in children's and science literature), who both independently rated the books: accuracy, currency, author's qualifications, organization and format, illustrative matter, literary qualities, balance and objectivity and promotion of scientific attitudes and skills. The bibliography is arranged alphabetically by author within the following 13 subject groupings: Animals, Astronomy, Biography, Earth Sciences, Environment & Conservation, Fiction, General Science, Life Sciences, Marine Life, Mathematics & Computer Sciences, Medical & Health Sciences, Plant Life, and

Technology & Engineering. Reading levels are based on publisher supplied information.

Each entry contains: 1) a complete bibliographic description of the item; 2) a summary of the general content; 3) the grade level; 4) a quality rating symbol that represents the reviewers' editorial judgment of the book's usefulness; and 5) the Dewey call number of the book in the Hawaii State Public Library System. This edition of the bibliography was produced using EndNote bibliographic software.

#### Quality Rating Symbols:

- AA Strongly recommended, excellent. Outstanding illustrations, black-and-white or color photographs. Exhibits all the best qualities of the eight evaluation factors mentioned above.
- A Recommended, very good. Good illustrations, black-and-white or color photographs. Lacking in only one or two of the best qualities of the eight factors of evaluation. Books in this category usually have a superior text but don't quite have state-of-the-art illustrations.
- B Good. Average to good illustrations, black-and-white or color photographs. Slightly deficient in two to three of the eight evaluation factors. Books in this category usually have a good text and illustrations but do not come up to the quality level of an "A" or "AA" rated book.

#### Abbreviations:

- Distr. by – Distributed by
- GrLvl – Grade Level
- Illus. By – Illustrated by
- NIDB – Not in (Horizon) Database
- p. – pages

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## Animals (20)

Arrhenius, Ingela P. **ANIMALS**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 40 p. \$22.00. GrLvl Pre-2. Quality A; E Arrhenius.

Oversized (13 x 18) introduction to thirty-two different animals. Each animal receives one page along with a label of its name, in a creative, continuously changing series of fonts. The illustrations are whimsically rendered with muted tones in mixed media which have the flavor of paper cut outs.

Borgert-Spaniol, Megan. **BABY RACCOONS**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 1 : Super Cute! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$26.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 599.76321 Bo.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about the daily activities of a baby raccoon. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **BABY RHINOS**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 1 : Super Cute! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$26.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 599.66813 Bo.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about the daily activities of a baby rhino. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **BABY SKUNKS**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 1 : Super Cute! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$26.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 599.76813 Bo.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about the daily activities of a baby skunk. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **BABY ZEBRAS**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 1 : Super Cute! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$26.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 599.66571 Bo.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about the daily activities of a baby zebra. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

Brin, Antoine and Lionel Valladares. **MY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF INSECTS AND BUGS**. Translated by Gay Rawson. Series: My Encyclopedia Collection. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017. 123 p. \$34.00. GrLvl K-3. Quality AA; J 595.703 Br.

This fascinating book shows various types of insects and is perfect for K-3rd graders. The large and colorful illustrations will hold young children's interest. The brief text explains information in a simple and understandable manner. Includes index.

Figueras, Emmanuelle. **MY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BABY ANIMALS**. Translated by Joy Nevin Axelson. Series: My Encyclopedia Collection. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017. 123 p. \$34.00. GrLvl K-3. Quality AA; J 591.392 Fi.

Baby animals are cute and this book has numerous illustrations to validate this statement. This amazing book shows various animals from infancy to adulthood and is perfect for K-3rd graders. Includes index.

Green, Sara. **BOMB-SNIFFING DOGS**. Series: Pilot: Dogs to the Rescue! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2014. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 363.232 Gr.

A book in the noted series, Dogs to the Rescue, with this title focusing on bomb-sniffing dogs. Begins with a real life profile of a bomb-sniffing dog named Brandy, who works at a busy New York City airport. Brandy uses her sensitive nose to sniff for explosives and bombs that people might want to take aboard a plane for terrorist reasons. Three dog breeds are most commonly used for bomb-sniffing dogs: German Shepherds, Labrador Retrievers, and Belgian Malinois. The author goes on to describe what bomb-sniffing dogs do on the job, such as detecting improvised explosive devices in war zones, protecting the crowds at a sports stadium, or investigating schools and other buildings for bomb scares. The training a bomb-sniffing dog undergoes is also covered, as is the special bond the dogs have with their handlers. Color photos and sidebars enhance

the informative text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and an index.

———. **SERVICE DOGS.** Series: Pilot: Dogs to the Rescue! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2014. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 362.40483 Gr.

The noted series, Dogs to the Rescue, includes this title on service dogs, which begins with a profile of a service dog named Trooper, who works with a polio victim, Kyle Smith, confined to a wheelchair. The author begins by talking about people with disabilities who want to live independent lives, but can't do it on their own. This is where service dogs enter the picture by helping with the daily needs of their partners and enabling them to be more mobile. The best dog breeds for this type of work are Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, and Great Danes. Other impairments that can be helped by service dogs include low hearing, seizures, blindness, and various mental health issues. The text goes on to describe the extensive training that service dogs undergo and the bond that they develop with their partners. Color photos and sidebars enhance the informative text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **SNOW SEARCH DOGS.** Series: Pilot: Dogs to the Rescue! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2014. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 636.70886 Gr.

Part of the noted series, Dogs to the Rescue, with this title focusing on snow search dogs. Begins with a description of a typical rescue after an avalanche and goes on to profile the characteristics of a good snow rescue dog, including the variety of dog breeds commonly used (Saint Bernards, Border Collies, German Shepherds, and Golden/Labrador Retrievers). An avalanche is the event that usually calls the snow rescue dog into action. The skills a snow rescue dog uses in rescue operations are learned in their search and rescue training. At that training, the dogs also establish a special bond with their handlers that make them a more effective team. Snow rescue dogs are also involved in education, where they visit schools with their handlers and teach children about mountain safety. The text ends with a biography of a famous snow rescue dog named Barry, a Saint Bernard that worked in the mountains of Switzerland. Color photos and sidebars complement the informative text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **WATER RESCUE DOGS.** Series: Pilot: Dogs to the Rescue! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2014. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 636.70886 Gr.

Noted series on Dogs to the Rescue, continues with a new title on water rescue dogs. Begins with a profile of Boo, a Newfoundland dog who rescued a deaf man (who also couldn't speak) from drowning in a river. Water rescue dogs are specially trained dogs that save people from drowning and other water emergencies. The best breeds of dogs for this type of work are: Newfoundlands (a giant dog with webbed paws and waterproof coat), Golden/Labrador Retrievers, Leonbergers, and Portuguese Water Dogs. Most water rescue dogs start their training as puppies where they learn obedience skills and start to bond with their handlers. Later they learn rescue skills and get certified to work. Water rescue dogs can tow boats, rescue unconscious victims, and even air scent a person who is underwater. Color photos and sidebars enhance a lively text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **WILDERNESS SEARCH DOGS.** Series: Pilot: Dogs to the Rescue! Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2014. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 636.70886 Gr.

This book on wilderness search dogs is part of the noted series, Dogs to the Rescue. Begins with a short definition of a wilderness search dog and lists the best dog breeds for that type of rescue work (Border Collies, Labrador/Golden Retrievers, and German Shepherds). Many wilderness search dogs train for one to two years before going on duty. They learn obedience skills, agility, how to air scent, and how to refind (leading rescuers back to a lost and disabled person). The dogs also develop strong bonds with their handlers, which make them a better rescue team. Color photos and sidebars enhance the exciting text, which is appended with a profile of a wilderness rescue dog named Soot, a glossary, bibliography, websites, and an index.

Houghton, Chris. **GOODNIGHT EVERYONE.** Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$15.99. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality A; E Houghton.

Great bedtime storybook about the end of the day, when all the animals are getting sleepy except for one little bear, who thinks he can stay awake, but discovers that night really is for sleeping. The illustrations were created digitally, but very much have a feeling of watercolor. Ideal for a parent putting a reluctant child to sleep.

Leighton, Christina. **BOBCATS.** Series: Blastoff! Readers 3 : North American Animals. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 599.7536 Le.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about where bobcats live, what they eat and how they raise their offspring. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **COTTONTAIL RABBITS.** Series: Blastoff! Readers 3 : North American Animals. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 599.324 Le.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about where cottontail rabbits live, what they eat and how they raise their offspring. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **GOLDEN EAGLES.** Series: Blastoff! Readers 3 : North American Animals. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 598.9423 Le.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about where golden eagles live, what they eat and how they raise their offspring. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **ROADRUNNERS.** Series: Blastoff! Readers 3 : North American Animals. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 598.74 Le.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about where roadrunners live, what they eat and how they raise their offspring. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

Orr, Tamra. **ANIMALS HELPING TO KEEP THE PEACE.** Series: True Book. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2015. 48 p. \$21.75. GrLvl 4-6. Quality AA; J 355.424 Or.

Animals have been helping soldiers since World War I. Orr's book does a wonderful job of sharing what some of these tasks are for 4th–6th graders. Animals included are dolphins, pigeons and dogs. Colorful realistic photos enhance the text. Includes timeline, glossary, bibliography and index.

Raatma, Lucia. **ANIMALS HELPING AT HOME.** Series: True Book. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2015. 48 p. \$21.75. GrLvl 4-6. Quality AA; J 362.40483 Ra.

Animals have been helping people do daily tasks for many years. Raatma's book does a wonderful job of sharing what some of these tasks are for 4th–6th graders. Animals included are dogs, horses and monkeys. Colorful realistic photos enhance the text. Includes timeline, glossary, bibliography and index.

Squire, Ann. **ANIMALS HELPING AT WORK.** Series: True Book. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2015. 48 p. \$21.75. GrLvl 4-6. Quality AA; J 636.0886 Sq.

Animals have been helping people do work tasks for many years. Squire's book does a wonderful job of sharing what some of these tasks are for 4th–6th graders. Animals included are dogs, rats, elephants, bees and pigeons. Colorful realistic photos enhance the text. Includes timeline, glossary, bibliography and index.

## Astronomy (2)

Graham, Ian. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE ON APOLLO 13! : A MISSION YOU'D RATHER NOT GO ON.** Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. Revised ed. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2017. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality AA; J 629.254 Gr.

Have you ever wanted to go to the moon? This excellent book for 3rd-5th graders presents a very interesting and detailed description of how the astronauts of Apollo 13 prepared for the flight, experienced disaster and were still able to return to earth. Also great for reluctant readers. The illustrations are colorful and contain humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Index and glossary included. Endnotes discuss the Moon, Top events in the space race between the Soviet Union and the United States, and trivia facts under Did you know? Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in the front of the book. Highly recommended.

Macdonald, Fiona. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT CLOCKS AND CALENDARS!** Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2016. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-12. Quality AA; J 529 Ma.

An excellent resource for 3rd-5th graders, especially reluctant readers that "delves into the history of clocks and calendars. From early astronomical observations to recent technological developments, this book explores the wonderful journey of timekeeping."-Scholastic's website. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Index and glossary included. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in the front of the book. Highly recommended.

## Aviation & Space (4)

Adamson, Thomas K. **AIRPLANES.** Series: Blastoff! Readers 2 : Mighty Machines in Action. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$24.95. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 629.13334 Ad.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about various types of airplanes, including commercial and military. The excellent photo illustrations complement the text. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

Mattern, Joanne. **REMOTE CONTROL PLANES**. Series: How Things Work. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2016. 32 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 2-5. Quality A; J 629.13313 Ma.

An introduction to remote control planes for the early grades - part of the noted series, How Things Work. The author begins by delving into how remote control planes work, explaining that radio signals control the parts of a plane, such as the engine, rudder, and elevators, from a transmitter held by a pilot, on the ground! The first successful remote control plane was built in 1937 and named "Big Guff." Another type of remote control plane is called a drone. It can look like an airplane, but most people think of a helicopter-like vehicle, when they think of drones. Color photos, sidebars, and Fun Facts enhance the educational text, which is appended by a Timeline, Super Science Experiment, glossary, website, and index.

Mattern, Joanne and Blair Rainsford. **HOT AIR BALLOONS**. Series: How Things Work. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2016. 32 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 2-5. Quality A; J 629.13322.

Part of the noted, How Things Work, series, this early grade title focuses on the subject of hot air balloons. Begins with an overview of hot air balloons, explains how the balloons are blown up, how the pilots attain liftoff, control the balloon in flight, and bring the balloon back to earth. The author then compares and contrasts hot air balloons with other balloons, such as blimps, which use the gas helium to attain liftoff. Color photos, diagrams, and sidebars complement the light educational text, which is appended by a timeline, Super Science experiment, glossary, index, and website.

Perish, Patrick. **SURVIVE A PLANE CRASH**. Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Pe.

Essentials for the early grades, on how to survive a plane crash. Part of the noted series, Torque : Survival zone. Planes crash for the following reasons: engine/instrument failure, bird strikes, but number one is human error. If faced with a possible crash pay attention to the flight attendants, read the safety instructions, fasten your seat belt, locate your nearest exit, and get in the brace position. Once the plane is down, evacuate on the inflatable slides and stay near the crash site so rescuers can spot you.

Color photos and sidebars complement the factual text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

## Biography (3)

Burleigh, Robert. **SOLVING THE PUZZLE UNDER THE SEA: MARIE THARP MAPS THE OCEAN FLOOR**. Illus. by Raul Colon. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2016. 40 p. \$17.99. GrLvl 2-4. Quality AA; J B Tharp Bu.

Marie Tharp wondered if there was a way to map the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. Growing up the daughter of a mapmaker, Marie dreamed of piecing the ocean floor together like a puzzle. Covering obstacles: a nomadic childhood, forging the way through gender equality gaps, and innovating techniques for geologists, this book tells a triumphant story of perseverance. Gathering information about the ocean floor, she proves theories about underwater mountain ranges and plate tectonics (continental drift). The first person voice lends her journey more heart. Colon's soothingly water-colored hues take you out to sea and to a time when Marie Tharp made strides for women and geologists in kind. Endpapers include biography, glossary, bibliography, internet links, and ideas to explore.

Graham, Ian. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE SIR ISAAC NEWTON! : A LONELY LIFE YOU'D RATHER NOT LEAD**. Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. Revised ed. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2013. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality A; J B Newton Gr.

A great beginner's book for 3rd-5th graders with a concise description of Newton's life, including his work with gravity, alchemy, publications and his time as head of the British mint. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Index and glossary included.

Losure, Mary. **ISAAC THE ALCHEMIST: SECRETS OF ISAAC NEWTON, REVEAL'D**. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2017. 163 p. \$19.99. GrLvl 5-8. Quality AA; YA B Newton Lo.

Very well constructed biography of the great scientist and physicist, Isaac Newton that attempts to convey a feeling for the complete person, including some character traits that were quite unusual. Starting out life on a precarious footing, Isaac's father died before he was born, and Isaac was raised by his grandparents because his mother remarried and his stepfather wanted nothing to do with Isaac. However, Isaac's native intelligence eventually got him on the educational track where he excelled. At twelve years of age, Isaac was sent away to school at Grantham and lived in an apothecary's

house. This is where Isaac got interested in alchemy, "chymistry", mechanics, "mathematicks", and experimentation. Although alchemy (turning base metal into gold) is now considered a pseudoscience, in the 1600s it was the chemistry of its time, and alchemists discovered many chemical properties through their experimentation. Isaac eventually entered and graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge University, and ultimately became a fellow or professor of the college and a member of the Royal Society. Religion during the 1600s in England was very strict and puritanical. Isaac kept a notebook with a list of the sins he committed before and after 1662. These sins were very tame by modern standards e.g. working on the Sabbath. In temperament, Isaac was reserved, even to the point of not publishing some of his great discoveries, because it would entangle him with others. Superb black-and-white illustrations complement an engaging text, which is appended by Source Notes, a bibliography and index. Highly recommended.

## Earth Sciences (9)

Bowman, Chris. **SURVIVE A BLIZZARD**. Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Bo.

Early grade look at how to survive a blizzard - part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone. Blizzards are strong winter storms, with high winds, blowing snow, and low visibility, that last at least three hours. If caught outside in a blizzard - 1) find shelter; 2) cover skin with dry clothes; and 3) build a fire. First priority is getting out of the wind. If no shelter is available build a snow cave, lean-to, windbreak, or trench. Staying warm and dry is important in a blizzard to protect against frostbite and hypothermia. If trapped in a car, stay in the car, run the engine for ten minutes each hour, crack the windows for fresh air, and clear snow from around the tailpipe. If you're trapped indoors and the heat and power are knocked out - stay in one room to keep warm, cover windows at night to keep heat in, stock up on food and beverages, bundle up, and stay relaxed. Color photos and sidebars complement the educational text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

———. **SURVIVE A TORNADO**. Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Bo.

Taking it to the extreme, this book is about how to survive a tornado, for the early grades. It's part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone.

Tornadoes are storms with strong rotating winds that can pick up cars, houses, and throw debris at high speeds. They develop when a cold air mass meets a warm air mass producing spinning wind speeds of more than 300 miles per hour. If you are caught outside during a tornado, the safest option is to find a sturdy shelter. If no shelter is available, lay face down with your arms protecting your head and neck, in a ditch or other low lying area. The safest place to be in a tornado is in a bunker or basement, but small rooms without windows, such as closets or bathrooms are other options. After a tornado, food and clean water might be hard to find, so always keep an emergency supply kit in the safest room in the house. Color photos and sidebars complement the educational text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

———. **SURVIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS**. Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Bo.

Primer for the early grades on how to survive in the mountains. Part of the noted series - Torque : Survival Zone. Describes some of the dangers of mountain hiking e.g. altitude sickness, thunderstorms, flash floods, blizzards, frostbite, hypothermia, avalanches, and wild animals. Best advice is to be prepared and bring: food, matches, extra clothing, cell phone, ropes, tarp, whistle, sunscreen, sunglasses, water, and a hat. First priority is to find shelter, then stay warm (build a fire), eat to maintain body temperature and drink water to remain hydrated. Color photos and sidebars enhance the factual text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

Mizielinska, Aleksandra and Daniel Mizielinski. **UNDER WATER, UNDER EARTH**. Illus. by the authors. Somerville, MA: Big Picture Press, 2016. 112 p. \$35.00. Distr. by Candlewick; GrLvl 2-4. Quality AA; J 550 Mi.

Large, oversized (11x15) volume that offers a tremendous amount of information on earth sciences, biology, and oceanography. Starting at one cover, at the surface of the earth, the authors dive down deeply, layer by layer to discover the geology, animal, and plant life that exist below the surface. Flipping the book over to the opposite cover, readers take a journey from the surface of lakes to the depths of the oceans looking at all things living and non-living. The two sections meet in the approximate middle of the book. Wonderful color illustrations, maps, graphs, and sidebars, done in mixed media, enhance the almost endless stream of facts. The excellent book design gives the reader the feel of descending on a journey to the center of the earth. Highly recommended.

Perish, Patrick. **SURVIVE A FLOOD.** Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Pe.

This title on flooding, gives the essentials on how to survive a flood. Aimed at the early grades, it is part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone. Flooding happens when an area receives more water than it can absorb at that time. Flash flooding usually occurs without warning and can happen in places you would not expect, such as narrow, dry desert canyons and shallow mountain streams. Before the storm, make a plan, put together an emergency kit (food, water, radio, flashlight, clothing, matches, candles, blankets, cash, cell phone, maps, and medications), choose a safe meeting place on high ground, pick an emergency contact outside the area for everyone to call, and evacuate! During the storm, avoid walking through flowing water, drivers should never cross flooded roads, faucet water must be boiled until authorities say it is safe, and it can be dangerous to enter buildings after floods. Color photos and sidebars complement the factual text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

———. **SURVIVE A HURRICANE.** Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Pe.

A primer for the early grades on the subject of hurricane survival - part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone. Describes how hurricanes happen, names the parts of a hurricane, and gives the hurricane wind scale (Category 1, etc.). Explains what to do before a hurricane hits (evacuate, shutter windows, and listen to updated weather reports). Also explains what to do after the storm (avoid floodwaters, make sure drinking water is safe, and avoid downed power lines). Dynamic color photos and sidebars enhance the educational text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

———. **SURVIVE A TSUNAMI.** Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Pe.

The elements of surviving a tsunami, for the early grades, are explained in this title, which is part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone. Describes how a tsunami is created (earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, or meteorites), what you should do (evacuate to high ground with your emergency kit - food, water, radio, clothing, cash, cell phone, blankets, medications, and maps). After the tsunami (avoid water until declared safe, stay away from

downed power lines and buildings damaged by flood waters), with good planning and a fair warning you can survive. Color photos and sidebars enhance the factual text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

———. **SURVIVE AN AVALANCHE.** Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Pe.

Early grade introduction in how to survive an avalanche. Part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone. Avalanches are huge masses of snow and debris that move down a mountain. The best survival tip is to prepare - have the right gear (a beacon, avalanche airbag, probe, slope meter, and snow shovel), be aware of conditions (weather, slope of the terrain, cracks). If caught in an avalanche - make an air pocket, put an arm up to help rescuers find you, remain calm, breathe normally, and wait for rescue. Color photos and sidebars enhance the educational text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

———. **SURVIVE AN EARTHQUAKE.** Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality J 613.69 Pe.

An introduction on how to survive an earthquake, for the early grades. Part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone. Most earthquakes are caused by movement between the large tectonic plates that make up the earth's crust. As they pass by one another, the plates get stuck, causing pressure to build up and when one plate slides by, energy is released in powerful seismic waves that move out from the quake's epicenter. Other causes of earthquakes include impacts by meteorites, volcanic eruptions, and underground mining. The best way to protect yourself from earthquakes is to prepare - bolt heavy furniture to the wall, use velcro to keep small objects from falling, and make an emergency plan with your family. During an earthquake, get down on the ground under sturdy furniture and shield your head and neck with your arms. Falling debris can be deadly. If outside, stay away from tall structures that may collapse. If trapped, stay calm, try to call for help on a cell phone, banging on metal, or whistling to signal rescuers. After a quake, be prepared for aftershocks, that can hit days, weeks, or months later. Listen to local news reports for emergency information and instructions. You may be asked to evacuate the area. Color photos and sidebars complement a lively text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

## Environment & Conservation (10)

Ambrose, Sophie. **THE LONELY GIANT**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$16.99. GrLvl Pre-3. Quality AA; E Ambrose.

What happens when a Giant's fondness is for heaving and hauling trees and smashing mountains? He finds himself lonely as the animals that lived in the forest lost their home because of the Giant's destruction. With only a small yellow bird to keep left, the Giant cages it to keep him company but soon the bird's sadness matches that of the Giant's. So he lets the bird go free. When he is completely alone the Giant re-examines the ecological ruin he created and then slowly rebuilds his home and the home of the many birds and creatures that lived in the forest. This charming and beautifully illustrated book is a great read aloud for young children.

Baker, Jeannie. **CIRCLE**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 48 p. \$17.99. GrLvl K-3. Quality A; E Baker.

A visually striking story of the godwit's migration; one of the longest unbroken journeys of any animal. Told through detailed collages the reader follows as the godwit's journey becomes full circle. Appended with the author's note and map that explains the godwit's 7000 mile migration path and advocates for conservation.

Bornoff, Emily. **WHERE DID THEY GO? : A SPOTTING BOOK**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$14.99. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality AA; J 793.73 Bo.

A dual purpose book for the lower grades on environments and the endangered animals that live in those environments. Thirteen animals are camouflaged into their respective habitats and just like in the wild, they are very hard to find. A simple text that gives a few facts about each animal is followed by the question, Where did the "blank" animal go? Color illustrations nicely complement the text, which is appended by a two-page spread with full pictures and a small blurb of facts on the thirteen animals.

Hood, Susan. **ADA'S VIOLIN : THE STORY OF THE RECYCLED ORCHESTRA OF PARAGUAY**. Illus. by Sally Wern Comport. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2016. 40 p. \$17.99. GrLvl Pre-3. Quality AA; J 784.20608 Ho.

Engaging story of a little girl's discovery of music in a poverty stricken town in Paraguay. Ada becomes involved with an innovative music teacher, who using his ingenuity, fashions an orchestra out of

materials recycled from the town dump. The Orquesta de Instrumentos Reciclados de Cateura at first gains local renown and then world-wide exposure. Excellent illustrations were created from a hybrid technique of collage, acrylic, glazes, and paints. Text is appended by an Author's Note, list of websites, videos, and sources.

Marsico, Katie. **BEARS**. Series: A True Book - The Most Endangered. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017. 48 p. \$31.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 599.78 Ma.

Learn which species of bears are endangered in this book, which is part of the noted series, A True Book - The Most Endangered. Bears are large mammals found throughout North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. There are eight species: Asiatic black bears, brown bears, American black bears, giant pandas, polar bears, sloth bears, spectacled bears, and sun bears. The most endangered species is the giant panda. Threats from human activity including habitat loss, climate change, poaching, and the exotic pet trade. Some of the characteristics of bears include special dental features, very sensitive noses, fabulous fur, and the ability to hibernate. Most bears are apex predators, who sit at the top of the food chain. Conservationists work to create protected areas such as national parks, preserves, and sanctuaries. They also coordinate international efforts and use various means to raise awareness, "Adopt" a Bear, and invite an expert. Color photos and sidebars enhance the educational text, which is appended by a page of True Statistics, a bibliography, website, glossary, and index.

———. **BIG CATS**. Series: A True Book - The Most Endangered. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017. 48 p. \$31.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 599.75 Ma.

Early grade look at the most endangered big cats - part of the noted, A True Book - The Most Endangered series. Big cats are large predatory cats that include lions, tigers, jaguars, leopards, cheetahs, and cougars. All big cats are carnivores or meat eaters and they are known for their fierce hunting skills. Big cats face many threats including the wildlife trade, conflicts with humans, trophy hunters, and destruction of natural habitats. This is why the big cats are considered endangered. Conservationists are helping to save the endangered big cats through such programs as: International Tiger Day, Visit a Sanctuary, "Adopt" a Big Cat, and craft activities like creating a camouflage collage. Color photos and sidebars enhance the educational text, which is appended by a page of True Statistics, a bibliography, website, glossary, and index. A small mistake does appear on page 17 in a table called, "A Comparison of Big Cat

Species," where the weight of the leopard is estimated at 1,320 to 2,090 pounds.

———. **ELEPHANTS**. Series: A True Book : The Most Endangered. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017. 48 p. \$31.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality J 599.67 Ma.

Great introductory book for the early grades on the conservation of endangered elephants. Part of the noted A True Book - The Most Endangered series. Describes the elephants' unique anatomy, habitats, diet, memory, super senses, social behavior, and endangered status. The reasons elephants are endangered is due to the illegal ivory trade, war in the areas where elephants live, and encroachment by humans (especially farmers) into elephant territory. Conservationists are trying various strategies to get the word out about saving the elephants including World Elephant Day, Adopt an Elephant, Taking Elphies, and Asking an Expert. Exceptional color photos and sidebars complement a very complete and well written text, which is appended by a list of true statistics, bibliography, website, glossary, and index.

———. **GORILLAS**. Series: A True Book - The Most Endangered. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017. 48 p. \$31.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 599.884 Ma.

Do you know why gorillas are considered one of the most endangered animals in the world? - find out in this book, which is part of the noted series, A True Book - The Most Endangered. Gorillas are the largest members of the order primates - a group of mammals that includes apes, gorillas, monkeys, and humans! Most gorillas live in the forests of central and western Africa. There are two main species of gorillas eastern and western gorillas, with two subspecies in each group. Gorillas walk on both all fours and their hind legs, have large hands, muscular arms/legs, broad chest/shoulders, a hairless face and bulging forehead, in addition to being intelligent, which can be seen in their use of simple tools. One gorilla named Koko was able to learn American Sign Language and had a vocabulary of 1,100 signs. Gorillas' endangered status is mainly due to human activity - poaching, bush meat trade, trophy hunting, habitat loss, diseases, warfare, and political unrest. Conservationists through international organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund, help to prevent poaching, create protected areas such as national parks, "Adopt" a Gorilla, and other programs that raise awareness of the gorillas' plight. Color photos and sidebars enhance the educational text, which is appended by a page of True Statistics, a bibliography, website, glossary, and index.

———. **RHINOS**. Series: A True Book - The Most Endangered. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017.

48 p. \$31.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality J 599.668 Ma.

Find out why rhinos are considered one of the most endangered large land animals in the world, in this book which is part of the noted series, A True Book - The Most Endangered. Rhinos are large, hooved mammals that are related to horses, donkeys, tapirs, and zebras. There are five species of rhinos, including black, white, Sumatran, Indian, and Javan. Black, Javan, and Sumatran rhinos are critically endangered. The main causes of rhino's endangered status are poaching, habitat loss, natural disasters, disease, and a lack of genetic diversity. Poaching is the number one cause and it's related to the value of the rhinos' horn, which is used in traditional medicines and carved into fancy daggers called jambiyas for wealthy patrons. Rhinos are herbivores, have thick skin, powerful muscles, and keen senses of hearing and smell. Conservation efforts include stopping deforestation, patrolling protected habitats, captive breeding, celebration of World Rhino Day (Sep. 22), "Adopt" a Rhino, and starting conservation clubs. Color photos and sidebars enhance the factual text, which is appended by a page of True Statistics, a bibliography, website, glossary, and index.

Sims, Nat and the Night & Day Team. **PEEKABOO WILD : A LIFT-THE-FLAP BOOK**. Illus. by Corey Lunn. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 20 p. \$7.99. GrLvl Pre. Quality AA; E Sims.

Notable board book that seeks to introduce the concepts of both types of environments found around the world and the animals that inhabit them. The environments (the bush, savanna, jungle, bamboo forest, and the Arctic) are depicted in double page spreads and the animals are revealed in lift up windows. Very simple text, e.g. Who lives there? is wonderfully complemented by bold color illustrations done in mixed media. Great book design ties together all the elements. Highly recommended.

## Fiction (9)

Bell, Cece. **RABBIT & ROBOT AND RIBBIT**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 42 p. \$14.99. GrLvl K-4. Quality A; E Bell.

Engaging story of what occurs when a friend (Rabbit) unexpectedly shows up at another friend's (Robot's) house, while Robot is already engrossed in a game of checkers with another friend (Ribbit). To help clarify the relationships, Rabbit is a real rabbit, Robot is a real robot, and Ribbit is a real frog. With humor and an eye towards learning about life, the author looks at the misunderstandings and bumps that occur when two friends suddenly become three. The slightly humorous text is enhanced with color illustrations created digitally by the author.

Dickson, Irene. **BLOCKS**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Nosy Crow, 2016. 32 p. \$14.99. Distr. by Candlewick; GrLvl Pre-K. Quality A; E Dickson.

Preschool story of friendship and sharing begins with Ruby playing with red blocks and Benji playing with blue blocks. When Benji decides to borrow one of Ruby's red blocks a commotion ensues, which is settled cooperatively, that is, until Guy shows up with some green blocks. The simple text is illustrated in mixed media with muted tones.

Hest, Amy. **ARE YOU SURE, MOTHER BEAR?** Illus. by Lauren Tobia. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$15.99. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality AA; E Hest.

Warm and emotionally resonant story of Little Miss Bear (and her mother), who even though winter is at hand, is reluctant to go to sleep. Mother Bear keeps reiterating that, "Winter is for sleeping," but little Miss Bear says she is not the least bit sleepy and would miss the moon, stars, and rolling hills. So the bears go on some adventures outside their house, which eventually brings them to a natural state of sleep, when they return home. Excellent color illustrations done in pencil and ink wonderfully enhance the engaging text. A great book that captures the season of winter and the warm feeling of togetherness between mother and daughter.

James, Simon. **REX**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 40 p. \$16.99. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality A; E James.

A touching story about a baby dinosaur's search for his dad. The story begins 65 million years ago, a tyrannosaurus that spends his day terrorizing the other dinosaurs around him. One night while sleeping an abandoned egg cracks open and pops out a baby dinosaur who decides that the terrifying tyrannosaurus is his dad. This heart-warming tale of finding one's family will echo with all types of families.

Kleber, Dori. **MORE-IGAMI**. Illus. by G. Brian Karas. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$15.99. GrLvl Pre-3. Quality A; E Kleber.

Cute story of a boy, Joey, who becomes mesmerized at a demonstration of origami by his classmate's mother. He then starts on a quest to become an origami master by folding everything in sight. Joey's practice and perseverance pay off when his skill is recognized by Mr. Lopez at a neighborhood Mexican restaurant, as he catches Joey elegantly folding a paper napkin. Mr. Lopez asks Joey if he could fold all the napkins on his restaurant's tables just like that, because it makes the tables look real fancy. Joey complies and his handiwork gets noticed by a young girl that drops into the restaurant, who shows interest in his origami napkins. Joey tells her he can show her how, but it will take practice and lots of patience. The

illustrations are done with muted tones in gouache and pencil on paper. Instructions on how to fold your own origami ladybug are appended to the text.

Knapman, Timothy. **DINOSAURS DON'T HAVE BEDTIMES**. Illus. by Nikki Dyson. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$15.99. GrLvl Pre-2. Quality A; E Knapman.

Mo is a little boy who loves dinosaurs, so much so that he eats and acts like one! When it comes to things that ordinary boys do like have dinnertime, bath time, or bedtime Mo claims that dinosaurs don't have dinnertime, bath time, or bedtime. In fact dinosaurs eat whenever they want, hate taking baths, and don't have bedtimes because they're "never, ever tired." But he wouldn't mind a bedtime story, if it's ROARY! The exciting illustrations and funny banter between Mo and his patient and gentle mother makes this a great read aloud story for bedtimes.

Layton, Neal. **THE TREE**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$16.99. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality AA; E Layton.

Cute story with environmental overtones. A couple buy some land to build their dream house, but as they start to clear the land they discover that the tree they are about to cut down is already occupied by a birds' nest, owls' hollow, squirrels' nest, and a rabbits' burrow. The tree is a whole ecosystem in itself. The couple then decides to become part of that tree's ecosystem by building a tree house, which allows all of the tree's inhabitants to be part of one big happy home. Very warm, muted color illustrations done in pen and wash complement the simple text.

Opie, Iona ed. **MY VERY FIRST MOTHER GOOSE**. Illus. by Rosemary Wells. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 108 p. \$24.99. GrLvl K-12. Quality AA; J 398.8 My.

Twentieth Anniversary Edition of My Very First Mother Goose for all ages young and old. Edited by the world's foremost expert on the lore and games of children, it gathers more than sixty treasured nursery rhymes in their most perfect form. All the classics are here wonderfully illustrated in radiant watercolor and ink. The text is appended by an Index of First Lines. Highly recommended.

Willis, Jeanne. **POLES APART**. Illus. by Jarvis. Somerville, MA: Nosy Crow, 2016. 32 p. \$15.99. Distr. by Candlewick; GrLvl Pre-2. Quality B; E Willis.

Everyone knows that there are no penguins in the North Pole, that is until Mr. Pilchard-Brown misreads the map and accidentally leads his family of penguins up north. It wasn't until the Pilchard-Brown family happened upon a large white animal they didn't recognize did they realize they strayed far from home. The white animal was a kind polar bear named Mr.

White. Thankfully Mr. White is better with getting around and helped the penguin family find their way back home. Mr. White travels with the penguin family through a crooked path home via the United States, England, Italy, India, and Australia. This story is less about geography and more about friendship and finding adventure in life.

## General Science (19)

Bowman, Chris. **SURVIVE IN THE WOODS**. Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613,69 Bo.

An introduction to surviving in the woods for the early grades - part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone. Having to survive in the woods usually comes about by having become lost in the woods. The best advice is to stay in one area, so rescuers can find you. Next you should take note of the Rule of Threes: you can survive for three hours without shelter; three days without water; and three weeks without food. So first try to build or find a shelter. It will also help your survival if you can build a fire using matches, magnifying glasses, steel and flint, or a bow drill. Clean water is important, but boil it for one minute to make it safe from bacteria. Never eat anything you can't identify. Avoid animals by making noise as you walk. Before hiking in the woods, be prepared by having the right gear: fish hooks, rope, first aid kit, compass, maps, whistle, matches, flashlight, water, food, hat, rain jacket, bug spray, and a knife. Color photos and illustrations enhance the educational text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

Canavan, Roger. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT BACTERIA!** Illus. by Mark Bergin. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2015. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-12. Quality AA; J 579.3 Ca.

This is an excellent and thorough book on the various types of bacteria for 3rd to 5th grade readers. Teachers may also extract ideas from the "you can do it" sections to use for creating experiments in the classroom. The illustrations are colorful and detailed to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Index and glossary included. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in front of the book. Endnotes discuss Bacteria and Disease, Top Three Plague Attacks, and trivia in Did You Know? Highly recommended.

———. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT WRITING!** Illus. by Mark Bergin. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2016. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-12. Quality AA; J 808.02 Ca.

An excellent book for 3rd-5th graders to learn about the history of writing from the earliest times. Includes various languages and most pages include an activity for the reader to try. The numerous illustrations are colorful and complement the text. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in the front of the book. Endnotes discuss the top 5 written words and trivia in the Did you know section. Includes index and glossary.

Cunningham, Kevin. **READING MAPS**. Series: True Book. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2013. 48 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality AA; J 912.014 Cu.

Even though most people use GPS systems for navigation, learning to read maps can help 3rd to 5th grade readers learn to find their way around plus understand history and foreign countries' locations. Readers will not only learn about the history of maps, but also how to use lines of longitude and latitude, decipher map legends, and use a compass to orient a map in the real world. Illustrations include examples of various types of maps and tools developed for navigating across oceans and lands. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **TYPES OF MAPS**. Series: True Book. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2013. 48 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality AA; J 526.8 Cu.

Maps not only can tell the history of and the locations of particular places, but also show other types of information. Readers in 3rd – 5th grade will learn about the following types of maps: physical, political, historical, climate, demographic and natural resources. This book does a thorough job in covering the types of maps and illustrations include examples of them. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

Graham, Ian. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT PLASTIC!** Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2016. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality A; J 668.4 Gr.

Plastic is an essential component of everyday life. This book discusses the pre-plastic era through current technological advances, including 3D plastic printers, which will appeal to 3rd to 5th grade readers. The illustrations, which are colorful and detailed, include ideas for experiments on some pages. Index and glossary included. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in front of the book. Endnotes discuss Top inventors of plastic, Fire, and trivia in the Did you know section.

Green, Jen. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE A POLAR EXPLORER! : AN EXPEDITION YOU'D RATHER NOT GO ON**. Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. Revised ed. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2017. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality A; J 919.8904.

This is an excellent description of Shackleton's disastrous trip to attempt to walk across Antarctica. It includes information about the unusual diet and the perils of the trip, which will appeal to 3rd to 5th grade readers. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in front of the book. Endnotes discuss The Ross Sea party, Shackleton's vessels, Top Antarctic explorers and trivia about Antarctica. Index and glossary included.

Messenger, Norman. **AN ARTIST'S ALPHABET**. Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 40 p. \$17.99. GrLvl Pre-2. Quality AA; E Alphabet/Counting Messenger.

An imaginative, surreal alphabet book that transforms each letter into an extraordinary memorable object. Taking images from the circus, flora, fauna, oceans, mythology, technology, architecture, geology, mathematics, meteorology, and everyday objects, the author transcribes them into a gorgeously rendered alphabet. Soft and warm color graphics done in watercolor and pencil highlight the text.

Murrie, Matt and Andrew R. McHugh. **THE BOOK OF WHAT IF...? : QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES FOR CURIOUS MINDS**. Illus. by Sara E. Blum. New York, NY: Aladdin, 2016. 225 p. \$17.99. Distr. by Simon & Schuster; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 031 Mu.

This is a book that really gets the reader to start thinking outside of the box on 84 different subjects divided into four major parts: History, People, Stuff, and Nature. If you pick a subject such as Time Travel, the book asks: What if you could go back in time?; What if you could go forward in time?; Here's how to create a time-lapse.; and finishing up with a Technical Corner project on Building a Time Machine. Filled with Activities and Technical Corner sidebars that enhance a very creatively written text, appended by Notes (bibliographical) and Curious Resources (libraries, books, movies, and websites).

Olien, Rebecca. **LONGITUDE AND LATITUDE**. Series: Rookie Read-About Geography. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2013. 32 p. \$23.00. GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 526.61 Ol.

Olien does an excellent job of explaining the difference between longitude and latitude in simple terms for K through 3rd graders. The illustrations and maps are colorful and some include games for the reader to find something on the map. Includes index.

———. **LOOKING AT MAPS AND GLOBES**. Series: Rookie Read-About Geography. New York, NY: Children's

Press, 2013. 32 p. \$21.73. GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 912.014 Ol.

Readers in grades K-3 will enjoy this entertaining book for learning about maps and globes. The illustrations and maps are colorful and some include games for the reader to find something on the map. Includes index.

———. **MAP KEYS**. Series: Rookie Read-About Geography. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2013. 32 p. \$23.00. GrLvl K-3. Quality AA; J 912.0148 Ol.

Map keys help users find items on a map. This book presents this information in an easy to understand and fun manner for K-3rd graders. The illustrations and maps are colorful and some include games for the reader to find something on the map. Includes index.

Perish, Patrick. **SURVIVE A FIRE**. Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Pe.

Good advice on the basics of surviving a fire, for the lower grades. Part of the noted series, Torque : Survival Zone. Explains the Fire Triangle, the three things fires need in order to burn (oxygen, fuel, and a heat source). Lists the most common causes of house fires (cooking, space heaters, smoking, candles, overloaded outlets, and bad wiring). Describes fire prevention steps (smoke alarms, fire extinguishers, foldable ladders, and sprinkler systems). If caught in a fire stay low to the ground to avoid breathing in smoke. If caught on fire - Stop, Drop, and Roll! Keep doors blocked by fires closed, plug cracks around the doors with wet clothes or tape and call 911. After a fire avoid burned-out buildings until authorities say they are safe to enter. Color photos and sidebars enhance the factual text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

———. **SURVIVE ON A DESERT ISLAND**. Series: Torque : Survival Zone. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$25.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 613.69 Pe.

Presents the basics for the early grades on how to survive on a desert island. Part of the noted series - Torque : Survival Zone. Usually, people become stranded on a desert island because their boat capsized or their plane was downed in the water and they were able to swim to an island, only to discover it was deserted. One interesting fact is that desert islands are typically not deserts, but located in tropical rainy areas. At one time, years ago, sailors were marooned on desert islands as punishment. Tips for surviving on a desert island include: stay positive, get creative, salvage what you can, collect debris from washing ashore, find freshwater, follow the Rule of

Threes (Humans can survive 3 minutes without air, 3 days without water, and 3 weeks without food), build a shelter, start a fire to keep warm and cook food, and prepare rescue signals to alert passing ships or planes. Color photos and sidebars enhance the factual text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, website, and index.

Stewart, David. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE AN EGYPTIAN MUMMY! : DISGUSTING THINGS YOU'D RATHER NOT KNOW.** Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. Revised ed. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2013. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality AA; J 932.01 St.

All the disgusting things – dissection, mummification of you and your pets - you never wanted to know about will be all the sections that 3rd to 5th grade readers will “devour.” Great book for reluctant readers. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Index and glossary included. Like other books in the series, there is timeline in front of book. Endnotes discuss Ancient Egyptian life, Top creepy mummies and trivia information in the Did you Know section.

Taylor-Butler, Christine. **UNDERSTANDING CHARTS AND GRAPHS.** Series: True Book. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2013. 48 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality AA; J 001.4226 Ta.

This book does a great job discussing the various types of graphs and charts and teaches students in 3rd-5th grade to create their own. It also encompasses computer software from its inception with VisiCalc, which was the first computer software to create tables when it was introduced in 1979. The photo illustrations show clear and easy to understand examples of charts and graphs. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **UNDERSTANDING DIAGRAMS.** Series: A True Book. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2013. 48 p. \$31.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-5. Quality AA; J 001.4226 Ta.

Early grade introduction to one of the oldest forms of communication, the diagram. Begins with a general definition of a diagram, captured in the old saying, "A picture is worth a thousand words," then expands the definition to show the usefulness of the diagram in brainstorming, organizing ideas, and solving problems. These uses are illustrated through concrete historical examples, such as Venn diagrams, Rose diagrams, cluster maps, and T-charts. Color photos, diagrams, charts, maps, and sidebars enhance the lively text, which is appended by a bibliography, website, glossary, and index. Highly recommended.

Wade, Mary Dodson. **MAP SCALES.** Series: Rookie Read-About Geography. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2013. 32 p. \$23.00. GrLvl 1-3. Quality A J 912.01 Wa.

In order to travel from one place to another, a person needs to know the distance it is. Wade does an excellent job explaining how scales are used on maps. The graphics are colorful and some include games for the reader to find something on the map. Includes index.

Woolf, Alex. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT SOAP!** Illus. by Mark Bergin. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2016. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality AA; J 668.12 Wo.

If you ever wondered how soap removes dirt from things, this book discusses the scientific process in an understandable manner for 3rd to 5th grade readers. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in the front of the book. Includes index and glossary. Endnotes discuss Aleppo soap and trivia information in the Did you know section. Highly recommended.

## Life Sciences (6)

Borando, Silvia. **NEAR, FAR.** Illus. by the author. Series: Minibombo. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 48 p. \$14.00. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality A; E Borando.

A large green mound, turn the page, now two green mounds. Is it a camel? An octopus? Turn the page again for the big reveal! Visually striking, this wordless book plays with the reader's perception and exploration of animal shapes. Both entertaining and delightful this book is perfect for young readers to test their perception and imagination.

———. **NOW YOU SEE ME, NOW YOU DON'T.** Illus. by the author. Series: Minibombo. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 28 p. \$14.00. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality A; E Borando.

Keep your eyes open for vibrant colorful animals that you see on one page and on the next they vanish! With each turn of the page the background color changes and a different animal blends into the scenery, but which one? This playful book is a visual experience and perfect for young children to test their observational skills.

Horowitz, Alexandra. **INSIDE OF A DOG : WHAT DOGS SEE, SMELL, AND KNOW.** New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2016. 238 p. \$16.99. GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 636.7 Ho.

If you want to know what a dog sees, smells, and knows - this is the book for you. Eleven

chapters cover the dog's point of nose, belonging to a house, the smell of a dog's world, dog talk, dog vision, attention, how dogs study humans, the mind of a dog, inside of a dog, bonding, and the importance of mornings. Mixing science, common sense, and humor the author attempts to get the reader to see the world from the point of view of dogs. Simple pen and ink illustrations complement a very well written text, appended by a glossary, chapter notes, and an index.

McCardie, Amanda. **OUR VERY OWN DOG.** Illus. by Salvatore Rubbino. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2017. 32 p. \$15.99. GrLvl Pre-2. Quality AA; E McCardie.

Good introduction for young readers on the care of owning your very own dog. Adopting a dog of your own can be very exciting! The 4 year-old narrator describes the first day when her dog Sophie came to live with her and her family. Sophie had lived at an animal shelter before and how at first she was afraid of her dad and soon she came to love him "best of all." The playful illustrations and charming tale of taking care of a dog makes this a great preparation book for young children who are about to become new pet owners of a dog. Complete with index and recommended further readings.

Patricelli, Leslie. **HAIR.** Illus. by the author. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2017. 26 p. \$6.99. GrLvl Pre-up. Quality A; E Toddler Patricelli.

Gleefully excited, the baby is astonished that he has hair. Well, technically it's just a lone strand of hair that curls at the top but that still counts! Follow along as the baby demonstrates how to take care of your hair from when it gets messy, dirty, or grows. When his hair grows too long the baby must get his first haircut. This humorous board book reassures toddlers that this rite of passage isn't so bad after all.

Tokuda-Hall, Maggie. **ALSO AN OCTOPUS.** Illus. by Benji Davies. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2017. 32 p. \$16.99. GrLvl Pre-2. Quality A; E Tokuda-Hall.

Engaging picture book that also doubles as an exercise in storytelling with lots of fun illustrations and oddball characters. The narrator begins with sage advice that every story "starts the same way... with nothing." Then things pick up as the narrator offers up character possibilities from a little girl to a bunny and then finally settles on an octopus that plays the ukulele. Next the narrator presents the concept of a plot and decides that the ukulele playing octopus must want something and in this case it wants a spaceship. The appealing art and off humor creates an on-going conversation with the narrator that brings forth the process of crafting a story that started "with nothing." The story is left open-ended so that the

reader can take over and create their own conclusions. This entertaining book is a great way to spark imagination and storytelling among young readers.

## Marine Life (1)

Louisy, Patrick. **MY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE SEA.** Translated by Joy Nevin Axelson. Series: My Encyclopedia Collection. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017. 123 p. \$34.00. GrLvl K-3. Quality AA; J 551.46003 Lo.

Marine life books are very popular here and this book would be an excellent addition to any collection for K-3rd graders. The large and colorful illustrations will hold young children's interest. The brief text explains information in a simple and understandable manner. Includes index.

## Mathematics & Computer Science (6)

Borando, Silvia. **SHAPES AT PLAY.** Illus. by the author. Series: Minibombo. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 28 p. \$14.00. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality A; E Borando.

Using the three basic shapes of triangles, squares, and circles, the author/illustrator transforms them into delightful houses, castles, fruit trees, cars, trucks, trains, and a rocket ship. The simple, preschool level text is written in a playful, fun way, while the illustrations, in muted primary colors, were created digitally.

———. **SHAPES, RESHAPE!** Illus. by the author. Series: Minibombo. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 48 p. \$14.00. GrLvl Pre-K. Quality A; E Borando.

This preschool text is both a counting book and a shape/concept book. Using basic building block shapes, the author transforms rectangular stacks of block-like shapes into ten animals (nine real and one mythological). The counting book aspect of the text counts down from ten to one, as the shape/concept aspect of the book reshapes building blocks into various sets (based on the numbers) of animals, including dragonflies, frogs, snakes, chickens, hedgehogs, crabs, lions, alligators, rhinoceroses, and one dragon. The block-like illustrations were created digitally.

Day, Nancy Raines. **WHAT IN THE WORLD? : NUMBERS IN NATURE.** Illus. by Kurt Cyrus. New York, NY: Beach Lane Books, 2015. 32 p. \$17.99. Distr. by Simon & Schuster; GrLvl Pre-3. Quality A; E Day.

A variation on a counting book that goes from one to ten and then beyond to infinity. The text is phrased with a recurring, "What in the world comes one by one? ...two by two? ...three by three?, etc. An example of that number found in nature is

then presented in a two page spread. Deep, rich color illustrations drawn and colored digitally complement the simple text. A short Author's Note discussing numerical sets is appended.

De Capua, Sarah. **PAYING TAXES**. Series: True Book. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2013. 48 p. \$31.00. GrLvl 4-6. Quality AA; J 336.20097 De.

Decapua does an excellent job discussing the various types of taxes, which include sales, state and federal, for 4th–6th graders. Colorful realistic photos enhance the text. Includes timeline, glossary, bibliography and index.

Oxley, Jennifer and Billy Aronson. **THE PENGUIN PROBLEM**. Illus. by the authors. Series: Peg + Cat. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$12.99. GrLvl Pre-2. Quality A; E Oxley.

Peg and Cat are at the South Pole to watch the Animal Winter Games and discover that the ski-racing penguins keep crashing into things because they don't know how to go over, under, or in between obstacles. Peg agrees to be their coach and through the use of arrows, teaches the penguins the meaning of going over, under, and in between. Peg and Cat also solve another really big problem when the penguins get stranded on an ice floe, right before the big race. Throughout the book, mathematical concepts are brought out e.g. counting backwards; page numbers that take the previous page and add one, written out like an equation e.g.  $23 + 1 = 24$ . Color illustrations created digitally enhance the lively text.

Rooney, Anne. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT THE INTERNET!** Illus. by Mark Bergin. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2016. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-12. Quality AA; J 384.3 Ro.

A great beginner's book for 3rd-5th grade readers about the history of the Internet. Great for reluctant readers. "This book follows the development of the information technology from the invention of writing through the earliest computers (earlier than you think!) to the present day. It explains in simple terms how the Internet works, and how it differs from the World Wide Web. An important section at the end discusses how young readers can stay safe online."-Scholastic's website. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in the front of the book. Index and glossary included. Highly recommended.

## Medical & Health Sciences (2)

Senior, Kathryn. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE A NURSE DURING THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR! : A JOB THAT'S NOT FOR THE SQUEAMISH**. Illus. by Mark Bergin. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2010. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-12. Quality AA; J 610.9 Se.

Prior to the Civil War wounded soldiers were left on the battle field to die. This book gives an accurate and vivid description of the nursing profession and the women who participated in it for 3rd to 5th grade readers. Also discusses the medical techniques used at this time period. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Index and glossary included.

———. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE SICK IN THE 16TH CENTURY! : DISEASES YOU'D RATHER NOT CATCH**. Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. Revised ed. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2014. 32 p. \$21.75. GrLvl 3-5. Quality A; J 610.942 Se.

In this very graphic book, 3rd-5th grade readers learn about diseases. Great book for reluctant readers. The book discusses the various diseases and treatments, including the gory and dark side of medical treatments. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in the front of the book. Endnotes discuss medicine in the New World (America) and top treatments from the 16th century that are still used by modern medicine. Index and glossary included.

## Plant Life (2)

Higgins, Nadia. **EXPERIMENT WITH PHOTOSYNTHESIS**. Series: Lightning Bolt Books. Plant Experiments. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2015. 32 p. \$26.65. GrLvl 1-3. Quality AA; J 572.46 Hi.

Photosynthesis is a common topic covered in 1st through 3rd grade. This excellent book not only shows how sunlight helps a plant make its own food using photosynthesis, but also has several simple experiments for showing what happens to a plant when the environment is altered. The photographs and illustrations help clarify the text. Includes a glossary, a bibliography and index.

Pontoppidan, Alain. **MY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE FOREST**. Translated by Joy Nevin Axelson. Series: My Encyclopedia Collection. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2017. 123 p. \$34.00. GrLvl K-3. Quality AA; J 634.903 Po.

This book would be an excellent addition to any collection for K-3rd graders and covers various types of woods, plant life, trees, woodland animals, seasons, woodland walks, forest jobs and protecting the forest. The large and colorful illustrations will hold young children's interest. The brief text explains information in a simple and understandable manner. Includes index.

## Technology & Engineering (29)

Adamson, Thomas K. **SHIPS**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 2 : Mighty Machines in Action. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$26.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 623.82 Ad.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about various types of ships (cargo, cruise and aircraft carriers). The excellent photo illustrations complement the text. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

Bowman, Chris. **BACKHOES**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 2. Mighty Machines in Action. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$24.95. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality J 629.255 Bo.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about the parts of a backhoe and the types of jobs that it does. The excellent photo illustrations complement the text. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **MONSTER TRUCKS**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 2. Mighty Machines in Action. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$24.95. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 629.224 Bo.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about the parts of a monster truck. The excellent photo illustrations complement the text. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

Eaton, Jason Carter. **HOW TO TRACK A TRUCK**. Illus. by John Rocco. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2016. 32 p. \$16.99. GrLvl Pre-3. Quality AA; E Eaton.

Novel book on trucks that gives advice on tracking, catching, and taming your very own pet truck. All the major trucks are included here - moving, monster, garbage, car transporter, ice cream, snowplows, dump, fire, and cement trucks are covered. Color illustrations done in graphite and colored digitally enliven the engaging text. A must read for all children with a love of trucks.

Graham, Ian. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE IN THE FIRST SUBMARINE! : AN UNDERSEA EXPEDITION YOU'D RATHER AVOID**. Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2008. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality A; J 973.757 Gr.

This is a great book for 3rd to 5th grade readers which describes the prototypes for early submarines with most of the emphasis on the submarines used in the Civil War. The early subs were powered by human energy. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Includes glossary and index.

———. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE ON THE FIRST FLYING MACHINE! : A HIGH-SOARING RIDE YOU'D RATHER NOT TAKE**. Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2013. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality A; J 629.13 Gr.

This book is a reprint of Graham's excellent book about the Wright brothers, which was published in 2003. The books discuss the various models the brothers developed and tested. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Includes glossary and index.

———. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO WORK ON THE HOOVER DAM! : AN EXPLOSIVE JOB YOU'D RATHER NOT HAVE**. Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2012. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-12. Quality AA; J 627.82097 Gr.

Hoover Dam is an excellent example of using water to create electrical power and to ration the water supply to areas in need. This book, which discusses this information plus gives the history of Hoover Dam, is a great resource for 3rd to 5th grade readers. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Includes index and glossary.

Lefkowitz, Arthur S. **THE AMERICAN TURTLE SUBMARINE**. Gretna, LA: Pelican, 2012. 136 p. \$16.99. GrLvl 8-Up. Quality AA; J 973.35 Le.

The American Turtle submarine is sometimes called the best kept secret of the American Revolution. The author intertwines the story of the world's first submersible with a documented record of use in combat, along with a biography of inventor and "Yankee Tinkerer," David Bushnell, who designed and built the human powered American Turtle. In 1776, the Turtle attempted to fix a mine to the bottom of the British flagship, HMS Eagle anchored in New York Harbor. However, that mission was ultimately unsuccessful, but it marked the first use of a submarine as an offensive weapon. Wonderful

sepia colored illustrations and sidebars complement the engaging text, which is appended by an index. The book design, typeface, and sepia-colored ink give the book the feel of a document from the 1700s.

Macdonald, Fiona. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO SAIL WITH CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS! : UNCHARTED WATERS YOU'D RATHER NOT CROSS.** Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want To. Revised ed. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2014. 32 p. \$21.75. GrLvl 3-12. Quality J 970.01509 Ma.

The very graphic descriptions will entice 3rd-5th graders, especially reluctant readers, to read this book. As a crew member on Columbus' voyage, one learns firsthand the challenges of sailing across the Atlantic to an unknown land. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in the front of the book and a section on other top explorers at the back of the book. Index and glossary included.

Malam, John. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE A SKYSCRAPER BUILDER! : A HAZARDOUS JOB YOU'D RATHER NOT TAKE.** Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2009. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-5. Quality A; J 690 Ma.

Students in 3rd to 5th grade will enjoy this book about the history of the Empire State Building in New York City. The book discusses the various types of jobs involved in the construction of the building. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Index and glossary included.

———. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE A WORKER ON THE STATUE OF LIBERTY! : A MONUMENT YOU'D RATHER NOT BUILD.** Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. Revised ed. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2017. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-12. Quality A; J 974.71 Ma.

Ever wonder how the Statue of Liberty was created? This book, aimed at 3rd-5th grade readers, is part of a wonderful series that puts the reader in the shoes of the experience. Reluctant readers will also enjoy this book. Learn about the inspiration for the statue, the process of its construction, and how it got to New York City. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Like other books in the series, there is a timeline in the front of the book. Endnotes discuss Gustave Eiffel and the top U.S. landmarks. Index and glossary included.

Mattern, Joanne. **FIRE TRUCKS.** Series: How Things Work. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2016. 32 p.

\$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 2-5. Quality A; J 628.9259 Ma.

An introduction to fire trucks for the early grades, part of the noted series, How Things Work. The author breaks down fire trucks into two kinds: pumper trucks, that carry water, and ladder trucks, that carry ladders. She then expands on that by listing the parts of a pumper truck (water tank, pump, hoses, hose connections, nozzles, axes, and truck base) and ladder truck (truck base, ladders, hoses, nozzles, and axes). Color photos and sidebars enhance the simple text, which is appended by a Timeline, Super Science Experiment, website, glossary, and index.

———. **LIGHTBULBS.** Series: How Things Work. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2016. 32 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 2-5. Quality A; J 621.326 Ma.

Early grade introduction to the subject of light bulbs - part of the noted series, How Things Work. Provides a brief view of electricity and then begins to look at the parts of an incandescent light bulb and how they work with electricity to give off light. Backtracking, the author gives a little history of what people used before light bulbs were invented (various gas and oil lamps) and follows with the development of the light bulb. Expanding on that, the book delves into different kinds of light bulbs (compact fluorescent and LED) and discusses their uses and advantages over the traditional incandescent light bulb. Color and black-and-white photos and sidebars, enhance the educational text, which is appended by a timeline, Super Science experiment, glossary, index, and website.

———. **SUBMARINES.** Series: How Things Work. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2016. 32 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 2-5. Quality A; J 623.8257 Ma.

An introductory look at the subject of submarines for the early grades - part of the noted series, How Things Work. Explains the mechanics of how submarines are able to sail underwater; it's really due to special ballast tanks that are filled with air when sailing on the surface, but fill with water when the sub is sailing underwater. Submarines are able to see where they're going underwater because of periscopes, sonar (a kind of underwater radar), and numerous computers that help steer the ship and keep track of where it is located. Submarines carry about 150 crew and enough food, water, and provisions to stay underwater for months. Another kind of submarine, called a submersible, is smaller than a submarine and is used by scientists for research work. Color photos and sidebars complement a lively text, which is appended by a timeline, Super Science experiment, glossary, index, and website.

———. **TOILETS**. Series: How Things Work. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2016. 32 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 2-5. Quality A; J 696.182 Ma.

The noted series, How Things Work, presents in this book an early grade introduction to the subject of toilets. We don't really think about what happens when we use a toilet. What really goes on when you flush? The two key parts of a toilet are a tank to hold water, and a bowl that you sit on. When flushed, the water goes rushing down a tube called a siphon. Water and waste are sucked through the siphon. What then happens to the water and waste? It goes into a larger pipe that is usually connected to a sewer system that carries the waste to a sewage treatment plant, where the wastewater is cleaned. Some houses have a septic system that is only for that house. Before modern toilets people used outhouses where the waste just went into a hole in the ground. Inside the house people used chamber pots that had to be emptied out. Color photos and sidebars enhance the interesting text, which is appended by a timeline, Super Science experiment, glossary, index, and website.

———. **X-RAY MACHINES**. Series: How Things Work. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2016. 32 p. \$23.00. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 2-5. Quality A; J 616.0757 Ma.

Early grade introduction to x-ray machines, part of the noted series, How Things Work. Explains that x-rays are a kind of light that are more powerful than visible light and can shine through objects. This allows x-rays to pass through your skin, but it's not as easy to pass through your bones, that's the secret of how they work and why they are useful in medicine. X-rays are also used for security at airports where they make sure there is nothing dangerous inside luggage. Color photos and sidebars enhance the educational text, which is appended by a timeline, Super Science experiment, a glossary, index, and website.

Morley, Jacqueline. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE A PYRAMID BUILDER! : A HAZARDOUS JOB YOU'D RATHER NOT HAVE**. Illus. by David Antram. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. Revised ed. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2014. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-12. Quality AA; J 932.014. Mo.

This excellent book explains the history, building and culture of the time period of the pyramids in an easy to understand format for 3-5 grade readers. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with humorous quips to help readers comprehend the text in a lighthearted manner. Index and glossary included. Like other books in the series, there is timeline in front of book. Endnotes discuss The City of the Dead, Top Egyptian Pharaohs, Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon and Did You Know Trivia.

Oachs, Emily Rose. **POLICE CARS**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 2. Mighty Machines in Action Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$24.95. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 629.225 Oa.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about the various types of police cars and the equipment in them. The excellent photo illustrations complement the text. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

———. **TRACTORS**. Series: Blastoff! Readers 2 : Mighty Machines in Action. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$26.00. Distr. by Scholastic Children's Press; GrLvl K-3. Quality A; J 629.2252 Oa.

In this simple to understand book, K-3 grade readers will learn about tractors and the attachments used for various types of jobs on the farm. The excellent photo illustrations complement the text. Includes a glossary, bibliography and index.

Page, Andrea M. **SIOUX CODE TALKERS OF WORLD WAR II**. Gretna, LA: Pelican, 2017. 136 p. \$14.95. GrLvl 3-8. Quality A; J 940.54867 Pa.

Little known history of the Sioux code talkers of World War II. Most people have heard of the Navajo code talkers, but there were also code talkers of other Indian tribes, including the Sioux, who used the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota dialects. The author is the great-niece of John Bear King one of the Sioux code talkers who served in the First Cavalry Division, 302nd Reconnaissance Troop, in the Pacific Theatre. Delves into the culture and values of these indigenous people and what prompted them to put a long history of prejudice against their people aside and fight the Axis Powers. Illustrated with black-and-white period photos and reproductions of significant documents. A bibliography, index, and teacher's guide are appended.

Ratliff, Tom. **YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO WORK ON THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE! : AN ENORMOUS PROJECT THAT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE**. Illus. by Mark Bergin. Series: You Wouldn't Want to. New York, NY: Franklin Watts, 2009. 32 p. \$29.00. GrLvl 3-8. Quality AA; J 624.23097 Ra.

It took 14 years to complete the Brooklyn Bridge and this book recounts the details of it, including a woman who takes over the supervision of it for 3 years. The various struggles and challenges will appeal to 3rd to 5th grade readers. The illustrations are colorful and detailed with some handy hints. Index and glossary included.

Yomtov, Nel. **COMBAT**. Series: Epic: Military Missions. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 355.473 Yo.

Late juvenile introduction to the subject of military combat. Part of the noted series Epic: Military Missions. Soldiers are sent on combat missions to fight enemy forces. Combat troops are often on the move, as they gather intelligence and get into the best position to fight. Equipment used by combat soldiers includes carbines, machine guns, missiles, helmets, body armor, parachutes, planes, helicopters, armored vehicles, and tanks. Soldiers learn how to fight at basic training. When a mission is over, soldiers rest and prepare for the next one! Color photos and sidebars complement the factual text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **COUNTERTERRORISM**. Series: Epic: Military Missions. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 363.32517 Yo.

Introduction to the subject of counterterrorism - part of the noted series Epic: Military Missions. Counterterrorism missions, which are often done in secret, keep the enemy from hurting people. The missions sometimes involve cutting off enemy supplies, destroying hiding places, or enemy training camps. Sometimes the missions focus on finding people (terrorist leaders) or rescuing hostages. Equipment used includes carbines, pistols, sniper rifles, night vision goggles, and drones. Examples of counterterrorism units are Delta Force and the Navy Seals. Many years of training are invested in members of counterterrorism groups. They learn general and special combat skills and how to teach others. Color photos and sidebars enhance the factual text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **PATROLLING**. Series: Epic: Military Missions. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 355.413 Yo.

Patrols are usually a vital part of any military mission. This book, which is part of the noted series, Epic: Military Missions, investigates the operation of patrolling. It begins with a mission, a plan (including a combat or recon patrol), execution of the plan, and accomplishment. Patrols use special equipment and gear, such as, mines, carbines, grenades, and armored vehicles. They are also specially trained in map reading, reporting information, and hiding from the enemy. Patrols can help save the lives of the main fighting force, so their work is important to larger missions. Color photos and sidebars enhance the educational text, which is

appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **PEACEKEEPING**. Series: Epic: Military Missions. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 355.4 Yo.

Peacekeeping is not necessarily a topic associated with military missions, but it is in this book, which is part of the noted series, Epic: Military Missions. It is sometimes difficult for some countries to heal, after a war. They often need help to create peace. Many countries send soldiers, called peacekeepers, to help. The peacekeepers help train police and military members and work with both sides of a conflict to stop the fighting. They watch over people and activities using binoculars, night-vision goggles, and drones. Frequently, peacekeepers are affiliated with the United Nations and although the soldiers hope not to fight; they are armed and can use force against people who cause trouble. Color photos and sidebars complement the educational text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **RECON**. Series: Epic: Military Missions. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 359.96413 Yo.

Recon or reconnaissance is an important part of military missions. This book, part of the noted series, Epic: Military Missions, investigates the role recon plays in ensuring a successful mission. Recon soldiers gather intelligence, which includes watching the enemies' movements, learning about enemy weapons, and determining what territory the enemy occupies. Recon troops travel with minimal supplies, so they can move quickly and quietly. They are armed and prepared to fight. The equipment and gear used by recon teams includes pistols, carbines, machine guns, light armored vehicles, helicopters, and planes. The most successful recon missions end without violence. The goal is to gather information in secret that can help the military win battles. Color photos and sidebars complement the lively text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **RESCUE**. Series: Epic: Military Missions. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 355.41 Yo.

Every branch of the U.S. military carries out rescue missions. This book entitled, Rescue, is part of the noted series, Epic: Military Missions, and describes how rescue missions are planned and carried out. Teams rescue both soldiers and civilians. In war,

teams rescue troops in enemy territory. Civilians are often rescued in natural disasters, like floods, fire, earthquakes, and severe weather. All rescue missions have a plan and utilize special supplies, materials, equipment, and even specially trained dogs. The rescue team members are trained in special skills, such as parachuting, swimming, and first aid. Rescue missions save lives and return people to safety. Color photos and sidebars complement the lively text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **SPECIAL OPS.** Series: Epic: Military Missions. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 356.16097 Yo.

Special Operations or Special Ops are small groups of highly trained fighters who often work in enemy territory on top secret missions. This book on Special Ops is part of the noted Epic: Military Missions series and delves into these highly secret operations. Special Ops often make quick strikes on the enemy, sometimes gather intelligence, rescue hostages, and also train local armies. Examples of Special Ops forces are the Navy Seals, Delta Force, and the Green Berets. They utilize machine guns, carbines, sniper rifles, M9 pistols, and the Stinger missile system. Above all, Special Ops forces protect innocent people. Color photos and sidebars enhance the informative text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.

———. **TROOP TRANSPORT.** Series: Epic: Military Missions. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017. 24 p. \$19.95. Distr. by Scholastic; GrLvl 3-7. Quality A; J 355.411 Yo.

The noted series, Epic: Military Missions, offers intense action and high-speed heroic adventures. This title focuses on troop transport, a key element in any military mission. Soldiers and their equipment move around a lot during times of war and troop transport is the service that allows the military to be mobile. Vehicles used in troop transport include planes, helicopters, ships, and armored carriers. Members of transport missions are specially trained to load soldiers and equipment onto ships and planes in a logical and orderly fashion. Oftentimes, transport is the first step in many military actions. Color photos and sidebars enhance the informative text, which is appended by a glossary, bibliography, websites, and index.



Compiled by Duane Wenzel, Annette Anderson-Ma.,  
and Sharrese Castillo  
Additional Project assistance provided by Ann Luke, Kristine Kishida,  
Susan Nakata, Janice Choy, Grant Okazaki, and  
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