

Plants, Trees, and Soil Bibliography

Northern Kentucky University
Center for Environmental Education

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SOIL SCIENCE SIMPLIFIED, Fourth Edition. Kohnke, Franz-Meier. Concise handbook introduces physical properties of soils, soil and water interactions, chemical properties, plant growth and nutrition, organic matter and microbes in soil, morphology, classification, soil surveys, erosion control, and environmental implications. Contains useful glossary of soil science terms. #B- 4182. www.acornnaturalists.com

A HANDFUL OF DIRT. Bial. Engaging children's book on soil discusses how this essential building block of life is transformed into clothes, food, homes, and more. Amazing photographs document the multitude of microscopic creatures that live in soil, creatures that become food for insects that again enter the food chain. Discusses how soil evolves from rocks into fertile plains and how one can regenerate worn out soils with compost and soil amendments. Perfect for children ages 7-12.
www.acornnaturalists.com

DIG IN! Hands-On Soil Investigations. Natural Resources Conservation Service. NEW activity book will have kids in grades K-4 up to their elbows in the study of soil formation, habitats, soil animals, land use and soil conservation. Includes teacher-tested lesson plans, assessment methods and suggestions for further study. Integrates science with art, geography, language arts, math and social studies. Perfect introduction to soil study for young children who usually need little encouragement to go play in the soil. #B-10064. www.acornnaturalists.com

EROSION. Winner. Explains both the spectacular effects of erosion (creation of the Grand Canyon) and the destructive aspects (loss of cropland, homes). Dramatic photographs accompany scientific explanations of the mechanisms and effects of wind, water, ice, and chemical erosion. Ecological impacts of poorly planned human activities are discussed, from stream destruction caused by clear-cutting to home loss when building too close to ever-changing river banks or beach strands. Winner, NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award. Informative, scientific reference for ages 8-15. #B-8329. www.acornnaturalists.com

COMPOSTING IN THE CLASSROOM, Scientific Inquiry for High School Students. Trautmann, Krasny. Comprehensive guide for teachers interested in guiding composting research projects with high school students. Includes an overview of the biology, chemistry, and physics of composting along with instructions for building compost systems. Unlimited possibilities exist for composting experiments by varying the materials, moisture content, temperature, turnover rates, nutrients, and soil organisms. Advice on helping students design unique and meaningful research projects. Grades 9-12. #B-8323. www.acornnaturalists.com

MULCH IT! A Practical Guide to Using Mulch in the Garden. Campbell. Completely revised version of the earlier book entitled *The Mulch Book*. Discusses weed reduction, water conservation, soil improvement, frost and heat protection - all of which can be achieved through effective mulching. This book demonstrates how to make mulch and methods for locating all the free mulch you'll ever need. #B-5184.

www.acornnaturalists.com

LIFE IN A BUCKET OF SOIL. Silverstein. Healthy soils swarm with countless numbers of creatures, most of whom live and die just beneath the earth's surface. In a simple bucket of soil you can find tunnel-building earthworms, threadlike roundworms, snails, slugs, isopods, centipedes, beetles, spiders, ants, and countless number of smaller organisms. Illustrated with over 70 drawings, this fact-filled book will appeal to teachers and their students, young naturalists, biologists, and insect enthusiasts. #B-9164.

www.acornnaturalists.com

GUIDE TO WILD FOODS AND USEFUL PLANTS. Nyerges. Comprehensive yet easy to read guide to 70 plants found commonly throughout North America that have known medicinal or food value. Handy keys to leaves, fruits and seeds, along with more than 100 helpful photographs and drawings. Author has led wild-food forages and survival skill hikes for over 25 years, and helps sort out what is practical for today's hikers from what is folklore from the past. A very useful book for anyone who spends time outdoors, particularly those who like to wander into the woods. #BP-11216.

www.acornnaturalists.com

KEEPERS OF LIFE Discovering Plants Through Native American Stories and Earth Activities for Children. Caduto, Bruchac. The 19 Native American stories in this book provide natural tools for sparking curiosity in children; the associated activities encourage open-ended discovery of the environment. Complete program for studying plant ecology and natural history. Scientific methodology with a Native American perspective. #NAT-3016. \$19.95. www.acornnaturalists.com

ANCIENT HARVEST COLORING/LEARNING BOOK, A Selection of Favorite Plants Used by Native Americans in the Southwest. Atwood. Insightful book describing the plants used by native people of the Southwest from ancient times to present. Ancient wisdom on using these plants for food, fiber, fuel, medicine, cleaning compounds and building materials. Twenty-six commonly used plants are described next to beautiful, large, black and white line drawings. #NAT-9169. www.acornnaturalists.com

GREEN NATURE, HUMAN NATURE, The Meaning of Plants in our Lives. Lewis. Why do gardeners delight in the germination and growth of a seed? Why are our spirits lifted by flowers? Fascinating research on how green nature is intertwined with the human psyche and how that interaction can lead to enhanced well-being and an appreciation of the environment. You may have shared these feelings - now you can find out why. Widely published author administers the collections at Morton Arboretum. #BP-6374. www.acornnaturalists.com

THE HISTORY AND FOLKLORE OF NORTH AMERICAN WILDFLOWERS. Coffey. Presents popular lore and practical uses for nearly 700 native wildflowers. Learn which plants were used as foods, medicines, cosmetics, poisons, dyes, and fibers. For ethnobotanists, nature lovers, students of history, or gardeners. #BP- 4172. www.acornnaturalists.com

HOW SEEDS TRAVEL. Overbeck. Winner of the Children's Science Book Award, this book portrays various mechanisms of seed dispersal using color photographs and diagrams. If you are creating a project involving seed diversity, form or function, this book will provide you with dozens of new ideas. Wonderful perspectives on how seeds get around, geared for children ages 6-11. #BP- 469. www.acornnaturalists.com

HOW LEAVES CHANGE. Johnson, Sato. Everyone notices how leaf color marks the seasons, from the soft greens of spring to the dazzling colors of autumn. This award-winning book explains those changes, blending aesthetic beauty and scientific theory. Turn interest in seasonal change into a discussion of the cycles of nature and role of phytochemicals. Ages 6-11. #BP-4179. www.acornnaturalists.com

PLANTS, Mind-Boggling Experiments You Can Turn into Science Fair Projects. VanCleave. Twenty experiments allow students to discover fascinating facts about plants. Includes suggestions for developing your own customized science projects using inexpensive household materials that require minimal preparation. For ages 8-12. #BP- 5178. www.acornnaturalists.com

GLORIOUS GRASSES, The Grains. Hughes. Fun-filled activity book discusses important cereal grains (wheat, rice, corn, millet, barley, oats, and rye). Examines the discovery and migration of these grains as well as their roles in cooking, technology, and world cultures. Readers also gain an understanding of how grains make their way from field to table. Fine blend of botany, human ecology, and history. Features a number of tasty recipes students can make using these grains. Grades 5-9. #BP-7241. www.acornnaturalists.com

THE THREE SISTERS, Exploring an Iroquois Garden. Eames-Sheavly. Children explore rice, corn and beans from the perspective of science and culture, developing an interest in and enthusiasm for horticultural and nutritional science at the same time. Students also learn to appreciate the social influences that crop developments have - not a mute point since students will soon be facing technical, social and economic challenges brought about by advances in biotechnology. Also contains well thought out projects as well as references and resources for further study. Perfect for ages 9-14. #BP-5175. www.acornnaturalists.com

TREES (NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY FIRST FIELD GUIDE SERIES). #FG-7169. www.acornnaturalists.com

WILDFLOWERS (NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY FIRST FIELD GUIDE SERIES). #FG-7171 www.acornnaturalists.com

THE FOREST HAS EYES. Doolittle. NEW. Artists are known for their ability to see hidden things. Native Americans believe that hidden in the forest are spirits of everything that resides there, from the great bears to the inanimate objects like streams and rocks. All these items are made of molecules in motion with their own energy fields, a concept combining artistic and Native American perspectives. Beautiful prose and stunning camouflage paintings that Bev Dolittle is famous for, create a feeling that the forest really does have eyes. #EE-10098. www.acornnaturalists.com

THE GREAT KAPOK TREE. Cherry. After starting to fell a rainforest Kapok tree, a man sits at the foot of the tree and falls asleep. One by one, the animals who depend upon the tree whisper in his ear, begging him not to destroy their home. Outstanding Science Book for Children Award. Perfect for ages 6-10. #B-6207. www.acornnaturalists.com

SKY TREE, Seeing Science Through Art. Locker. A single tree stands by a river, its mood throughout the year captured in paintings. As the sky, tree, and river change with the seasons, questions are posed regarding each painting's effect on the reader. Sky Tree "invites adults and children to experience the life of a tree and its relationship to the sky." Ages 5-9. #B-6206. www.acornnaturalists.com

A WALK IN THE RAINFOREST. Pratt. Superb rainforest alphabet book features colorful drawings and descriptions of diverse rainforest life forms. Wonderful accomplishment for author, who was 17 years old at the time she published this inspirational and popular book! High praise given in featured review in Science Books and Films Best Children's Science Book List. Ages 5-10. #B-1011. www.acornnaturalists.com