1. The Shape of Things
   - **Animal Watch**, Newbridge.
     How can we learn more about animals? By studying them up close where they live! Whether scientists are tracking tigers in the jungle, searching for insects in the rain forest, or observing pigeons in a park, they're always making new discoveries. Guided reading level O.
   - **Patterns Everywhere**, Newbridge.
     This leveled reader (reading recovery level 17) explores patterns in nature.
     Students will be surprised to learn that the katydid's ears are on its front legs, a snake smells with its tongue, butterflies taste with their feet, and more. Guided reading level O.
     Describes how animals use their senses to survive in the wild. The book is divided into five sections--sight, smell, touch, hearing, taste. Each section features five animals relating, in first person, the special ways the particular sense helps them hunt, avoid predators, and care for their young. Grades 3-5.
     The book is written from the perspective of a small desert-dwelling girl who can see, smell, hear and sense the coming deluge to her desert home. The sights, sounds, musical contour, and rhythm of the storm are described with poetic imagery.
   - **Feely, Jenny. Living and Nonliving**, Sundance.
     Reading Recovery level 2.
   - **Hammerstrom, Frances. Walk When the Moon is Full**, Crossing Press. 1975.
     The author describes 13 moonlight walks with her children and the nature observations they made. Ages 4-8.
   - **Lee, Frances. Looking at Flowers**, Sundance.
     This leveled reader (reading recovery level 5) explores flowers from a child’s point of view.
     Describes the different plants, animals, and landscapes that can be seen outdoors each month of the year. Ages 7-10.
     A tree stands on a hill by a river. As the sky changes, so does the tree, its branches filling with clouds, stars, snow, birds, mists, and the golden spring sun. One tree can mean many things. Ages 5-9.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Sparkling dewdrops… flashing fireflies… a shooting star. Children discover that each of nature’s everyday wonders holds a science secret.  
Reading recovery level 22.

  A counting book with photographs of wildflowers illustrating the numbers one through twenty. Ages 4-10.
  Discusses various parts of trees and their functions, including the bark, sapwood tubes, roots, and leaves. Ages 5-8.
  Adorable illustrations and whimsical, rhyming text teach children that they experience nature through their five senses. Grades preK-2.
  Explores how animal senses are often superior to those of people. Ages 9-12.
  A world-renowned nature photographer presents photographs of butterflies from throughout the world, using close-up views of wing designs that look like letters of the alphabet. Ages 3+.
  What sweet intimacy a mother and child share when walking together in nature! The toddler, way up high in a backpack, can see so very far. It’s bouncy and warm, too. Mother and child not only discover the wonders of nature but also deepen the wonders of love. Ages 2-7
  Experience the joy and wonder of a young girl as she explores the simple gifts of nature in the world around her. A feather, a blossom, a leaf, or even the fresh smell of spring air . . . whatever the gift may be, our natural world has much to offer. Ages 4-8.

2. Get In Touch With Trees

  Students will be surprised to learn that the katydid's ears are on its front legs, a snake smells with its tongue, butterflies taste with their feet, and more. Guided reading level O.
  Describes how animals use their senses to survive in the wild. The book is divided into five sections--sight, smell, touch, hearing, taste. Each section features five animals relating, in first person, the special ways the particular sense helps them hunt, avoid predators, and care for their young. Grades 3-5.
  The author describes 13 moonlight walks with her children and the nature observations they made. Ages 4-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

• Nayer, Judy. My Five Senses: A Lion’s Tale. Sundance.
  Adorable illustrations and whimsical, rhyming text teach children that they
  experience nature through their five senses. Grades preK-2.
  Poem that celebrate trees in all their varied glory, from the sun-drenched
  yellows and greens of fresh buds to the flame reds of autumn maples, to
  the brittle, icy blues and whites of winter-coated branches. Ages 3-7.
  Describes, in simple text and illustrations, some of the unique
  characteristics of trees. Ages 5-8.

3. Peppermint Beetle
  Students will be surprised to learn that the katydid's ears are on its front
  legs, a snake smells with its tongue, butterflies taste with their feet, and
  more. Guided reading level O.
• Bouchard, David. Voices from the Wild-- An Animal Sensagoria. Chronicle
  Books. 1996.
  Describes how animals use their senses to survive in the wild. The book is
  divided into five sections--sight, smell, touch, hearing, taste. Each section
  features five animals relating, in first person, the special ways the
  particular sense helps them hunt, avoid predators, and care for their young.
  Grades 3-5.
• Branzei, Sylvia. Virtual Grossology : See It! Touch It! Hear It! Smell It! Taste
  Virtual Grossology is a must have for every 9-12 year old. It fits right in
  with their sense of humor and gives a little education at the same time.
• Buchanan, Ken and Debby. It Rained on the Desert Today Northland
  The book is written from the perspective of a small desert-dwelling girl
  who can see, smell, hear and sense the coming deluge to her desert home.
  The sights, sounds, musical contour, and rhythm of the storm are
  described with poetic imagery
• Griffiths, Rachel and Margaret Clyne. Sniff. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 3.
  A bear gets on a train in late autumn, drawn by the smell of grain in its
  hoppers, and after a prolonged snack takes a prolonged snooze in the
  bowels of the hopper as the train crisscrosses the continent until
  springtime.
  Poem that celebrate trees in all their varied glory, from the sun-drenched
  yellows and greens of fresh buds to the flame reds of autumn maples, to
  the brittle, icy blues and whites of winter-coated branches. Ages 3-7.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

4. Sounds Around
     An old man teaches a child the art of listening to nature. Where most
     would hear only silence, the child learns to hear the thousand rich noises
     Students will be surprised to learn that the katydid's ears are on its front
     legs, a snake smells with its tongue, butterflies taste with their feet, and
     more. Guided reading level O.
   - Bouchard, David. *Voices from the Wild-- An Animal Sensagoria*. Chronicle
     Books. 1996.
     Describes how animals use their senses to survive in the wild. The book is
     divided into five sections--sight, smell, touch, hearing, taste. Each section
     features five animals relating, in first person, the special ways the
     particular sense helps them hunt, avoid predators, and care for their young.
     Grades 3-5.
   - Buchanan, Ken and Debby. *It Rained on the Desert Today* Northland
     The book is written from the perspective of a small desert-dwelling girl
     who can see, smell, hear and sense the coming deluge to her desert home.
     The sights, sounds, musical contour, and rhythm of the storm are
     described with poetic imagery.
   - Cornell, Joseph. *Listening to Nature: How To Deepen Your Awareness of
     For each day of the month, the reader is treated to an inspirational
     quotation from the likes of Muir and Thoreau. The book is sensitively
     highlighted with stunning color photographs by award-winning Sierra
     Club Calendar veteran John Hendrickson. All ages.
     The author describes 13 moonlight walks with her children and the nature
     observations they made. Ages 4-8.
     Barry and his father take an evening walk, exploring the strange peeping
     sounds they hear and finding a surprise down at the pond. Ages 5-8.
     Walking down a dark lonely road on an errand one night, a brother and
     sister argue over who is afraid of the dread Ghost-Eye tree. Ages 4-7.
     1967.
     Poem that celebrate trees in all their varied glory, from the sun-drenched
     yellows and greens of fresh buds to the flame reds of autumn maples, to
     the brittle, icy blues and whites of winter-coated branches. Ages 3-7.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Although he doesn't feel like talking, a young boy responds to questions by drumming on various objects, including a bucket, hat boxes, and garbage cans, echoing the city sounds around him.

- Ryder, Joanne. When the Woods Hum. Morrow Jr. Books. 1991. An intergenerational family story serves as a vehicle to describe the periodical cicada, an insect that lives underground for 17 years and then emerges to mate. When the cicadas appear, they fill the woods with humming. Ages 4-9.
- Serfozo, Mary. Rain Talk. Margaret K. McElderberry Books. 1990. A child enjoys a glorious day in the rain, listening to the varied sounds it makes as it comes down. Ages 4-7.
- Sloan, Peter & Sheryl. Animal Noises. Sundance. This leveled reader (reading recovery level 3) explores the noises animals make.

5. Poet-Tree
- Feely, Jenny. The Tree. Sundance Reading recovery level 6.
- Froman, Robert. Seeing Things: A Book of Poems. Crowell. 1974. The words of these 51 poems (i.e. Vacant Lot) are arranged on the pages in shapes appropriate to the subjects of the poems. Ages 12+.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  As a child walks in the woods with his father, he seems to become other animals enjoying the freedom of nature. Ages 6-8.
  A poetic tribute to that little O, the earth, its continents, clay, hills, forests, and seas. Ages 5-9.
  In simple poetic language describes what a wetland is, indicates the animals that call a wetland home, and tells why wetlands are important to us. But even more, a wetland is a marvelous, muddy adventure. Ages 4-8.
  A collection of poems that explore the wonders of nature, including "Waterfall," "Maple Talk," "Snow Dust," and "If a Deer Dreamed." Ages 8-12.
  Poem that celebrate trees in all their varied glory, from the sun-drenched yellows and greens of fresh buds to the flame reds of autumn maples, to the brittle, icy blues and whites of winter-coated branches. Ages 3-7.
  Describes, in simple text and illustrations, some of the unique characteristics of trees. Ages 5-8.
  Lyrically describes Papa, young daughter, and the evening breeze as they dance among the flowers in the front yard while the moon rises. Grades preK-K.
  The pictures illustrate water in all its forms, and the poems are Yolen's responses. From dewdrops to raindrops, from a trickling stream to Niagara Falls, from a froth of soap bubbles to a puddle to a lake, from icicles to steam-water is music.

6. Picture This!
  Oil paintings that depict the forest at different times of the day during the fall & winter. Text discusses the plants & animals that call the forest home. Ages 6+.
  A rich collection of uplifting Native American stories and creative nature activities that will inspire children to love and respect animals. Keepers of the Animals will help children to understand their interdependence with all living beings and life forms. Ages 5-12.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

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

  Birds, people, bats, and other living things interact naturally with an oak tree over a period of twenty-four hours. Ages 5-6.

  What do flowers in a meadow look like to a bee? How does the world appear to a snake that "sees" by detecting minute temperature changes? What is it like to live in the water strider's two-dimensional universe? The View from the Oak helps readers enter the fascinating, often invisible world of nature. Ages 6+.

  Discusses the octopus, paper nautilus, sponge, sea cucumber, giant clam, starfish, sea anemone, jellyfish, corals, barnacles, and other unusual sea creatures. Ages 7-10.

  Tree shapes, types of leaves, how trees are fed, why they are green, what animals they house, and the bounty trees produce are all captured in the text and photographs. Developed to help children understand environmental issues and to stimulate discussion. Ages 5+.

  Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small section of the woods. Ages 6-9.

  Discusses the plants and animals that live in forests. Includes the weasel, giant wood wasp, and slippery jack mushroom. Ages 8+.

7. Habitat Pen Pals

  Introduces different wildlife habitats, including wetlands, woodlands, cornfields, and grasslands. Ages 4-10.

  Because none of the birds stay to the end of the magpie's nest-building lesson, each leaves with a different idea of how to build a nest. Ages 5+.

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

- George, Lindsay Barrett. *In the Snow: Who's Been Here?* Greenwillow. 1995.
  Companion book to *In the Woods: Who's Been Here*, William and Cammy take another journey of discovery. Clue after clue tells them and
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

young readers what bird or animal has been there before and left its trace behind. Ages 3+.

  Siblings William and Cammy set off on an autumnal walk through the woods near their house. Although they don't see any wildlife on their trek, they do observe traces of creatures' activities—including a northern oriole's nest, the remains of a red squirrel's meal, a monarch butterfly's cocoon, and a mud dauber's home. Two of the examples involve predator-prey relationships that may upset very young listeners, but for most children this will be an excellent introduction to classroom nature units and the perfect prelude to a walk in the woods. Ages 4+.

• Kohl, Judith and Herbert. The View From The Oak: The Private World of Other Creatures. Sierra Club. 1977.
  What do flowers in a meadow look like to a bee? How does the world appear to a snake that "sees" by detecting minute temperature changes? What is it like to live in the water strider's two-dimensional universe? The View from the Oak helps readers enter the fascinating, often invisible world of nature. Ages 6+.

  Answers questions about interacting areas of a forest. Age 10+.

  Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small section of the woods. Ages 6-9.

  Discusses the plants and animals that live in forests. Includes the weasel, giant wood wasp, and slippery jack mushroom. Ages 8+.

8. The Forest of S.T. Shrew

  Taking the reader through the four seasons in the forest, this picture book describes the lives of the creatures and plants that live there, and what happens when man threatens to destroy them. Grades 2-4.

  The fascinating world of insects is revealed to students, as well as the important role these creatures play in the balance of nature. Leveled reader: guided reading level P.

• Glaser, Linda. Wonderful Worms
  Travel through the live of a worm. Using simple yet descriptive words with wonderful above and below ground illustrations, children will delight in acting like a worm. Ages 3–5

  A father and three children investigate an oak tree and learn about the tree's structure and the plants and animals that depend on it for existence.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

'Photographs of woodland animals are mixed with illustrations of a teacher and his students exploring nature. Ages 5-8.

  What would you do if the ant you were about to step on looked up and started talking? Would you stop and listen? What if your friends saw you hesitate? That’s what happens in this funny, thought-provoking book. Originally a song by a father-daughter team, this conversation between two creatures, large and small, is bound to inspire important discussions. It might even answer that classic childhood question: To squish or not to squish? Ages 4–8.

  Children visit a hidden world visible only with the help of special tools of investigation, such as binoculars, magnifying glasses, and microscopes. Reading recovery level 22.

  Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.

  A young boy finds a salamander and thinks of the many things he can do to make a perfect home for it. Ages 4-8.

  Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be... a...Chipmunk? This beautiful book looks at being a chipmunk from the eyes of a 4-year-old girl, from the warmth of a cozy den to the harsh realities of weasels and hawks. This book encourages children to live in harmony with their surroundings. Ages 4-8

  Brilliant illustrations and a short text invite an unnamed sleeping, pajama-clad child into a garden teeming with wildlife. The boy gradually shrinks until he is so small he experiences things as a snail would. Ages 4-8.

  Imagine waking up on a crisp autumn morning and changing into a Canada goose. In this nature fantasy a girl is transformed into a migrating goose, returning home to her bed after a full day of taking part in the experiences of the flock. This book has good science and invites the child to imagine and act out an animal's life. Ages 4-8.

  Photographs and text introduce the animals, insects, and plants in a forest. Ages 6-9.

  Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small section of the woods. Ages 6-9.

  Traces the life cycle of an oak tree and describes the animals that depend on it for shelter and food. Ages 5-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

9. Planet of Plenty
     Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the
     African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support.
     Ages 6-10.
     Adventurous Harriet and her twin brother William, who likes to stay at
     home, fly in a spaceship to a distant planet to help an unhappy dragon.
     Ages 5+.
     Three seeds grow into three beautiful trees, each of which serves a
     different function in nature and for people. Ages 5-8.
     A father and three children investigate an oak tree and learn about the
     tree's structure and the plants and animals that depend on it for existence.
     Photographs of woodland animals are mixed with illustrations of a teacher
     and his students exploring nature. Ages 5-8.
     Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its
     beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.
     After an oak tree falls in the forest, it has another life as home to a variety
     of creatures. As it decays over time, it provides food and shelter to
     porcupines, ants, mushrooms, salamanders, and many others, until it
     eventually turns into a mound of rich black earth. Ages 5-8.
     Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small
     section of the woods. Ages 6-9.
   - Spirin, Gennadii and Natalia Romanova. Once There Was A Tree. Dial
     An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is
     gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of
     reasons. Ages 4-7.

10. Charting Diversity
      A bored chameleon wishes it could be more like all the other animals it
      sees, but soon decides it would rather just be itself. Cutouts along the
      edges of the pages display various animals and colors. Ages 5+.
      Discusses the octopus, paper nautilus, sponge, sea cucumber, giant clam,
      starfish, sea anemone, jellyfish, corals, barnacles, and other unusual sea
      creatures. Ages 7-10.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Photographs and text introduce the animals, insects, and plants in a forest.
  Ages 6-9.

11. Can It Be Real?

• *Strange Plants*. National Geographic Society. 2003.
• *Wonderfully Weird Animals*. Newbridge.
  Reading recovery level 19.
  Provides information on a variety of developments in the plant world,
  from trees of record-breaking size to plants that eat animals. Ages 8-12.
  Rich, colorful illustrations, and informative, rhyming verse unlock a world
  where mushrooms glow at night and seaweed grows to be gigantic--
  without a flower in sight. Ages 5+.
  Discusses the octopus, paper nautilus, sponge, sea cucumber, giant clam,
  starfish, sea anemone, jellyfish, corals, barnacles, and other unusual sea
  creatures. Ages 7-10.
  A visit to the fascinating world of some very unusual creatures, both in
  appearance and behavior. Most of the insects live in tropical habitats, but
  the text does relate similarities in behavior to those found in North
  America. Grades 4-6.
  Includes general information, jokes, and brief descriptions of the physical
  characteristics, habits, and natural environment of a variety of common

12. Tree Treasures

  Reading recovery level 16.
  Reading recovery level 16.
• *From Tree to Paper Sundance.*
  An exciting photo-essay book explaining how trees are made into paper.
  This book carefully explains the papermaking process so children
  understand how changes in matter occur. Grades preK-2.
  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses.
  Ages 5-8.
  Describes the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm in Rhode
  Island throughout each season of the year. Ages 5-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Tree shapes, types of leaves, how trees are fed, why they are green, what animals they house, and the bounty trees produce are all captured in the text and photographs. Developed to help children understand environmental issues and to stimulate discussion. Ages 5+.

  A moving parable about the gift of giving and the capacity to love, told throughout the life of a boy who grows to manhood and a tree that selflessly gives him her bounty through the years. Ages 4-8.
  In summer the leaves on the strange tree growing in Miss McGillicuddy's yard are harvested by many people, but when Miss McGillicuddy thinks about needing firewood for the winter, she realizes the tree may have another use. Ages 5-8.
  In his quest to find the perfect wood for his masterpiece, a woodcarver tries to cut down the town's beloved singing fir tree. Ages 5-8,

13. We All Need Trees
  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.
  The history of the Great Plains and the Santa Fe Trail is told in text and pictures by focusing on a cottonwood tree and the events that happen around it. Ages 5-8.
  Describes the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm in Rhode Island throughout each season of the year. Ages 5-8.
  In summer the leaves on the strange tree growing in Miss McGillicuddy's yard are harvested by many people, but when Miss McGillicuddy thinks about needing firewood for the winter, she realizes the tree may have another use. Ages 5-8.

14. Renewable or Not
  Explains the process of recycling from start to finish and discusses what happens to paper, glass, aluminum cans, and plastic when they are recycled into new products. Ages 5-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Explaining the difference between biodegradable and non-biodegradable garbage, this book shows how glass, metal, and wool can be easily recycled. How Can I Help? boxes give suggestions for the young environmentalist who wants to recycle at home. Ages 4-8.
  The animal citizens of Beaston discover better ways to recycle and control their trash. Ages 5-8.
  Ziggy proudly invites other piglets and their parents to see what his father has made from all the things he has been saving. Ages 5-8.
  What do you do with an overcoat that is torn and worn but that is so dear that you can't toss it out? Cut it down, trim it and turn it into something else. Ages 4-10.

15. A Few of My Favorite Things
  Text and photographs show how a family taps the sap from maple trees and processes it into maple syrup. Ages 8-12.
  Paul's grandmother describes her first sugaring-off party at Tante Loulou's farmhouse where they boiled maple sap into syrup and poured it on snow to make a delicious dessert. Ages 3-7.
  Tree shapes, types of leaves, how trees are fed, why they are green, what animals they house, and the bounty trees produce are all captured in the text and photographs. Developed to help children understand environmental issues and to stimulate discussion. Ages 5+.

16. Pass the Plants, Please
- **My Garden**. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 7.
- **Plants We Eat**. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 7.
  Students see how apples grow and are harvested, shipped, and sold. The parts of a flower, pollination, and the seasons are also introduced. Reading recovery level 13.
  Wanda finds a thorny bush in a vacant lot and decides that it must be a rosebush that needs a little attention. She thinks about it, does library research, and tends the plant regularly, as various neighbors stop by and attempt gently to talk the child out of her rosy hopes. Grades preK-2.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  This little city garden, intended as a birthday gift for mom, becomes a gift for all those who have the great fortune to view it. Grades K-2.

  Readers will learn about the relationships between people and the gardens of Earth, seed preservation, Native diets and meals, natural pest control, and the importance of the Circle of Life.

  A cumulative story that traces a little boy’s backyard flower garden from tilling the soil to enjoying the blossoms. Grades preK-2.

  A gardening guide in picture-book format, this book offers practical advice for the novice of any age. As the title suggests, Creasy encourages young gardeners to plant a "rainbow garden" of edible plants in unusual colors: purple string beans, blue potatoes, yellow watermelons, red popping corn, and multicolored radishes. Grades 2-6.

  Reading recovery level 2.

  While teaching upper- and lowercase letters to preschoolers, Ehlert introduces fruits and vegetables from around the world. A glossary at the end provides interesting facts about each food. Age preK.

  A mother and child plant a rainbow of flowers in the family garden. Ages 5-8.

  Ages 5-8.

  An amazing collection of more than 300 extraordinary experiments and projects with apple seeds, beans, potatoes, fruit pits, vegetables, herbs and everything that grows. Grades 3-6.

  Ben and Caroline's gardens go through many changes during the year. Ages 5-10.

  Reading recovery level 8.

- Prince, Sarah. *What’s For Dinner?* Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 3.

  Beings with the great, great, great, great grandfather who builds the home and plants the first garden. The gardens weave in and out of the story. Ages 4-8.

  Reading recovery level 9.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

17. People of the Forest
     Year after year, the plum tree which the farmer planted is witness to the continuing generations of his family. Ages 5-8.
     Based on a classic folk tale from India, this haunting story gives children insight into India's history and culture while teaching them that environmental protection is everyone's concern. It is carefully researched and illustrated with detailed watercolors of rural India.

18. Tale of the Sun
     Presents six tales about Spider, including those that explain how he got a thin waist and a bald head and why he lives in ceilings and dark corners. Ages 5-8.
     Describes the importance of rain forests, types of plant and animal life that live there, and how rain forests are threatened by deforestation. Ages 8-12.
     Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support. Ages 6-10.
     This book captures the soul of the ancient and sacred banyan, painting a vivid picture of its importance to the people and other life forms that flourish beneath and within its welcoming branches. Ages 6-10.
     A rich collection of uplifting Native American stories and creative nature activities that will inspire children to love and respect animals. Keepers of the Animals will help children to understand their interdependence with all living beings and life forms. Ages 6-12.
     This inspired look at what the Kapok tree means to the creatures that live in it-and what rain forests mean to the world's ecology-was at the forefront of the ecological movement ten years ago and continues to resonate profoundly with children everywhere. Ages 10+.
     Tired of wandering in the sky, the star maiden searches for the perfect home on earth. Ages 4-7.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Age 8.
  In an act of bravery and defiance against the white men encroaching on their territory in 1867, a group of young Cheyenne braves derail and raid a freight train.
  Age 8-11.
  This picture book is adapted from a speech purportedly delivered by Chief Seattle at treaty negotiations in the 1850s, Young adult.
  Miguel figures out a way to save the beloved maguey plant in his Mexican pueblo. Ages 5-8.
  Traditional stories from twelve different North American Indian peoples are grouped around the recurrent themes of the sun, moon and stars; fantastical journeys; and two popular cultural heroes, Spider Woman, a benevolent sorceress, and Coyote the trickster.
  A tale from the Pacific Northwest Native Americans about a young girl who journeys to the world beneath her village's lake after all the frogs from the lake disappear. There she meets "Grandmother" who asks her where all of her frog "children" have gone? The girl must return the frogs to save her village. Ages 9-12.
  In the distant era of myth time, before people forgot how to speak the language of animals, two young men from the northern plains set out to travel farther than any of their people have ever gone before. Ages 9+.
  A collection of Indian legends about such natural phenomena as thunder and lightning, earthquakes, tornados, and rainbows. Age 10.
  Ages 5-8.
  Based on a classic folk tale from India, this haunting story gives children insight into India's history and culture while teaching them that environmental protection is everyone's concern. It is carefully researched and illustrated with detailed watercolors of rural India.
  One day Wolf calls out to the birds—woodpecker, blue jay, cardinal, oriole, hummingbird, goldfinch, owl and wood duck—who fly to help him
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

recovery from Raccoon’s trick. Then Wolf proceeds to grant the birds’ request, that they be painted in pretty colors of the wildflowers. In the end they are as exquisite as we know them to be—and so is the Raccoon!—in this thoroughly delightful story from the Seneca. Ages 4-8.

  In this Wasco Indian legend, Coyote’s curiosity sends him skyward to learn the secrets of the heavens. When he discovers a way to move the stars, he forms likenesses of his animal friends in constellations so that they will be remembered for generations to come. Ages 7+.

  Presents twelve Hawaiian myths that explain how the earth was created, why volcanoes on Hawaii erupt, why the days are longer in summer, and other natural phenomena.

  Rich and beautiful picture making collages assembled with torn paper, paper cutouts, and linocuts gives new visual excitement to the splendors of the British Columbia interior, and to the magic of an Indian legend.

  A collection of legends about the stars from various North American Indian cultures, including explanations of the Milky Way and constellations such as the Big Dipper. Ages 9-11.

19. Values on the Line

  A girl discovers that her impoverished family is rich in things that matter in life, especially being outdoors and experiencing nature. Ages 6-9.

  While caring for a baby crow, Mandy begins to look at her family and herself in a different light. Ages 9-12.

  Year after year, the plum tree that the farmer planted is witness to the continuing generations of his family. Ages 5-8.

  In 1881, when their apple tree is felled by a storm just before Christmas, a young farm girl and her family discover that the tree was important to each of them for different reasons. Ages 4-8.

  In summer the leaves on the strange tree growing in Miss McGillicuddy's yard are harvested by many people, but when Miss McGillicuddy thinks about needing firewood for the winter, she realizes the tree may have another use. Ages 5-8.

  In his quest to find the perfect wood for his masterpiece, a woodcarver tries to cut down the town's beloved singing fir tree. Ages 5-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  A special children's version of the Thanksgiving Address, a message of gratitude that originated with the Native people of upstate New York and Canada and that is still spoken at ceremonial gatherings held by the Iroquois, or Six Nations. Ages 4-7.

  During the Depression, a rural black family deeply attached to the forest on their land tries to save it from being cut down by an unscrupulous white man. Ages 10+.

20. Environmental Exchange Box

  Explores the human impact on the air, waters, biosphere, and land in every major world region. Provides a unique combination of maps and data helping students understand the dimensions of the world's environmental problems and the geographical basis of these problems. Ages 10+.

  This book captures the soul of the ancient and sacred banyan, painting a vivid picture of its importance to the people and other life forms that flourish beneath and within its welcoming branches. Ages 6-10.

  Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support. Ages 6-10.

  A young Indian boy carves a canoe and travels through the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. The text and pictures provide an excellent geographical and historical picture of the region. Ages 6-12.

  Illustrations show homes of birds and other animals all over the world. Ages 5+.

21. Adopt A Tree

  An illustrated introduction to trees and woodlands with information on how to identify the bark and the leaves, the many ways that animals use trees, and how to read the individual history that shapes every tree. Ages 5-12.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support. Ages 6-10.

  A young girl nurses a cherry tree from sprig to seedling and is rewarded one year by the sight of small miracle--its first pink blossoms. Ages 4-7.

  Identifies many types of trees and describes how they grow and the kinds of leaves, fruits, and seeds they produce. Includes suggested experiments and projects. Ages 7-9.

  Birds, people, bats, and other living things interact naturally with an oak tree over a period of twenty-four hours. Ages 5-6.

  A child describes the growth of a maple tree from seed to sapling. A special glossary explains how roots absorb nutrients, what photosynthesis is, how sap circulates, and other facts about trees. Ages 5-8.

- Feely, Jenny. Plants. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 5.

- Feely, Jenny. The Tree. Sundance
  Reading recovery level 6.

  Through many brightly covered transparent pages, the young child is introduced to the truly fascinating world of trees. Ages 4-8.

  Describes the structure and purpose of leaves, the ways in which they change as part of the natural cycle of the seasons, and the process that creates their autumn colors.

  An interactive self-guided odyssey in search of the wonder of trees. With book in hand, kids head out to their backyard, schoolyard or local park to find and identify trees. Ages 9-12.

  Describes how seasonal changes in a forest affect the plants and animals that live there. Ages 4-10.

  Describes the different plants, animals, and landscapes that can be seen outdoors each month of the year. Ages 7+.

  A tree stands on a hill by a river. As the sky changes, so does the tree, its branches filling with clouds, stars, snow, birds, mists, and the golden spring sun. One tree can mean many things. Ages 5-9.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Discusses various parts of trees and their functions, including the bark, sapwood tubes, roots, and leaves. Ages 5-8.
  An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons. Ages 4-7.

22. Trees as Habitats
• Animal Homes. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 2.
• Anita the Tree. Sundance.
  Everyone knows what a good friend Anita is. She gives them all a place to play. But when it snows, Anita is lonely. Will her friends come back? Guided reading level G. Grades 1-2.
• Little Bird’s House. Sundance.
  One little bird invites his animal friends to his house in this whimsical tale that introduces children to wildlife. Grades PreK-2.
  Teaches students animals that live within a tree. Level 3/C.
• Who Lives in This Tree. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 9.
  Oil paintings which depict the forest at different times of the day during the fall & winter. Text discusses the plants & animals that call the forest home. Ages 6+.
  Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support. Ages 6-10.
  Describes the birds that make their homes in the heart of the city and examines how they have adjusted to such a harsh urban environment. Ages 9-12.
• Berger, Melvin. Life in a Tree. Newbridge.
  Children learn the parts of a tree and get a close-up look at the plants and animals that depend on trees for food and shelter. Reading recovery level 16.
  Burrows, tree holes, nests, hives, webs, lodges, ice floes, caves, ground holes, and oceans – students meet animals that make their homes in these places. Reading recovery level 11.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

A family makes its annual pilgrimage to decorate an evergreen tree with food for the forest animals at Christmastime. Ages 4-8.

  Birds, people, bats, and other living things interact naturally with an oak tree over a period of twenty-four hours. Ages 5-6.
  Presents a wordless panorama of the animals, plants, insects, and flowers of the forest. Ages 5-6.
  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.
  A rascally squirrel has an indoor adventure in a city apartment. Ages 3-6.
  Three seeds grow into three beautiful trees, each of which serves a different function in nature and for people. Ages 5-8.
  Siblings William and Cammy set off on an autumnal walk through the woods near their house. Although they don't see any wildlife on their trek, they do observe traces of creatures' activities--including a northern oriole's nest, the remains of a red squirrel's meal, a monarch butterfly's cocoon, and a mud dauber's home. Two of the examples involve predator-prey relationships that may upset very young listeners, but for most children this will be an excellent introduction to classroom nature units and the perfect prelude to a walk in the woods. Ages 4+.
  The saguaro cactus is born when a seed is dropped in the shade of a tree. In the one hundred fifty years it takes to reach its full height, it becomes a "hotel" for desert wildlife. When it is two hundred years old, the fifty foot cactus topples and supplies shelter for ground dwellers. Ages 5-8.
  A father and three children investigate an oak tree and learn about the tree's structure and the plants and animals that depend on it for existence. Photographs of woodland animals are mixed with illustrations of a teacher and his students exploring nature. Ages 5-8.
  Introduces the inhabitants of the forest, such as rabbits, chipmunks, owls, squirrels, bear, deer, and trout. Ages 5-7.
  Illustrations show homes of birds and other animals all over the world. Ages 5+.
- Kohl, Judith and Herbert. The View From The Oak: The Private World of Other Creatures. Sierra Club. 1977.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

What do flowers in a meadow look like to a bee? How does the world appear to a snake who "sees" by detecting minute temperature changes? What is it like to live in the water strider's two-dimensional universe? Including hands-on games and activities. Ages 6+.

  Text and photographs present the animal life on a seventy-year-old maple tree. Ages 5-7.

  Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.

  Introduces a variety of animals, such as koala, fruit bat, walking stick, snail, and howler monkey, that seek safety, food, and shelter in trees.

  Three children observe the forest, including a giant oak, throughout the year. Ages 7-11.

  Bulldozers push the raccoon and his friends from their home, but they are able to find a new one after a terrifying train ride. Ages 5-8.

  Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.

  To teach his daughter the value of books, a father leads a growing crowd in search of the tree where the bees keep all their honey. Ages 4-8.

  Photographs and text introduce the animals, insects, and plants in a forest. Ages 6+.

  Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small section of the woods. Ages 6-9.

  An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons. Ages 4-7.

  The movements and actions of a family camping in the woods cause the forest creatures to also move, scurry, and make noise. Ages 4+.

  Discusses the plants and animals that live in forests. Includes the weasel, giant wood wasp, and slippery jack mushroom. Ages 7+.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Describes nests and homes which animals build for themselves. Ages 7-11.

  Traces the life cycle of an oak tree and describes the animals that depend on it for shelter and food. Ages 5-8.
  On a winter's night under a full moon, a father and daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl. Ages 4+.

23. The Fallen Log
- A Tree Fell Over the River. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 3.
- The World of Ants. Newbridge.
  Children explore ant nests to observe the activities of queens, males, and workers. They also follow the ant’s life cycle and discover how it grows. Levels 20/M.
  Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support. Ages 6-10.
  The saguaro cactus is born when a seed is dropped in the shade of a tree. In the one hundred fifty years it takes to reach its full height, it becomes a "hotel" for desert wildlife. when it is two hundred years old, the fifty foot cactus topples and supplies shelter for ground dwellers. Ages 5-8.
  What are the things that scurry away when you turn over a log? With beautifully detailed illustrations, Anne Hunter shows the creatures a child might find there—a sowbug, a salamander, a millipede. Each illustration is accompanied by simple yet detailed text explaining the nature and habits of the animals that find shelter under a log. ages 4–8
- Kohl, Judith and Herbert. The View From The Oak: The Private World of Other Creatures. Sierra Club. 1977.
  What do flowers in a meadow look like to a bee? How does the world appear to a snake who "sees" by detecting minute temperature changes? What is it like to live in the water strider's two-dimensional universe? Including hands-on games and activities. Ages 6+.
  Describes what happens in a compost pile and how creatures, from bacteria and mites to millipedes and earthworms, aid in the process of turning compost into humus. Ages 9-12.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Includes general information, jokes, and brief descriptions of the physical characteristics, habits, and natural environment of a variety of common insects. Ages 5-8.

- **Pfeffer, Wendy.** *A Log’s Life.* Simon and Schuster. 1997
  After an oak tree falls in the forest, it has another life as home to a variety of creatures. As it decays over time, it provides food and shelter to porcupines, ants, mushrooms, salamanders, and many others, until it eventually turns into a mound of rich black earth. Ages 5-8.

  Photographs and text introduce the animals, insects, and plants in a forest. Ages 6+.

  The ecology of a log. Ages 10+.

  Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small section of the woods. Ages 6-9.

- **Spirin, Gennadii and Natalia Romanova.** *Once There Was A Tree.* Dial Books. 1985.
  An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons. Ages 4-7.

24. Nature’s Recyclers

  Describes the characteristics and habits of various insects, birds, and other animals that clean up waste materials in the environment and thus ensure that life as we know it continues on the earth. Ages 9-11.

  The definitive guide to vermicomposting—a process using redworms to recycle food waste into nutrient-rich food for plants.

  In this nonfiction picture book, a little girl explains how her family turns garbage and garden waste into soil using their compost bin. Grades 1-3.

  Describes the physical characteristics, behavior, and life cycle of the common earthworm. Ages 5-8.

  Contains nearly 400 pages of projects, explanations and illustrations about the wonderful world of composting and the ecological world around us. Grades 3+.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Ages 9-11.

  Describes what happens in a compost pile and how creatures, from
  bacteria and mites to millipedes and earthworms, aid in the process of
  turning compost into humus. Ages 9-12.
  Everything is connected! In this book, students discover that the final link
  in the food chain is also the "first" link, because producers are dependent
  on the nutrient-rich soil provided by the decomposers. Ages 5-10.
  Describes different types of soils, their composition, where they are found,
  and the plants and animals that live in and on them. Grades 5-9.
  A girl's father digs in the garden, finding and presenting for inspection
  such wonders as a round gold beetle and a leaf-green mantis. Ages 3-8.
• Schwartz, David and Dwight Kuhn. *The Hidden Life of the Forest*. Crown
  Photographs and text introduce the animals, insects, and plants in a forest.
  Ages 6+.
• Schwartz, George L. and Bernice S. *Life in a Log*. Natural History Press.
  1972.
  The ecology of a log. Ages 10+.
  Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small
  section of the woods. Ages 6-9.
  An introduction to the physical characteristics, habits, natural
  environment, and importance of the earthworm. Ages 6-8.

25. Birds and Worms

• *Predators*. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 16.
• Berger, Melvin. *Animals in Hiding*. Newbridge.
  Students learn about camouflage and adaptation as they try to find the
  animals “in hiding” in the fascinating full-color photographs. Reading
  recovery level 13.
• Bouchard, David. *Voices from the Wild-- An Animal Sensagoria*. Chronicle
  Books. 1996.
  describes how animals use their senses to survive in the wild. The book is
  divided into five sections--sight, smell, touch, hearing, taste. Each section
  features five animals relating, in first person, the special ways the
  particular sense helps them hunt, avoid predators, and care for their young.
  Grades 3-5.
• Brenner, Barbara and Bernice Chardiet. *Where’s That Insect?* Scholastic.
  1993.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Presents information about different kinds of insects. The reader is invited to find insects hidden in the illustrations. Ages 5-8.

  Survival in the wild creates a hierarchy of predators and their prey; this interaction among the animals forms the basis of a complex ecological system known as the food chain. Ages 9-12.

  Describes in text and pictures the characteristics of each state bird and how and when it came to be chosen. Ages 8+.

  Simon, a world famous hunter, decides to travel to faraway lands in order to add more trophies to his collection. But the animals all over the world catch wind of his plans, so they hold a meeting to plan their strategy. Their solution is camouflage. Ages 5-8.

  Twelve of the Earth's most fascinating predators--Wolf! ladybug! dragonfly! jellyfish! barracuda! pitcher plant! Ages 9-12

  The story follows Wide-Mouthed Frog as he asks different animals what they like most to eat. Ages 3-6.

- Freeman, Marcia S. *Predators and Prey*. Newbridge.
  Finding food is hard work for animals in the wild. Students learn some of the amazing ways these animals catch their prey for every meal. Reading recovery level 19.

  Rhyming text describes how various insects camouflage themselves to protect against predators. Ages 4-8.

  Describes, using rhyming text, how various sea animals change color to blend in with their surroundings.

  Describes how toads, salamanders, and other interesting amphibians are experts at camouflage. Ages 4-8.

  What would you do if something wanted to eat you? Walk on water? Stick out your tongue? Play dead? Animals in the wild use all kinds of methods to protect themselves from their enemies. Grades 3-5.

  A fairly complete picture of the animal's habitat, life cycle, hunting and eating habits, and natural enemies. Grades 3-5.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

This brief informational story details the life cycle of one of North America's most endangered species. Grades K-4.


26. Dynamic Duos

- Lauber, Patricia. *From Flower to Flower: Animals and Pollination*. Crown. 1986. Text and illustrations describe the many ways that flowers are pollinated with emphasis on the role of bees in this important process. Ages 8-11.

27. Every Tree for Itself

- *How Plants Survive*. Newbridge. A plant’s life is not as easy as you might think. Plants compete with one another for sunshine, wage battles for water, and struggle to protect their...
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

own patch of soil. Their lives are a constant battle for survival. Guided reading level N.

  Identifies many types of trees and describes how they grow and the kinds of leaves, fruits, and seeds they produce. Includes suggested experiments and projects. Ages 7-9.

  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.

  Dig, weed, plant, water, wait, watch, enjoy—a child's perspective about the life of a sunflower is shown in vivid photographs of a little girl in her garden. Ages 5-7.

  A child describes the growth of a maple tree from seed to sapling. A special glossary explains how roots absorb nutrients, what photosynthesis is, how sap circulates, and other facts about trees. Ages 5-8.

  Uses observations of bean seeds planted in eggshells to demonstrate the growth of seeds into plants. Ages 5-6.

  Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.

  Traces the lifecycle of ferns and gives advice on raising them. Ages 6+.

28. Air Plants

  Includes the atmosphere, how the body uses air, plants and air, air pressure, air currents, flight, energy from air, and global warming. Ages 6-10.

  Describes a variety of unusual plants and plantlike forms, including air-plants, carnivorous plants, lichen, etc. Ages 6-9.

  Hands-on experiences help your children learn about science the way children learn best! Knowledge is gained, and retained, as children play with water, air, plants, magnets, and more. For teachers of ages 5-7.

  Follows seven dandelion seed parachutes which the wind blows into the air and which land in different circumstances as an example of the way in which a common plant regenerates. Ages 5-6.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

- Llewellyn, Claire. Some Plants Grow in Mid-Air. Millbrook Press. 1998. Explains why rainforests are shrinking, how their wildlife is endangered, and why they and their wildlife are important.
- Pluckrose, Henry. Air. Gareth Stevens Audio. 2001. How much do you know about air? Do you know what air does? This "Let's Explore" book will tell you everything you need to know about air including, what it is, the different forms it can take, using it to fly and even air pollution. Ages 5-8.

29. Rain Reasons
- A Rainy Day. Sundance. Reading recovery level 2.
- My Climate. Newbridge. Reading recovery level 12.
- Rain. Sundance. Reading recovery level 2.
- Gibbons, Gail. The Reasons for Seasons. Holiday House. 1996. Here is an explanation of how the position of Earth in relation to the sun causes seasons, and the wonders that come with each one of them. Ages 5-8.
- Simon, Seymour. Icebergs and Glaciers. Morrow. 1987. Discusses the formation, movement, and different types of glaciers and icebergs and describes their effect on the world around them.

30. Three Cheers for Trees
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Three seeds grow into three beautiful trees, each of which serves a different function in nature and for people. Ages 5-8.
  The history of the Great Plains and the Santa Fe Trail is told in text and pictures by focusing on a cottonwood tree and the events that happen around it. Ages 5-8.
  Describes the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm in Rhode Island throughout each season of the year. Ages 5-8.
  Discusses the importance of trees as sources of food, oxygen, and other essential things. Ages 5-9.
  Ages 5-8.
  In 1881, when their apple tree is felled by a storm just before Christmas, a young farm girl and her family discover that the tree was important to each of them for different reasons. Ages 4-8.
  At the end of the summer, a child revisits the special places she has enjoyed on her vacation. Ages 5-8.
  A moving parable about the gift of giving and the capacity to love, told throughout the life of a boy who grows to manhood and a tree that selflessly gives him her bounty through the years. Ages 4-8.
  An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons. Ages 4-7.
  During the Depression, a rural black family deeply attached to the forest on their land tries to save it from being cut down by an unscrupulous white man. Ages 10+.
  Trees are beautiful. They fill up the sky. If you have a tree, you can climb up its trunk, roll in its leaves, or hang a swing from one of its limbs. Cows and babies can nap in the shade of a tree. Birds can make nests in the branches. A tree is good to have around. A tree is nice. Ages 4-8.

31. Plant a Tree

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Retells the wandering of John Chapman whose devotion to planting apple trees made him a legendary figure in American history. Ages 5-8.

  Identifies many types of trees and describes how they grow and the kinds of leaves, fruits, and seeds they produce. Includes suggested experiments and projects. Ages 7-9.

  Little Pearl the lamb takes a cue from her grandfather and plants an apple seed that sprouts, establishing a symbolic connection both to her family and to the land. Grades preK-2.

  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.

  This educational and enjoyable book helps children understand how to plant bulbs, seeds, and seedlings, and nurture their growth. Ages 3-6.

  Reading recovery level 5.

  Jean Giono’s beautiful allegorical tale is legendary. Written in the 1950's, its message was ahead of its time, inspiring readers to rediscover the harmonies of the countryside and prevent its willful destruction. Ages 10+.

  After Tanya decides to plant a tree for her Earth Day project, her only problems are getting the money to buy it and finding a place to put it. Ages 6-9.

  Year after year, the plum tree which the farmer planted is witness to the continuing generations of his family. Ages 5-8.

  Describes the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm in Rhode Island throughout each season of the year. Ages 5-8.

  Discusses the importance of trees as sources of food, oxygen, and other essential things. Ages 5-9.

  A tree stands on a hill by a river. As the sky changes, so does the tree, its branches filling with clouds, stars, snow, birds, mists, and the golden spring sun. One tree can mean many things. Ages 5-9.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

A cumulative folk song that traces a fine tree back to the acorn planted by a boy whose bed was feathered by a bird nesting in a similar tree. Ages 5-8.
  Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.
  Trees are beautiful. They fill up the sky. If you have a tree, you can climb up its trunk, roll in its leaves, or hang a swing from one of its limbs. Cows and babies can nap in the shade of a tree. Birds can make nests in the branches. A tree is good to have around. A tree is nice. Ages 4-8.
  Traces the lifecycle of ferns and gives advice on raising them. Ages 6+.

32. A Forest of Many Uses
    Presents opposing viewpoints about various aspects of forestry, including the management of national forests and the question of how much damage is done by logging and acid rain. Ages 9-12.
    Describes the events surrounding the wildfire that raged in New Mexico in 2000 and the resulting debate over the policy of prescribed burning, or purposely setting fires as a means of forest management. Ages 12+.
    Examines the nature, history, and management of natural resources ranging from soil and water to forests, wildlife, and marine resources. Includes suggested activities and discussion of occupations in the field. Ages 12+.
    Describes the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm in Rhode Island throughout each season of the year. Ages 5-8.
    Sophie watches her grandfather harvest trees that will be cut into boards to build houses and furniture, but lets the tallest, wind-firm trees stay, to drop their seeds and start a new generation. Deer and birds and even a bear share the forests shelter, and Sophie discovers that when we take care of the woods, it provides for us for generations to come. Ages 4-8.
    Traces the careers of three women involved in public land management and outlines opportunities for those interested in this field. Ages 12+.

33. Forest Consequences
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Retells the wandering of John Chapman whose devotion to planting apple trees made him a legendary figure in American history. Ages 5-8.

  Giants in the Land is an incredible look at the role the giant pine trees of New England played in the history of the United States, especially in the years preceding the Revolutionary War. Grades 3-6.

  Chronicles the events and changes in a young boy's life and in his environment, from babyhood to grownup, through wordless scenes observed from the window of his room. Ages 5-8.

  The Ancient Ones tells the tale of an old-growth forest. Ages 8-11.

  Describes the events surrounding the wildfire that raged in New Mexico in 2000 and the resulting debate over the policy of prescribed burning, or purposely setting fires as a means of forest management. Ages 12+.

  As a child, John can hear the talk of butterflies who’ve lost their path because their migration route has been turned into houses and mini-malls. His life is shaped by his great empathy for these creatures. Ages 5-9.

  Examines the many forms of wildlife that can be displaced if their environment is destroyed by development and discusses how communities and schools can provide spaces for them to live. Ages 5-10.

  A modern fable to remind us that greed and selfishness are harmful and that peace and harmony flow from an attitude of grateful appreciation for the gifts we receive and a respect for the need and right of others to share in those gifts. Ages 4-8.

  Jean Giono's beautiful allegorical tale is legendary. Written in the 1950's, its message was ahead of its time, inspiring readers to rediscover the harmonies of the countryside and prevent its willful destruction. Ages 10+.

  Describe the development and ecosystem of the endangered fir tree. Ages 7-10.

  When seventeen-year-old John Rodgers discovers a new sub-species of butterfly which may necessitate closing the mill where his dying father works, they find themselves on opposite sides of the environmental conflict. Ages 12+.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

A turtle carved in rock on a bluff over the Hudson River by Indians long ago watches with sadness the changes man brings over the years. Ages 6-9.

- Peet, Bill. *Farewell to Shady Glade*. Houghton Mifflin Co. 1966. Bulldozers push the raccoon and his friends from their home, but they are able to find a new one after a terrifying train ride. Ages 5-8.
- Rand, Gloria. *Fighting for the Forest*. Holt and Company. 1999. When they find blue logging markings in the ancient forest where they like to hike, a boy and his father try to save the trees from being cut down. Includes information about how to find and enjoy ancient forests. Ages 5-7.

34. Who Works in This Forest?

- Atkins, Jeannine. *Girls Who Looked Under Rocks The Lives of Six Pioneering Naturalists*. Dawn. 2000. The six women portrayed in this book—Maria Merian (b. 1647), Anna Comstock (b. 1854), Frances Hamerstrom (b. 1907), Rachel Carson (b. 1907), Miriam Rothschild (b. 1908), and Jane Goodall (b. 1934)—all grew up to become award-winning scientists, writers and artists, as comfortable with a pen as with as with a magnifying glass. They each overcame opposition and found ways to pass on their vision of how all lives in nature are beautifully connected. Ages 10–16.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Jean Giono’s beautiful allegorical tale is legendary. Written in the 1950's, its message was ahead of its time, inspiring readers to rediscover the harmonies of the countryside and prevent its willful destruction. Ages 10+.

  Describes the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm in Rhode Island throughout each season of the year. Ages 5-8.

- Lasky, Kathryn. She’s Wearing a Dead Bird on Her Head. Hyperion. 1995.
  Playful illustrations bring to life the story of two determined ladies who helped form one of America’s oldest preservation groups, the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Ages 5–9.

  Traces the careers of three women involved in public land management and outlines opportunities for those interested in this field. Ages 12+.

35. Loving It Too Much

  Presents opposing viewpoints about various aspects of forestry, including the management of national forests and the question of how much damage is done by logging and acid rain. Ages 9-12.

  Describes the events surrounding the wildfire that raged in New Mexico in 2000 and the resulting debate over the policy of prescribed burning, or purposely setting fires as a means of forest management. Ages 12+.

  Discusses the fire that ravaged nearly one million acres of Yellowstone National Park during several months in 1988, and explains the two sides to the controversy over letting nature take its course. Ages 7-9.

  Ages 8-10.

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

  Discusses the history and purpose of national parks and describes some prominent examples including Denali National Park in Alaska and Saguaro National Park in Arizona. Ages 4-8.

36. Pollution Search

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Describes the efforts of scientists who are trying to save the peregrine falcon from extinction by taking the fragile eggs that would not survive in the wild, hatching them, raising the chicks, and then releasing the birds back into the wild. Ages 7+.

  Calvin and his cat Mel start exploring the pollution problem after they see trash tossed on the highway from a passing car. They discover the dangers of solid waste, air, water and soil pollution, and even noise pollution. Finally Calvin and Mel help kids discover how pollution can be controlled. Ages 5-7.

  Explores the debates surrounding air pollution, discussing its causes and prevention. Ages 12+.

  An environmental history of the Nashua River, from its discovery by Indians through the polluting years of the Industrial Revolution to the ambitious clean-up that revitalized it. Ages 6-9.

  Alternates factual information on the ecological aspects of water with activities and experiments, covering such areas as the behavior of warm water, acid rain, and pond life. Ages 12+.

  Ages 9-12.

  In this classic story, the Once-ler describes how his greedy actions destroyed a beautiful and thriving environment. Children will enjoy the colorful characters and rhyming verse and adults will appreciate the subtle messages about the negative effects of deforestation, habitat destruction, and air and water pollution. Ages 4+.

  How lakes are formed and their relation to the ecological balance in nature. Ages 8+.


  Discusses the causes of pollution, its effects on the environment, and what is being done to repair some of the damage it has caused. Ages 6-11.

  Surveys the treatment of household waste and some possible future solutions to the growing problem of its disposal. Ages 12+.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

The Wump World is an unspoiled place until huge monsters bring hordes of tiny creatures from the planet Pollutus. Ages 4+.

  Explains what hazardous wastes are, how they are produced, and why it is difficult to dispose of them. Ages 4-8. ISBN 0516055062.

  When he has a dream about a future Earth devastated by pollution, Walter begins to understand the importance of taking care of the environment. Ages 7-10.

37. Talking Trash, Not!

- Berger, Melvin. Where Does All the Garbage Go? Newbridge.
  From our homes to trucks to dumps – children follow the path of household garbage and learn how recycling garbage can create new products. Reading recovery level 12.

  Calvin and his cat Mel start exploring the pollution problem after they see trash tossed on the highway from a passing car. They discover the dangers of solid waste, air, water and soil pollution, and even noise pollution. Finally Calvin and Mel help kids discover how pollution can be controlled. Ages 5-7.

  In this classic story, the Once-ler describes how his greedy actions destroyed a beautiful and thriving environment. Children will enjoy the colorful characters and rhyming verse and adults will appreciate the subtle messages about the negative effects of deforestation, habitat destruction, and air and water pollution. Ages 4+.

  Discusses the causes of pollution, its effects on the environment, and what is being done to repair some of the damage it has caused. Ages 6-11.

  An old man fights a town of litterbugs by magically sending each piece of trash back to the person who dropped it. Ages 4-8.

  Explains how recycling and the conservation of natural resources can help save the Earth, with an emphasis on the recycling of plastic. Ages 9+.

  Discusses trash and the different ways in which it can be handled, with an emphasis on recycling. Incorporates the thoughts, questions, and drawings of children. Ages 5-11.

  Surveys the treatment of household waste and some possible future solutions to the growing problem of its disposal. Ages 12+.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Examines the dumping of garbage in oceans, on land, in the air, and in space and suggests possible solutions to this problem of waste pollution. Ages 10+.
  The Wump World is an unspoiled place until huge monsters bring hordes of tiny creatures from the planet Pollutus. Ages 4+.
  Humorous illustrations accompany a discussion of the problems of waste disposal and of recycling as one possible solution. Ages 6-11.
  Focuses on the ever-growing problem of managing the many types of solid waste and the hazards they pose to people and the environment. Readers learn how they can help in waste reduction efforts. Ages 9+.
  Explains what hazardous wastes are, how they are produced, and why it is difficult to dispose of them. Ages 4-8. ISBN 0516055062.
  Demonstrates how waste paper is recycled into useful household products at the Marcal paper mill. Ages 8-12.

38. Every Drop Counts

  Imagines a village in which there are too many people consuming shared resources and discusses the challenge of handling our world's environment safely. Ages 6-12.
  Ages 9-12.
  Concentrates on the need to preserve the fresh water available to sustain life and to minimize both use and pollution. Ages 9-12.
  Ms. Schindler cares about her community. At a water treatment plant, she works very hard to make sure the equipment is working well day and night. She keeps her neighborhood's water clean and safe. Ages 6-8.
  How lakes are formed and their relation to the ecological balance in nature. Ages 8+.
  Ages 9-12.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Using a combination of broad-picture reporting and interviews with interesting individuals, Ocko's account of the world's water problems will engage readers. Grades 6+.

  Discusses the principles of household plumbing, water supply, and personal hygiene. Ages 7-11.

39. Energy Sleuths

- **Using Energy Wisely**. Newbridge.
  Reading recovery level 20.

  Instructions for a variety of projects and experiments demonstrating basic concepts of energy, work, and power, including thermal, electrical, and solar energy, energy of motion and position, and energy conservation. Ages 12+.

  Considers the relevance of sustainable development to the world of energy and resources. Case studies show how sustainable practices, such as using renewable resources and curbing pollution, are currently used in communities around the world. Ages 8-10.


  Examines major environmental issues surrounding air, giving examples of attempts to solve global problems and sources for more information. Ages 7-11.

  Presents the advantages of using solar energy for heating and other purposes, as an alternative to other costly, dangerous, and non-renewable sources of power. Ages 10+.

  It takes energy for a car to run. It also takes energy to walk, run, skip, or jump. Discovery all the different ways energy makes the world work. Reading recovery level 19.

  Discusses the environmental and conservation aspects of modern transportation. Ages 10+.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Ergon, a magical being, discusses the generation of various forms of energy, its transportation, uses in everyday life, conservation, and development of alternative sources. Ages 12+

40. Then and Now
  Retells the wandering of John Chapman whose devotion to planting apple trees made him a legendary figure in American history. Ages 5-8.
  Describes the history of Arbor Day and how it is celebrated. Ages 5-9.
  An illustrated history of the New England forests, from colonial days when settlers freely used the trees for warmth and housing to today’s tensions between environmentalists and the logging industry. Ages 9-12.
  Jean Giono's beautiful allegorical tale is legendary. Written in the 1950's, its message was ahead of its time, inspiring readers to rediscover the harmonies of the countryside and prevent its willful destruction. Ages 10+.
  Explains, in simple text and illustrations, how and why Earth Day became an international holiday calling global attention to the problems of pollution, environmental destruction, and waste of natural resources. Ages 6-8.
  Over the centuries as people settle near the marsh by the sea, herons and other animals are displaced. Ages 6-9.

41. How Plants Grow
• How Plants Survive. Newbridge.
  A plant’s life is not as easy as you might think. Plants compete with one another for sunshine, wage battles for water, and struggle to protect their own patch of soil. Their lives are a constant battle for survival. Guided reading level N.
  Describes, in rhymed text and illustrations, how things in nature change as they grow and develop. Ages 3-6.
  Identifies many types of trees and describes how they grow and the kinds of leaves, fruits, and seeds they produce. Includes suggested experiments and projects. Ages 7-9.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Ms. Frizzle's class is growing a beautiful garden. But, Phoebe's plot is empty. Her flowers are back at her old school! So, the class climbs aboard the Magic School Bus. And, of course, the kids don't only go back to Phoebe's school, but they go inside one of Phoebe's flowers! Ages 6-9.

  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.
  Text and drawings explain how flowers mature into seed-bearing fruit. Age 8+.
  Dig, weed, plant, water, wait, watch, enjoy—a child's perspective about the life of a sunflower is shown in vivid photographs of a little girl in her garden. Ages 5-7.
  A child describes the growth of a maple tree from seed to sapling. A special glossary explains how roots absorb nutrients, what photosynthesis is, how sap circulates, and other facts about trees. Ages 5-8.
  A young girl plants a sunflower seed, waters it, and watches it grow. Ages 3-6.
  Discusses the growth and cultivation of apple trees and the development, harvesting, and storage of apples. Ages 9-11.
  Uses observations of bean seeds planted in eggshells to demonstrate the growth of seeds into plants. Ages 5-6.
  A small boy plants a carrot seed, only to be told by his family members that it won't grow. The little boy ignores the family, continues to tend his seed, and is rewarded one day with a HUGE carrot. This story about belief in oneself has been enjoyed by children for more than two decades. Ages 5-8.
  Describes how seeds are formed, how they grow, what they look like, how they reproduce, and how they make food and provides instructions for related hands-on science projects. Ages 12+.
  Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.
  Ages 5-7.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Traces the lifecycle of ferns and gives advice on raising them. Ages 6+.

42. Sunlight and Shades of Green
  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.
  Describes the structure and purpose of leaves, the ways in which they change as part of the natural cycle of the seasons, and the process that creates their autumn colors.
  Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.

43. Have Seeds, Will Travel
  Identifies many types of trees and describes how they grow and the kinds of leaves, fruits, and seeds they produce. Includes suggested experiments and projects. Ages 7-9.
  Text and drawings explain how flowers mature into seed-bearing fruit. Age 8+.
  Through many brightly covered transparent pages, the young child is introduced to the truly fascinating world of trees. Ages 4-8.
  An award-winning photo-essay that shows the many ways plants spread their seeds. Ages 7-11.
  Discusses various parts of trees and their functions, including the bark, sapwood tubes, roots, and leaves. Ages 5-8.
  Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.
  Ages 5-7.
  Children learn that plants grow both from seeds we plant and from those that are carried by wind, water, animals, car tires – even by themselves! Reading recovery level 13.

44. Water Wonders
**Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities**

  As Small Cloud is born to Singing River and Big Sun, travels across the country, and evolves into rain, the hydrologic cycle is symbolized. Ages 5-8.
  Identifies some of the places water is found, from the obvious (rivers, lakes, rain, ice) to the not so obvious (clouds, dew, a tear). Ages 4-8.
- **Berger, Melvin. Amazing Water.** Newbridge.
  Explains how water is transformed from a liquid to both a solid and a gas as seen in snow, rain, fog, hail, clouds, and ice. Reading recovery level 13.
  Explains how the water cycle leads to different types of weather patterns. Ages 5-8.
  Discusses various weather phenomena, including rain, hail, smog, snow, lightning, hurricanes, and tornadoes. Ages 9-11.
  Describes how a river begins and grows and how it influences the land that it flows through. Also discusses the many ways people use rivers and the importance of keeping them clean and unpolluted. Ages 5-9.
  Alternates factual information on the ecological aspects of water with activities and experiments, covering such areas as the behavior of warm water, acid rain, and pond life. Ages 12+.
  Helpful in understanding the importance of water to the formation of and continuation of life on Earth, and the need to protect this vital resource, all the while stimulating the imagination with a fantastic voyage through time. Ages 9-12.
  Demonstrates the many uses of water, where it comes from, how it is wasted, and why it is vital to the survival of living things. Ages 9-11.
  Brief text and illustrations describe a rainstorm. Ages 4-7.
  Clouds of many shapes and sizes drift and dance across the sky. Includes factual information on the formation and different kinds of clouds. Ages preK+.
  Water speaks of its existence in such forms as storm clouds, mist, rainbows, and rivers. Includes factual information on the water cycle. Ages 3-6.
**Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities**

Journey from Maine to Mumbai with one raindrop as it touches plant, animal, and human life all around the world. Traveling with Drop, readers will see the world, inside and out, from solid, liquid, and vaporous viewpoint. Ages 4-8.


- Serfozo, Mary. *Rain Talk*. Margaret McElderberry Books. 1990. A child enjoys a glorious day in the rain, listening to the varied sounds it makes as it comes down. Ages 4-7.

- Simon, Seymour. *Icebergs and Glaciers*. Morrow. 1987. Discusses the formation, movement, and different types of glaciers and icebergs and describes their effect on the world around them.

- Tressalt, Alvin. *Rain Drop Splash*. Mulberry Books. 1946. Follows the rain as it travels through a pond, a brook, a lake, and a river down to the sea. Ages 6+.


- Williams, Terry. *The Secret Language of Snow*. Sierra Club/Patheon. 1984. Examines over a dozen different types of snow and snowy conditions through the vocabulary of the Inuit people of Alaska. Discusses the physical properties and formation of snow and how it affects plants, animals, and people of the Arctic.

- Yolen, Jane. *Water Music: Poems for Children*. Boyds Mill Press. 1995. The pictures illustrate water in all its forms, and the poems are Yolen's responses. From dewdrops to raindrops, from a trickling stream to Niagara Falls, from a froth of soap bubbles to a puddle to a lake, from icicles to steam-water is music.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

45. Web of Life

  A forgotten homework assignment, a soggy shoe, and a tuna fish sandwich set the scene for another zany Magic School Bus adventure, as Arnold and Keesha travel to the depths of the ocean and end up in the belly of a tuna. Their excursion teaches them about the food chain, but how are they going to get back to Ms. Frizzle and the gang to give their report? Ages 6-9.
- **Berger, Melvin. The Web of Life**, Newbridge.
  All plants and animals depend in some way upon others – from the tiniest insect to the largest mammal. Students learn this and the part each has to play. Leveled reader: guided reading level N.
  Birds, people, bats, and other living things interact naturally with an oak tree over a period of twenty-four hours. Ages 5-6.
- **Freeman, Marcia S. Predators and Prey**, Newbridge.
  Finding food is hard work for animals in the wild. Students learn some of the amazing ways these animals catch their prey for every meal. Reading recovery level 19.
  When a family of wolves is removed from the food chain on a small island, the impact on the island's ecology is felt by the other animals living there. Ages 4-8.
  How lakes are formed and their relation to the ecological balance in nature. Ages 8+.
  Discusses the food cycle and interrelationships of the living things in a pond. Gives suggestions for identifying and observing plants and animals. Ages 8+.
  Frogs, fish, a turtle, and other creatures who live in or around a river state their need for the river, making a plea for protecting this natural resource. Ages 5-7.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Describes the relationship between insects that eat plant nectar and the flowers that benefit from their aid in pollination. Ages 8-12.

  A heartfelt, impassioned plea for the return of the wolf to the territories it once roamed. Hirschi makes frequent references to the respect Native Americans have long held for this intelligent predator, and cites the role wolves play in maintaining proper balances in a natural world. Ages 9-12.

  Text and illustrations describe the many ways that flowers are pollinated with emphasis on the role of bees in this important process. Ages 8-11.

  Explains the concept of a food chain and how plants, animals, and humans are ecologically linked. Ages 5-9.

  Answers questions about interacting areas of a forest. Ages 10+.

  Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.

  A young girl learns about predators and prey in the animal world when her cat Mouser is killed by a coyote. Ages 9-12.


  A young boy finds a salamander and thinks of the many things he can do to make a perfect home for it. Ages 4-8.

- Prince, Sarah. What’s For Dinner? Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 3.

  Ages 10+.

  Describes a number of small self-contained communities, including a sand dune, tidal pool, old barn, and vacant lot, and examines the ways in which the plants and animals interact. Ages 10+.

  Discusses the plants and animals that live in forests. Includes the weasel, giant wood wasp, and slippery jack mushroom. Ages 8+.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Traces the life cycle of an oak tree and describes the animals that depend on it for shelter and food. Ages 5-8.

  Students visit a pond and observe plants and animals that make their homes there. Metamorphosis, the food chain, and camouflage are introduced. Reading recovery level 14.

46. School Yard Safari
  Book of poetry about nature. Ages 4+.
  Crinkleroot the forest dweller provides tips for walking in wild places and avoiding such hazards as ticks, poisonous plants, and wild animals. Ages 5-12.
  A rascally squirrel has an indoor adventure in a city apartment. Ages 3-6.
  Rhymed text (crunch, munch, caterpillars lunch) presents a toddler's view of creatures found in the grass from lunchtime till nightfall, such as bees, ants, and moles. Ages 3-6.
  Informative, useful field guide reveals the amazing biodiversity within city and suburban landscapes, including trees, insects and other invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Ages 8+.
  Describes the wildlife commonly found in a variety of urban environments, including backyards, vacant lots, parks, and city margins. Ages 8+.
  Text and photographs introduce the sights and sounds of life on the prairie, including the prairie dog, dancing birds, and long-tailed weasel. Ages 12+.
  Answers questions about interacting areas of a forest. Ages 10+.
  Children learn that nature is all around them. Whether their backyard is a park, a seashore, or a patch of grass, it’s full of discoveries waiting to be made. Reading recovery level 22.
- Lunis, Natalie. Life in Your Backyard, Newbridge.
  Students discover that every backyard, vacant lot, and playground is a wildlife habitat filled with plants and animals to explore. Leveled reader: guided reading level N.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Expects how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small section of the woods. Ages 6-9.

  Describes a number of small self-contained communities, including a sand dune, tidal pool, old barn, and vacant lot, and examines the ways in which the plants and animals interact. Ages 10+.

47. Are Vacant Lots Vacant?

  Book of poetry about nature. Ages 4+.
  A rascally squirrel has an indoor adventure in a city apartment. Ages 3-6.
  Rhymed text (crunch, munch, caterpillars lunch) presents a toddler's view of creatures found in the grass from lunchtime till nightfall, such as bees, ants, and moles. Ages 3-6.
  The words of these 51 poems (i.e. Vacant Lot) are arranged on the pages in shapes appropriate to the subjects of the poems. Ages 12+.
  Informative, useful field guide reveals the amazing biodiversity within city and suburban landscapes, including trees, insects and other invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Ages 8+.
  Describes the wildlife commonly found in a variety of urban environments, including backyards, vacant lots, parks, and city margins. Ages 8+.
  An exploration of the variety of creatures living in an assortment of habitats near human dwellings. Grades 1-3.
  Students discover that every backyard, vacant lot, and playground is a wildlife habitat filled with plants and animals to explore. Leveled reader: guided reading level N.
  Includes general information, jokes, and brief descriptions of the physical characteristics, habits, and natural environment of a variety of common insects. Ages 5-8.
  Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small section of the woods. Ages 6-9.

48. Field, Forest, and Stream
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Introduces different wildlife habitats, including wetlands, woodlands, cornfields, and grasslands. Ages 5-10.
  Alternates factual information on the ecological aspects of water with activities and experiments, covering such areas as the behavior of warm water, acid rain, and pond life. Ages 12+.
  Investigates the plant and animal life found in ponds and streams and suggests related experiments and activities. Ages 12+.
  Explores the levels of life in a pond from the muddy shore to the murky bottom. Ages 6-10.
  Rhymed text (crunch, munch, caterpillars lunch) presents a toddler's view of creatures found in the grass from lunchtime till nightfall, such as bees, ants, and moles. Ages 3-6.
  The animals on a prairie wildlife refuge sense an approaching tornado and seek protection before it touches down and destroys everything in its path. Ages 7-10.
  Take a walk of discovery along the path to a pond. A page of text discusses clues left by an unseen animal, ending with the question, "Who's been here?" The opposite page presents the information in visual form, with the follow-up double-page spread revealing the animal. Ages 3+.
- George, Lindsay Barrett. *In the Snow: Who's Been Here?* Greenwillow. 1995.
  Companion book to *In the Woods: Who's Been Here?*, William and Cammy take another journey of discovery. Clue after clue tells them and young readers what bird or animal has been there before and left its trace behind. Ages 3+.
  Siblings William and Cammy set off on an autumnal walk through the woods near their house. Although they don't see any wildlife on their trek, they do observe traces of creatures' activities--including a northern oriole's nest, the remains of a red squirrel's meal, a monarch butterfly's cocoon, and a mud dauber's home. Two of the examples involve predator-prey relationships that may upset very young listeners, but for most children this will be an excellent introduction to classroom nature units and the perfect prelude to a walk in the woods. Ages 4+.
  How lakes are formed and their relation to the ecological balance in nature. Ages 8+.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Text and photographs introduce the sights and sounds of life on the prairie, including the prairie dog, dancing birds, and long-tailed weasel. Ages 12+.

  Describes the gradual transformation of a cleared farm field into a dense forest. Ages 5-8.

  What do flowers in a meadow look like to a bee? How does the world appear to a snake who "sees" by detecting minute temperature changes? What is it like to live in the water strider's two-dimensional universe? Including hands-on games and activities. Ages 6+.

  This book takes us through the year in the tallgrass prairie, from the first awakenings of spring, through the glory of summer, the last blooms of autumn, and the dormancy of winter. Ages 5+.

  Three children accompany their father in a canoe and explore the plant and animal life along a river near their home. Ages 5+.

  Ages 6-11.

  Describes the many varieties of plants and animals that live in a pond. Ages 7-9.

  Photographs and text introduce the animals, insects, and plants in a forest. Ages 6+.

  Examines the animals, plants, and ecology of a typical American meadow. Ages 6+.

  Ages 8-12.

  A small boy experiences, along with the animals of meadow and forest, the sights, smells, and sounds of a rainy summer day. Ages 5-8.

  Discusses the plants and animals that live in forests. Includes the weasel, giant wood wasp, and slippery jack mushroom. Ages 8+.

  Examines, in text and photographs, the various animals and plants that live in and along a river. Ages 8-12.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

A simple introduction to the plant and animal life that flourishes in a marsh. Ages 6-9.

49. Tropical Treehouse
   - **Step Inside the Rainforest.** Sundance.
     Students visit the rain forest and meet many of the exotic and diverse animals and plants that live in that fragile ecosystem. Grades PreK-2.
     Describes the importance of rain forests, types of plant and animal life that live there, and how rain forests are threatened by deforestation. Ages 8-12.
     This inspired look at what the Kapok tree means to the creatures that live in it—and what rain forests mean to the world's ecology—was at the forefront of the ecological movement ten years ago and continues to resonate profoundly with children everywhere. Ages 10+.
     Kamanya believes in the shaman's wisdom about the healing properties of plants found in the Amazon rain forest and hopes one day to be a healer for his people. Ages 6-10.
     Ages 4-8.
     Cumulative text presents the animals and plants of the tropical rain forest and their relationship with one another and their environment. Ages 4-6.
     Always remembering how the monkeys in her Costa Rican valley disappeared when all the trees were cut down, Marta grows up, plants more trees, and sees the monkeys come back. Ages 5-8.
     Pictures describe rainforest life. Ages 9-12.
     Explains why rainforests are shrinking, how their wildlife is endangered, and why they and their wildlife are important.
     Provides a colorful, stimulating way of learning about the exotic animals and plants of the rainforest. Presented in an alphabet style format, each page consists of an illustration of a different rainforest species, together with a paragraph of intriguing facts about the lifestyle and habitat of the plant or animal. Ages 5-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Explores a tropical rain forest in an entrancing poem full of internal rhyme, alliteration, and evocative images. Ages 5-9.

50. 400-Acre Wood

  Presents opposing viewpoints about various aspects of forestry, including the management of national forests and the question of how much damage is done by logging and acid rain. Ages 9-12.
  Describes the events surrounding the wildfire that raged in New Mexico in 2000 and the resulting debate over the policy of prescribed burning, or purposely setting fires as a means of forest management. Ages 12+.
  Examines the nature, history, and management of natural resources ranging from soil and water to forests, wildlife, and marine resources. Includes suggested activities and discussion of occupations in the field. Ages 12+.
  Provides an introduction to various nature-related careers, using portraits of people working in such jobs as environmental scientist, farmer, commercial fisher, and camp director. Ages 3-6.
  Traces the careers of three women involved in public land management and outlines opportunities for those interested in this field. Ages 12+.

51. Make Your Own Paper

  Ages 8-12.
  Clever Calvin and his friend Renee describe the entire process of making paper from the trees in the forest to the machines at the mill and provide instructions for a project to make paper from old newspapers. Ages 5-7.
  Describes how paper is made, beginning in a forest and ending in a paper mill. Ages 5-8.
  Step-by-step instructions for various methods of making decorative paper using materials found around the house and simple equipment that can be bought or constructed. Ages 7+.
  Ages 8-11.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities


52. A Look At Aluminum
- Kouhoupt, Rudy, Donald B. Marti, and Donald B. Marti Jr. How On Earth Do We Recycle Metal? Millbrook. 1992. Examines the problems associated with the disposal of metal waste and describes how it can be recycled by creating objects such as jewelry, weathervanes, and Christmas ornaments. Ages 9-11.
- MacGregor, Cynthia. Recycling a Can. Rosen. 2002. Follows an aluminum can from the time it is collected for recycling, through ninety days of different processing steps, to a new can that is ready for use. Ages 8+.
- Palmer, Joy A. Recycling Metal. Scholastic. 1991. Explains the environmental problems that result from the manufacture and disposal of everyday items made of metal and shows how the recycling of these objects can reduce these threats. Ages 10-12.

53. On The Move
- Piper, Watty. The Little Engine that Could. Putnam. 1976. The tale that turned "I think I can" into a watchword for determination and stick-to-it-iveness, this children's classic recounts the story of a valiant little engine that comes to the rescue of a stranded train. Ages 3-10.
- Reynolds, Quentin. The Wright Brothers. Random House. 1997. Follow the inspiring story of two brothers who believed that men could fly. Refusing to give up their dream, Wilbur and Orville Wright, two self-
taught bicycle mechanics, built—and successfully flew—the world's first airplane. Ages 10+.

  In 1872, English gentleman Phileas Fogg has many adventures as he tries to win a bet that he can travel around the world in eighty days.

  Discusses the environmental and conservation aspects of modern transportation. Ages 10+.

54. I’d Like to Visit A Place Where…

  Marcy and Miss Rosa start a campaign to clean up an empty lot and turn it into a community garden. Ages 5-8.

  Explains what a park is, how and why parks are built or preserved, and why parks are important to us, using examples of different kinds of parks from around the country. Ages 5-8.

  A photo essay tracing the urban gardening movement in the United States, with a special focus on the Sixth Street and Avenue B Garden in Manhattan. Ages 8-12.

  Celebrating nearby nature and the marvels of our own backyards, this book helps you introduce children to the world that surrounds them. Ages 5-12.

  More than one hundred poems describing the beauty and splendor of the wilderness, written by some of the world's most famous poets. Ages 10+.

  When the great cities of North America were being developed, there was little thought to creating “green spaces.” Frederick Law Olmsted combined his childhood love for nature with the structured beauty of the great parks of London and Paris to turn a neglected, swampy area into one of the most acclaimed parks in North America: Central Park in New York City. Ages 5-8.

55. Planning the Ideal community

- Communities. Newbridge. Reading recovery level 19.
- My Community. Evan-Moor. 1996.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

What a community is, and what it means to be a part of it, are two of the important questions answered for young students in this complete thematic unit. Ages 6-8.

  There's so much a child already knows about his or her neighborhood and so much yet to learn. This unit helps you guide them through the learning process that will build communication and navigation skills, as well as an awareness of community and safety considerations. Ages 5-8.

  Each spread features the window of Sam's room, from which the reader can see the landscape being destroyed as Sam grows up--forest and animals are replaced by neighbors and houses, factories are built, graffiti is scribbled on walls and other problems indigenous to populous cities appear. Grades 1+.

  The little house first stood in the country, but gradually the city moved closer and closer. Ages 3-5.

- Flanagan, Alice K. Mr. Paul and Mr. Luecke Build Communities. Scholastic. 1999.
  Describes the activities of a real estate developer and a master carpenter who plan and build new houses in a community. Ages 6-7.

  Explorations of how modern homes and communities have been shaped by such forces as sense of place, historical and cultural connections to buildings, and ethnic traditions lead students to understand the modern man-made world. Ages 10+.

56. We Can Work It Out

  Uses native testimony and native texts to show how 'animal masters' and natural gardening protect the land from overuse, how living space is patterned, how human reproduction is controlled, and how the sun is viewed as the overlord of a closed energy system from which nothing may be removed without 'payment.' Ages 12+.

  Examines the ways in which land is used around the world, for farming, industry, habitation, transportation, and other purposes. Ages 9-11.

  Ages 12+.

  Describes the many ways in which human beings harm the land and discusses some possible ways of correcting and preventing these abuses. Ages 12+.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

57. Democracy In Action
     Democracy, its history, political developments, and the future of this governmental perspective make up the content of this fine book. Ages 9-12.
   • Maestro, Betsy C. The Voice of the People: Democracy in Action. Lothrop, Lee and Shepard. 1996.
     A basic guide to voting and the election process in the United States. Ages 5-8.
     Discusses the concept of democracy as it has developed in America and abroad. Ages 10+.

58. There Ought to Be A Law
     Describes how the wildlife detectives at the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon, analyze clues to catch and convict people responsible for crimes against animals. Ages 8-12.
     Looks at our government's environmental policies regarding the protection of endangered species, management of federal wilderness areas, and the disposal of garbage. Presents both sides of the political argument. Account is based primarily on newspaper and magazines articles. Ages 12+.
   • Schrecengost, Maity. Researching Issues. Highsmith. 2002
     Written for the middle school student who needs to research and report on an issue of significance or controversy, which could be anything from school violence to bioethics to drug laws to environmental policy. Ages 12+.
     Ages 12+.

59. Power of Print
     Presents opposing viewpoints about various aspects of forestry, including the management of national forests and the question of how much damage is done by logging and acid rain. Ages 9-12.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Written specifically to counter the book "The Lorax", by Dr. Seuss. It is an encounter between Guardbark, protector of trees, and Truax, the logger. In a fast paced, fun, rhythm and rhyme style, the book addresses issues such as harvesting trees, regeneration, old growth, biodiversity, endangered species and other forestry issues. Ages 10+.

  In this classic story, the Once-ler describes how his greedy actions destroyed a beautiful and thriving environment. Children will enjoy the colorful characters and rhyming verse and adults will appreciate the subtle messages about the negative effects of deforestation, habitat destruction, and air and water pollution. Ages 4+.

  Presents real-world issues and examples as a means of fostering the development of skills necessary to think critically and understand complex issues. Examines population and migration, consumption and the quality of life, energy use and conservation, air pollution and climate change, the hydrosphere and water pollution, and living resources. Ages 12+.

  Looks at our government's environmental policies regarding the protection of endangered species, management of federal wilderness areas, and the disposal of garbage. Presents both sides of the political argument. Account is based primarily on newspaper and magazines articles. Ages 12+.

  Written for the middle school student who needs to research and report on an issue of significance or controversy, which could be anything from school violence to bioethics to drug laws to environmental policy. Ages 12+.

60. Publicize It!

  Resource guide for children for learning political action skills that can help them make a difference in solving social problems at the community, state, and national levels. Ages 12+.

  An overview of the environmental problems of land, atmosphere, water, energy, plants, animals, and people. Includes projects and a section on becoming an environmental activist. Ages 10+.

  Written for the middle school student who needs to research and report on an issue of significance or controversy, which could be anything from school violence to bioethics to drug laws to environmental policy. Ages 12+. 
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

61. The Closer You Look
     An illustrated introduction to trees and woodlands with information on how to identify the bark and the leaves, the many ways that animals use trees, and how to read the individual history that shapes every tree. Ages 5-12.
     Birds, people, bats, and other living things interact naturally with an oak tree over a period of twenty-four hours. Ages 5-6.
     Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.
     Follows the development of a large old maple tree from its growth from a seed during the American Revolution to its maturity in the late twentieth century. Ages 10+.
     Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.
     Discusses various parts of trees and their functions, including the bark, sapwood tubes, roots, and leaves. Ages 5-8.
     Three children observe the forest, including a giant oak, throughout the year. Ages 7-11.
     Poem that celebrate trees in all their varied glory, from the sun-drenched yellows and greens of fresh buds to the flame reds of autumn maples, to the brittle, icy blues and whites of winter-coated branches. Ages 3-7.
     Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.
     Photographs and text introduce the animals, insects, and plants in a forest. Ages 6+.
     Explains how to investigate the plant and animal life found in a small section of the woods. Ages 6-9.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons. Ages 4-7.

62. To Be A Tree
- Berger, Melvin. Life in a Tree. Newbridge. Children learn the parts of a tree and get a close-up look at the plants and animals that depend on trees for food and shelter. Reading recovery level 16.
- Johnson, Sylvia A. How Leaves Change. Lerner Publications. 1986. Describes the structure and purpose of leaves, the ways in which they change as part of the natural cycle of the seasons, and the process that creates their autumn colors.

63. Tree Factory
- Berger, Melvin. Life in a Tree. Newbridge. Children learn the parts of a tree and get a close-up look at the plants and animals that depend on trees for food and shelter. Reading recovery level 16.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

- Branley, Franklyn M. Roots are Food Finders. Thomas Y. Crowell Co. 1975.
  Explains in simple terms the function and importance of roots and root hairs on a plant. Ages 5-8.
  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.
  Discusses various parts of trees and their functions, including the bark, sapwood tubes, roots, and leaves. Ages 5-8.
  Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.

64. Looking At Leaves
  Identifies many types of trees and describes how they grow and the kinds of leaves, fruits, and seeds they produce. Includes suggested experiments and projects. Ages 7-9.
  As Freddie experiences the changing seasons along with his companion leaves, he learns about the delicate balance between life and death. Ages 4-8.
  Tells about the structure of trees and how they grow, as well as their uses. Ages 5-8.
  Describes the structure and purpose of leaves, the ways in which they change as part of the natural cycle of the seasons, and the process that creates their autumn colors.
  Discusses various parts of trees and their functions, including the bark, sapwood tubes, roots, and leaves. Ages 5-8.
  Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.

65. Bursting Buds
  Students see how apples grow and are harvested, shipped, and sold. The parts of a flower, pollination, and the seasons are also introduced. Reading recovery level 13.
  Discusses various parts of trees and their functions, including the bark, sapwood tubes, roots, and leaves. Ages 5-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.

66. Germinating Giants
     Presents facts about the giant sequoia trees, including how they grow, the circumstances of their “discovery,” how their age is determined, and how forest fires actually help them. Ages 5-9.
     The Ancient Ones tells the tale of an old-growth forest. Ages 8-11.
   • Downden, Anne Ophelia. From Flower to Fruit. Thomas Y. Crowell Co. 1984.
     Text and drawings explain how flowers mature into seed-bearing fruit. Age 8+.
     Uses observations of bean seeds planted in eggshells to demonstrate the growth of seeds into plants. Ages 5-6.
     Ages 5-7.
     Children learn that plants grow both from seeds we plant and from those that are carried by wind, water, animals, car tires – even by themselves!
     Reading recovery level 13.

67. How Big Is Your Tree?
   • Canizares, Susan and Pamela Chanko. Look at This Tree. Scholastic. 1997.
     Photographs and simple text explore the diversity of trees, including their environment, shapes, and sizes.
     Provides information on a variety of developments in the plant world, from trees of record-breaking size to plants that eat animals. Ages 8-12.
   • Hindley, Judy. Little and Big. Candlewick. 1996.
     Several children compare sizes of each other, walls, houses, trees, and tunnels. Ages 3-6.
   • Manning, Mick and Brita Granstrom. What’s Up?. Scholastic. 1997.
     Introduces the concepts of atmosphere and altitude by taking the reader gradually higher, from people's height to that of stairs, trees, buildings, mountains, the moon, and stars. Ages 5-8.

68. Name That Tree
     Identifies many types of trees and describes how they grow and the kinds of leaves, fruits, and seeds they produce. Includes suggested experiments and projects. Ages 7-9.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Introduces the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as the kinds of
trees and their place in the environment. Ages 5-9.

69. Forest For The Trees
  Discusses the growth and cultivation of apple trees and the development,
  harvesting, and storage of apples. Ages 9-11.
  Describes the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm in Rhode
  Island throughout each season of the year. Ages 5-8.
• Pringle, Laurence. Fire in the Forest: A Cycle of Growth and Renewal. Simon
  and Schuster. 1995.
  Depicts, in text and illustrations, the stages of fire and regrowth in a
  Western lodgepole pine forest over a period of three hundred years. Also
  discusses the fire cycle and the role of fire in forest ecology. Ages 8-11.

70. Soil Stories
• Rocks and Soil. Newbridge.
  Students examine various kinds of rocks and learn how rocks contribute to
  the creation of the soil that plants and animals depend on. Reading
  recovery level 16.
  Soil may not be alive, but amazingly, multitudes of microscopic creatures
  live there, battling it out in an eat-or-be-eaten world. These tiny creatures,
  invisible to our eyes, provide food for the insects that in turn feed the
  reptiles and mammals that live in and above the soil. Ages 8-12.
• Hooper, Meredith. The Pebble in My Pocket: A History of Our Earth. Viking
  Childrens Books. 1996.
  A girl finds a pebble on the ground and asks, "Where did you come from,
  pebble?" The answer unfolds through words and pictures. Grades 3-5.
  Describes different types of soils, their composition, where they are found,
  and the plants and animals that live in and on them. Grades 5-9.
  Discusses the nature, uses, and importance of soil and the many forms of
  life that it supports. Ages 5-9.
  Describes the characteristics and habits of various insects, birds, and other
  animals that clean up waste materials in the environment and thus ensure
  that life as we know it continues on the earth. Ages 9-11.
  Concentrates on the importance of topsoil and describes the complex
  interactions of plants and animals that maintain this resource's viability. In
  her discussion of the impact of humans on the Earth, she crosses the
  scientific with the social.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

71. Watch on Wetlands

  Appelt has written a rhythmic, soothing lullaby for a little girl who lives in a house by the banks of the bayou Ages 4-8.
  Beginning with an eloquent introduction to the Everglades, this collection of 20 poems transports readers to that unique place and challenges them to look at it intently, often through the eyes of creatures living there. Ages 4-8.
  Describes how a river begins and grows and how it influences the land that it flows through. Also discusses the many ways people use rivers and the importance of keeping them clean and unpolluted. Ages 5-9.
  Alternates factual information on the ecological aspects of water with activities and experiments, covering such areas as the behavior of warm water, acid rain, and pond life. Ages 12+.
  The story of how an elementary school in Washington state “adopted” a polluted stream that had once been a spawning ground for salmon. Ages 9-12.
  Explores the levels of life in a pond from the muddy shore to the murky bottom. Ages 6-10.
- Dunphy, Madeleine. *Here is the Wetland*. Hyperion. 1996.
  Uses a cumulative approach to describe the wetland ecology of a freshwater marsh, the most common type of wetland in North America. Ages 5-8.
  Children learn that wetlands prevent floods, provide food and clean water, and are home to many plants and animals. Reading recovery level 16.
  The Florida Everglades is a unique ecosystem -- nowhere else in the world can such an environment be found. This book tells the story of this living kaleidoscope of color and beauty: from its creation as a blue-green sea through its evolution to a miraculous river, the home of egrets, orchids, and alligators. Ages 4-8.
  One hot summer day, a mother alligator and a mother spoonbill leave their babies and go into the swamp to look for food. Suddenly, the alligator spies the bright pink feathers of the spoonbill. Will the spoonbill get away? Ages 4-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Frogs, fish, a turtle, and other creatures who live in or around a river state their need for the river, making a plea for protecting this natural resource. Ages 5-7.

  He is a blue-bellied toad hopping aimlessly through life. She is a sad peach yearning for escape and adventure. Then one remarkable day, Peach and Blue explore the pond that Blue calls home and awaken each other to a world neither has ever really seen before. Ages 3-7.

  Two young boys and their grandfather go on a camping trip to find the source of the river that flows by their home. Ages 4-8.

  In simple poetic language describes what a wetland is, indicates the animals that call a wetland home, and tells why wetlands are important to us. But even more, a wetland is a marvelous, muddy adventure. Ages 4-8.

  When a construction project forces the frogs to lose their pond, they venture into the city to find a new home. Ages 5-7.

  Follow the Mississippi River from its source to the Gulf of Mexico. Maps and photos help children see where the river travels and what it provides. Reading recovery level 19.

  Students visit a pond and observe plants and animals that make their homes there. Metamorphosis, the food chain, and camouflage are introduced. Reading recovery level 14.

  A simple introduction to the plant and animal life that flourishes in a marsh. Ages 6-9.

72. Air We Breathe

  Explores the debates surrounding air pollution, discussing its causes and prevention. Ages 12+.

  Ages 9-12.

  How much do you know about air? Do you know what air does? This "Let's Explore" book will tell you everything you need to know about air including, what it is, the different forms it can take, using it to fly and even air pollution. Ages 5-8.

  Explains what hazardous wastes are, how they are produced, and why it is difficult to dispose of them. Ages 4-8. ISBN 0516055062.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

73. Waste Watchers
     Surveys the treatment of household waste and some possible future solutions to the growing problem of its disposal. Ages 12+.
     The Wump World is an unspoiled place until huge monsters bring hordes of tiny creatures from the planet Pollutus. Ages 4+.
     Explains how people create too much waste and how waste is now recycled and put into landfills.
     Explains what hazardous wastes are, how they are produced, and why it is difficult to dispose of them. Ages 4-8. ISBN 0516055062.

74. People, Places, and Things
     Includes Fire Boats, Park Rangers, Lifeguards, School Secretaries, Security Guards, We Need Construction Workers, etc. Ages 6-9.
     Bear heads into town every day. He stops at different places (bakery, pool, movie theater, gym, toy store and the park). His outings provide an opportunity to learn the days of the week as well as the ins and outs of a town. Ages 3-6.
     Charlie and his mother walk around the neighborhood doing errands so that Charlie can write in his notebook about the people and places that make up his community. Ages 5-7.
     As students learn about the people and places within their communities, they will also build on the concepts of cooperation, living with diversity and change, and making a personal contribution for the common good. - from the Introduction. Ages 6-9.
     An alphabetical introduction to the basic concepts of community, such as "Buildings," "Family," "Rules," and "Working Together." Ages 7-8.
     Activities and crafts for children to complete to learn about the roles of people and places in their town and community. Some of the projects are A Police Officer's Ticket book, Big Red Fire Engine, Train Tracks, Judge's Gavel, Paper Airplane and even an ice cream cone. Ages 5-8.
     Describes various kinds of workers in a community and explains the service which persons in each occupation provide. Ages 5-6.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Simple, humorous rhymes suggest some of the occupations that help people in a community. Ages 5-8.
  Silly rhymes introduce what goes on at such places in a community as the library, post office, grocery store, and school. Ages 5-8.

75. Tepee Talk
  Describes how an Ojibwa family build a summer home out of birchbark, gather with extended family to harvest rice in the autumn, treat an attack of smallpox during the winter and make maple syrup in the spring to stock their own larder and to sell to others. Ages 10-14.
  Ages 12+.
  Inspired by the life of Henry David Thoreau, and illustrated with nature-filled paintings by author and artist D. B. Johnson, Henry Builds a Cabin is a thoughtful and beautiful meditation on what a home can be. Ages 5-8.
  Describes various types of homes around the world. Ages 6-7.
  A simple discussion of different kinds of houses and what makes them homes. Ages 5-8.
  Describes the individual rooms in a house and what they mean to those who use them. Ages 4-8.
  Ages 8+.
  Describes a number of shelters constructed from different types of materials and suitable to varying climates, including tepees, yurts, log cabins, stone houses, and igloos. Ages 12+.

76. Tree Cookies
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Presents facts about the giant sequoia trees, including how they grow, the circumstances of their "discovery," how their age is determined, and how forest fires actually help them. Ages 5-9.

  An illustrated introduction to trees and woodlands with information on how to identify the bark and the leaves, the many ways that animals use trees, and how to read the individual history that shapes every tree. Ages 5-12.

  Describes the history of Arbor Day and how it is celebrated. Ages 5-9.

  A cumulative tale in which a tree that is home to a singing mockingbird continues to be a source of music after it is fashioned into a fiddle. Ages 5-8.

  *The Grandpa Tree* is about a pine tree mighty pine tree that takes care of the younger pine trees around it. Ages 4-8.

  Follows the development of a large old maple tree from its growth from a seed during the American Revolution to its maturity in the late twentieth century. Ages 10+.

  Through many brightly covered transparent pages, the young child is introduced to the truly fascinating world of trees. Ages 4-8.

  Year after year, the plum tree which the farmer planted is witness to the continuing generations of his family. Ages 5-8.

  Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.

  Discusses various parts of trees and their functions, including the bark, sapwood tubes, roots, and leaves. Ages 5-8.


  The story plots the march of time as major events in history unfold next to the growth of an ever-living sequoia. Ages 5-8.

77. Trees in Trouble

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Trees are vital to the health of the Earth but they are disappearing at an alarming rate. Why is this happening and what can be done to protect them? This colorful book provides a simple yet fascinating introduction to the conservation of trees and forests. Ages 7-10.

  Ms. Frizzle and the kids are off on an adventure to the wet and wonderful rain forest. Their mission: to find out why Ms. Frizzle's cocoa tree has stopped growing cocoa beans. Could there be a cocoa bean thief in the rain forest? Or is there some other reason the healthy tree has suddenly lost its beans? Ages 5-7.

- **Pike, Norman.** *The Peach Tree.* Stemmer House. 1994.
  When a little peach tree is suddenly threatened by a horde of healthy and hungry young aphids, Farmer Pomeroy calls in a horde of equally healthy and hungry young ladybugs and restores the balance of nature. This is a fine lesson in ecology, charmingly making the point in story form that all creatures, great and Small, are dependent on one another for survival. Ages 5-8.

  The ecology of a log. Ages 10+.

78. Signs of Fall

- **Changes All Around Us.** National Geographic Society. 2003.
- **Fall.** Newbridge. 2003.
  This collection of poems, told from the perspective of a young girl, celebrates family life throughout the yearly cycle of seasons. Ages 3-6.
  Nicky's adventures in the woods and fields introduce the reader to the seasonal changes in plants and animals. Ages 12+.
  An illustrated introduction to trees and woodlands with information on how to identify the bark and the leaves, the many ways that animals use trees, and how to read the individual history that shapes every tree. Ages 5-12.
  Oil paintings which depict the forest at different times of the day during the fall & winter. Text discusses the plants & animals that call the forest home. Ages 6+.
  Ages 5-8.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

- Describes the changes in plants and animals in the spring. Ages 4-8.
    Students follow the patterns of birth, growth, and change during the seasons. They see how the seasons affect plants and animals, and even themselves! Reading recovery level 14.
    As Freddie experiences the changing seasons along with his companion leaves, he learns about the delicate balance between life and death. Ages 4-8.
    A little boy watches the wind through the four seasons of the year. Ages 5-7.
    A simple explanation of what happens to various plants in winter. Ages 5-8.
    A child describes the growth of a maple tree from seed to sapling. A special glossary explains how roots absorb nutrients, what photosynthesis is, how sap circulates, and other facts about trees. Ages 5-8.
    Illustrations and rhyming text describe the activities of animals living in and near a small pond as spring progresses to autumn. Ages 2+.
    On the first day of spring a mother and daughter climb a hill and celebrate the cycles of nature, from the pattern of seed to flower to the rising and setting of the sun. Ages 5-8.
    Through many brightly covered transparent pages, the young child is introduced to the truly fascinating world of trees. Ages 4-8.
    Describes the structure and purpose of leaves, the ways in which they change as part of the natural cycle of the seasons, and the process that creates their autumn colors.
    Describes how seasonal changes in a forest affect the plants and animals that live there. Ages 4-10.
    Describes the different plants, animals, and landscapes that can be seen outdoors each month of the year. Ages 7+.
    Mouse twins befriend a tree and watch it grow and change throughout each month of the year. Ages 5-7.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

A tree stands on a hill by a river. As the sky changes, so does the tree, its branches filling with clouds, stars, snow, birds, mists, and the golden spring sun. One tree can mean many things. Ages 5-9.

  A collection of winter-time activities which include stories and facts about animals, exploration, and survival, instructions for building a snow shelter and making instruments to measure the weather, as well as games, riddles, and puzzles. Ages 9-12.

  Three children observe the forest, including a giant oak, throughout the year. Ages 7-11.

  Bear Child notices that the clothes he wears, the things everyone does at work and play, and other parts of his world all change with the seasons. Ages 5-6.

  Describes how Chipmunk gathers and stores food to prepare for winter. Ages 5-8.

  Children observe natural cycles and learn about the phases of the moon, tides, seasons, migration, plant growth, and more. Reading recovery level 12.

79. Tree Lifecycle

• Secret Life of Trees. Mari Inc.
  Why do trees lose their leaves in winter? How do insects hide on bare branches? Let the trees themselves reveal their many secrets to you. Ages 6-9.

  Ages 5-8.

  An illustrated introduction to trees and woodlands with information on how to identify the bark and the leaves, the many ways that animals use trees, and how to read the individual history that shapes every tree. Ages 5-12.

  Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support. Ages 6-10.

  A young girl nurses a cherry tree from sprig to seedling and is rewarded one year by the sight of small miracle--its first pink blossoms. Ages 4-7.

Identifies many types of trees and describes how they grow and the kinds of leaves, fruits, and seeds they produce. Includes suggested experiments and projects. Ages 7-9.

  A cumulative tale in which a tree that is home to a singing mockingbird continues to be a source of music after it is fashioned into a fiddle. Ages 5-8.

  The Grandpa Tree is about a pine tree that takes care of the younger pine trees around it. Ages 4-8.

  A child describes the growth of a maple tree from seed to sapling. A special glossary explains how roots absorb nutrients, what photosynthesis is, how sap circulates, and other facts about trees. Ages 5-8.

  The saguaro cactus is born when a seed is dropped in the shade of a tree. In the one hundred fifty years it takes to reach its full height, it becomes a "hotel" for desert wildlife. When it is two hundred years old, the fifty foot cactus topples and supplies shelter for ground dwellers. Ages 5-8.

  Describes the development and ecosystem of the endangered fir tree. Ages 7-10.

  Follows the development of a large old maple tree from its growth from a seed during the American Revolution to its maturity in the late twentieth century. Ages 10+.

  The history of the Great Plains and the Santa Fe Trail is told in text and pictures by focusing on a cottonwood tree and the events that happen around it. Ages 5-8.

  Through many brightly covered transparent pages, the young child is introduced to the truly fascinating world of trees. Ages 4-8.

  Uses observations of bean seeds planted in eggshells to demonstrate the growth of seeds into plants. Ages 5-6.

  Describes how seasonal changes in a forest affect the plants and animals that live there. Ages 4-10.

  Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

A cumulative folk song that traces a fine tree back to the acorn planted by a boy whose bed was feathered by a bird nesting in a similar tree. Ages 5-8.

  The book is an A B C book that weaves the alphabet into a nature story. Ages 3-6.

  Describes the many ways an apple tree interacts with insects, birds, and other animals during a full year of its development. Ages 5-8.

- Schwartz, David. *Maple Tree*. Mari Inc.
  Depicts the life cycle of a maple tree. Ages 6-9.

  The ecology of a log. Ages 10+.

  Text and drawings follow the growth cycle of twelve common flowering trees: pussywillow, white oak, sugar maple, elm, apple, horse chestnut, flowering dogwood, magnolia, witch hazel, black walnut, black locust, and tulip tree. Ages 9+.

  An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons. Ages 4-7.


  Children observe natural cycles and learn about the phases of the moon, tides, seasons, migration, plant growth, and more. Reading recovery level 12.

  Traces the lifecycle of ferns and gives advice on raising them. Ages 6+.

80. Nothing Succeeds Like Succession

  Describes, in rhymed text and illustrations, how things in nature change as they grow and develop. Ages 3-6.

  An illustrated introduction to trees and woodlands with information on how to identify the bark and the leaves, the many ways that animals use trees, and how to read the individual history that shapes every tree. Ages 5-12.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

On a camping trip in an Australian rain forest with his father, a young boy thinks about the history of the plant and animal life around him and wonders about their future. Ages 5-8.

  Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support. Ages 6-10.

  Describes the gradual transformation of a cleared farm field into a dense forest. Ages 5-8.

- **Lauber, Patricia.** *Volcano: The Eruption and Healing of Mount St. Helens.* Bradbury Press. 1986.
  Discusses the eruption and healing of Mount St. Helens. Ages 9-12.

  A beautiful bird brings life to a lonely, barren mountain. Grades K-3.

  Describes the massive forest fires that burned almost one million acres of Yellowstone National Park in 1988 and the effects, both positive and negative, on the ecology of the forest there. Ages 9-12.

  Depicts, in text and illustrations, the stages of fire and regrowth in a Western lodgepole pine forest over a period of three hundred years. Also discusses the fire cycle and the role of fire in forest ecology. Ages 8-11.

- **Selsam, Millicent.** *Birth of a Forest.* Harper and Row. 1964.
  Ages 8-12.

- **Spirin, Gennadii and Natalia Romanova.** *Once There Was A Tree.* Dial Books. 1985.
  An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man, and when it is gone, a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons. Ages 4-7.

81. Living with Fire

  Presents facts about the giant sequoia trees, including how they grow, the circumstances of their "discovery," how their age is determined, and how forest fires actually help them. Ages 5-9.

- **Lerner, Carol.** *Seasons of the Tallgrass Prairie.* Morrow. 1980.
  This book takes us through the year in the tallgrass prairie, from the first awakenings of spring, through the glory of summer, the last blooms of autumn, and the dormancy of winter. Ages 5+.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Describes the massive forest fires that burned almost one million acres of Yellowstone National Park in 1988 and the effects, both positive and negative, on the ecology of the forest there. Ages 9-12.

- Pringle, Laurence. Fire in the Forest. Simon and Schuster. 1995. Depicts, in text and illustrations, the stages of fire and regrowth in a Western lodgepole pine forest over a period of three hundred years. Also discusses the fire cycle and the role of fire in forest ecology. Ages 8-11.

82. Resource-Go-Round
- From Tree to Paper Sundance. An exciting photo-essay book explaining how trees are made into paper. This book carefully explains the papermaking process so children understand how changes in matter occur. Grades preK-2.
- Berger, Melvin. Where Does All the Garbage Go? Newbridge. From our homes to trucks to dumps – children follow the path of household garbage and learn how recycling garbage can create new products. Reading recovery level 12.
- MacGregor, Cynthia. Recycling a Can. Rosen. 2002. Follows an aluminum can from the time it is collected for recycling, through ninety days of different processing steps, to a new can that is ready for use. Ages 8+.
- Newton-John, Olivia and Brian Seth Hurst. A Pig Tale. Ziggy proudly invites other piglets and their parents to see what his father has made from all the things he has been saving. Ages 5-8.
- Taback, Simms. Joseph Had A Little Overcoat. Viking Children’s Books. 1999. What do you do with an overcoat that is torn and worn but that is so dear that you can't toss it out? Cut it down, trim it and turn it into something else. Ages 4-10.

83. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Berger, Melvin. Where Does All the Garbage Go? Newbridge. From our homes to trucks to dumps – children follow the path of household garbage and learn how recycling garbage can create new products. Reading recovery level 12.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Explains the process of recycling from start to finish and discusses what happens to paper, glass, aluminum cans, and plastic when they are recycled into new products. Ages 5-8.
  Explaining the difference between biodegradable and non-biodegradable garbage, this book shows how glass, metal, and wool can be easily recycled. How Can I Help? boxes give suggestions for the young environmentalist who wants to recycle at home. Ages 4-8.
  Describes what happens in a compost pile and how creatures, from bacteria and mites to millipedes and earthworms, aid in the process of turning compost into humus. Ages 9-12.
  Explains how recycling and the conservation of natural resources can help save the Earth, with an emphasis on the recycling of plastic. Ages 9+.
  Discusses trash and the different ways in which it can be handled, with an emphasis on recycling. Incorporates the thoughts, questions, and drawings of children. Ages 5-11.
  Examines the dumping of garbage in oceans, on land, in the air, and in space and suggests possible solutions to this problem of waste pollution. Ages 10+.
  Ages 4-8.
  Humorous illustrations accompany a discussion of the problems of waste disposal and of recycling as one possible solution. Ages 6-11.
  Focuses on the ever-growing problem of managing the many types of solid waste and the hazards they pose to people and the environment. Readers learn how they can help in waste reduction efforts. Ages 9+.
  Demonstrates how waste paper is recycled into useful household products at the Marcal paper mill. Ages 8-12.

84. A Peek at Packaging

  Combines essential pre-algebra topics with exciting, hands-on science explorations that involve and motivate students in both areas of study.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Make vital connections between math, science, history, and writing. Ages 12+.

  Is chocolate really made from beans? Why is garlic good for you? How do you make furniture out of food packaging? And more! Ages 12+.
  Relates how teenaged environmentalist Tanja Vogt convinced McDonald's, as well as businesses and schools in her area, to stop using styrofoam. Ages 12+.
  Explains how crayons are made, from the production of the colors to the packaging of the final product. Ages 5+.
  Traces the evolution of modern containers. Anecdotes about various packages such as the tea bag, consumption statistics, and environmental concerns are also included. Ages 12+.
  Describes how producing and packaging different foods affect our environment and ourselves.

85. In the Driver’s Seat

  Examines mankind's dependence on fossil fuels through scenarios that describe life without such items as oil heaters and gasoline powered cars, and describes alternative energy sources and other ways to prepare for this possible future. Ages 12+.
  Follows crude oil from its underground bubbles to the refinery where it is converted into fertilizer, plastic, records, paint, and medicine as well as gasoline, jet oil, and heating oil. Ages 5-8.
  Discusses the automobile's role in polluting the environment and ways of decreasing the damage. Ages 12+.

86. Our Changing World

  Explores the human impact on the air, waters, biosphere, and land in every major world region. Provides a unique combination of maps and data helping students understand the dimensions of the world's environmental problems and the geographical basis of these problems. Ages 10+.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Describes the birds that make their homes in the heart of the city and examines how they have adjusted to such a harsh urban environment. Ages 9-12.

  Ages 10+.
  Adventurous Harriet and her twin brother William, who likes to stay at home, fly in a spaceship to a distant planet to help an unhappy dragon. Ages 5+.
  As reserves of this precious resource disappear or become polluted, people are beginning to fight for control of available water. This book examines the crucial roles that supplies of fresh water are playing in world politics, how various areas of the world are trying to solve their water problems, and what success they are achieving. Ages 12+.
  Ages 5-8.
  Describes and explains major environmental issues of the world today including soil erosion, deforestation, mechanised agriculture, oil pollution of the oceans, acid rain, overfishing, and nuclear power. Ages 12+.
  When he has a dream about a future Earth devastated by pollution, Walter begins to understand the importance of taking care of the environment. Ages 7-10.

87. Earth Manners

- **Taking Care of Trees**. Newbridge.
  Reading recovery level 20.
  Retells the wandering of John Chapman whose devotion to planting apple trees made him a legendary figure in American history. Ages 5-8.
  Crinkleroot the forest dweller provides tips for walking in wild places and avoiding such hazards as ticks, poisonous plants, and wild animals. Ages 5-12.
  Taking the reader through the four seasons in the forest, this picture book describes the lives of the creatures and plants that live there, and what happens when man threatens to destroy them. Grades 2-4.
- Berger, Melvin. *Can Kids Save the Earth?* Newbridge.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Students discover that other children all over the world are helping to improve the environment, and they learn what they can do to help, too. Leveled reader: guided reading level N.


- Carlisle, Normal and Madelyn. *Rivers*. Children’s Press. 1982. Describes how a river begins and grows and how it influences the land that it flows through. Also discusses the many ways people use rivers and the importance of keeping them clean and unpolluted. Ages 5-9.

- Gile, John. *The First Forest*. John Gile Communications. 1989. A modern fable to remind us that greed and selfishness are harmful and that peace and harmony flow from an attitude of grateful appreciation for the gifts we receive and a respect for the need and right of others to share in those gifts. Ages 4-8.


Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Reading recovery level 3.
- Saltis, Nicki. *We Need More Trees*. Sundance.
  Reading recovery level 24.
  The movements and actions of a family camping in the woods cause the
  forest creatures to also move, scurry, and make noise. Ages 4+.
  When he has a dream about a future Earth devastated by pollution, Walter
  begins to understand the importance of taking care of the environment.
  Ages 7-10.

88. Life on the Edge
  When Hannah finds an ivory necklace that belonged to her great-
  grandmother, it gives her dreams; and she knows she must make
  restitution to the elephants for their suffering caused by the ivory trade.
  Ages 8-12.
  Ancient beliefs and wildlife preservation form the conflict in this
  beautifully crafted story set in rural China. Ages 8-12.
  As the Brazilian rainforest disappeared, so did Golden Lion Tamarins.
  They began to die out as deforestation reduced their habitat. Today,
  tamarins are being bred in zoos and returned to the wild. Ages 7-12.
  Describes the history of the condor in North America and the efforts to
  capture and breed the few remaining California condors to save them from
  extinction. Ages 12+.
  Describes the efforts of scientists who are trying to save the peregrine
  falcon from extinction by taking the fragile eggs that would not survive in
  the wild, hatching them, raising the chicks, and then releasing the birds
  back into the wild. Ages 7+.
  Akbar, a tracker for a tourist lodge, works with villagers, would-be
  poachers, and those involved in Project Tiger to protect the diminishing
  number of tigers in his part of India. Ages 9-12.
  A book that refers to whales, dolphins, whaling and animal conservation.
  Ages 10+.
  Describes the habits, characteristics, and habitat of endangered animals
  like the humpback whale, proboscis monkey, and thick-billed parrot.
- Cutchins, Judy. *The Crocodile and The Crane: Surviving In A Crowded
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Describes how care and breeding in zoos and other controlled environments have helped protect such endangered species as the wattled crane, Morelet's crocodile, and Arabian oryx. Ages 7-10.

  The eccentric, well-traveled grandmother of two young kids decamps in mid-vacation, riding a porpoise to Greenland and leaving behind a trove of strange treasures and artifacts including a collection of bird's nests and three old eggs which hatch, marvelously, into passenger pigeons.

  Examines the many reasons for the extinction and near-extinction of animal species. Discusses how some near-extinctions have been reversed through special breeding programs and legislation to save endangered species. Ages 9-12.

  Describes the life and research of Biruté Galdikas, prominent expert on the behavior of orangutans in the wild. Ages 8-12.

  Although her emphasis is clearly upon conservation efforts, Patent includes enough basic information about the biology of the whooping crane to make this more valuable than the title implies. Grades 4-7.

  Describes how animals such as the clouded leopard, Tahitian lory, and the Mhorr gazelle have become endangered species and how scientists at the San Diego Zoo are working on projects that will protect and conserve these rare animals. Ages 8-12.

  A fairly complete picture of the animal's habitat, life cycle, hunting and eating habits, and natural enemies. Grades 3-5.

  When seventeen-year-old John Rodgers discovers a new sub-species of butterfly which may necessitate closing the mill where his dying father works, they find themselves on opposite sides of the environmental conflict. Ages 12+.

  A brief picture book that describes the reproduction of sea turtles (identified as loggerheads in the afterword): mating at sea, the female's sojourn to shore, egg laying, and return to the ocean. Grades K-2.

  This brief informational story details the life cycle of one of North America's most endangered species. Grades K-4.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Describes how a scientist courts a whooping crane and how the resulting egg is carefully incubated until it hatches. Ages 8-12.
  Text and maps focus on areas of the world in which human activity is threatening to destroy endangered species of animals. Ages 10+.
  Discusses plant species from all parts of the world that are in danger of extinction. Ages 10+.
  This intriguing book introduces children to the fascinating lives and challenges of endangered species from the unique perspective of an 11-year-old author. The book helps readers learn about endangered species as the first step toward saving them. Ages 4-8.

89. Trees for Many Reasons
  A gift from a wizard makes Jack's fortune grow by ones and twos, then threes and fours, then faster and faster, challenging you to keep track of his riches. Ages 5-8.
  Taking the reader through the four seasons in the forest, this picture book describes the lives of the creatures and plants that live there, and what happens when man threatens to destroy them. Grades 2-4.
  Written specifically to counter the book "The Lorax", by Dr. Seuss. It is an encounter between Guardbark, protector of trees, and Truax, the logger. In a fast paced, fun, rhythm and rhyme style, the book addresses issues such as harvesting trees, regeneration, old growth, biodiversity, endangered species and other forestry issues. Ages 10+.
  This book tells a moving story of friendship and mysterious hope. It celebrates the human spirit and the miraculous power of the natural world.
  Filled with words and pictures to help keep alive the sense of wonder and delight in mysteries of earth, sea, and sky. Ages 12+.
  Three seeds grow into three beautiful trees, each of which serves a different function in nature and for people. Ages 5-8.
  In this classic story, the Once-ler describes how his greedy actions destroyed a beautiful and thriving environment. Children will enjoy the colorful characters and rhyming verse and adults will appreciate the subtle
messages about the negative effects of deforestation, habitat destruction, and air and water pollution. Ages 4+.

  A modern fable to remind us that greed and selfishness are harmful and that peace and harmony flow from an attitude of grateful appreciation for the gifts we receive and a respect for the need and right of others to share in those gifts. Ages 4-8.

  Jean Giono's beautiful allegorical tale is legendary. Written in the 1950's, its message was ahead of its time, inspiring readers to rediscover the harmonies of the countryside and prevent its willful destruction. Ages 10+.

  The lessons of nature and the animal kingdom are explored, with relevant analogies to the lives of human beings. Ages 6+.

  John Chapman loved animals and nature so much that he left home to live in the wilderness. Wherever he roamed, he cleared the land to plant apple trees. He gave the trees to settlers who followed, thus earning the fond name "Johnny Appleseed." Ages 6-9.

  A Sand Country Almanac combines some of the finest nature writing since Thoreau with an outspoken and highly ethical regard for America's relationship to the land. Ages 12+.

  Rhymed text and illustrations relate the life of John Chapman, whose distribution of apple seeds and trees across the Midwest made him a legend and left a legacy still enjoyed today. Ages 4-8.

  A turtle carved in rock on a bluff over the Hudson River by Indians long ago watches with sadness the changes man brings over the years. Ages 6-9.

  A cumulative folk song that traces a fine tree back to the acorn planted by a boy whose bed was feathered by a bird nesting in a similar tree. Ages 5-8.

  In 1881, when their apple tree is felled by a storm just before Christmas, a young farm girl and her family discover that the tree was important to each of them for different reasons. Ages 4-8.

  Illustrations accompany letters to Mother Earth telling her how we love the home she provides us. Ages 5+. 
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Based on a classic folk tale from India, this haunting story gives children insight into India's history and culture while teaching them that environmental protection is everyone's concern. It is carefully researched and illustrated with detailed watercolors of rural India.

  A moving parable about the gift of giving and the capacity to love, told throughout the life of a boy who grows to manhood and a tree that selflessly gives him her bounty through the years. Ages 4-8.

  Trees are beautiful. They fill up the sky. If you have a tree, you can climb up its trunk, roll in its leaves, or hang a swing from one of its limbs. Cows and babies can nap in the shade of a tree. Birds can make nests in the branches. A tree is good to have around. A tree is nice. Ages 4-8.

  The Old Turtle teachers humas the value in all living things. Ages 6+.

90. The Native Way

  This book captures the soul of the ancient and sacred banyan, painting a vivid picture of its importance to the people and other life forms that flourish beneath and within its welcoming branches. Ages 6-10.

  Text and pictures document the life cycle of this amazing tree of the African savannah, and portrays the animals and people it helps to support. Ages 6-10.

  Children discover that the Native Americans found many ways to live in harmony with the land and conserve Earth’s natural resources. Leveled reader: guided reading level N.

  Uses native testimony and native texts to show how 'animal masters' and natural gardening protect the land from overuse, how living space is patterned, how human reproduction is controlled, and how the sun is viewed as the overlord of a closed energy system from which nothing may be removed without 'payment.' Ages 12+.

  After the death of her Indian great-grandmother, Jamie remembers the many special things the old woman shared with her about the natural world. Ages 5-8.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

A rich collection of uplifting Native American stories and creative nature activities that will inspire children to love and respect animals. Keepers of the Animals will help children to understand their interdependence with all living beings and life forms. Ages 5-12.

  Readers will learn about the relationships between people and the gardens of Earth, seed preservation, Native diets and meals, natural pest control, and the importance of the Circle of Life.

  Tired of wandering in the sky, the star maiden searches for the perfect home on earth. Ages 4-7.

  Age 8.

  In an act of bravery and defiance against the white men encroaching on their territory in 1867, a group of young Cheyenne braves derail and raid a freight train. Ages 5-8.

  A heartfelt, impassioned plea for the return of the wolf to the territories it once roamed. Hirschi makes frequent references to the respect Native Americans have long held for this intelligent predator, and cites the role wolves play in maintaining proper balances in a natural world. Ages 9-12.

  A young Indian boy carves a canoe and travels through the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. The text and pictures provide an excellent geographical and historical picture of the region. Ages 6-12.

  This picture book is adapted from a speech purportedly delivered by Chief Seattle at treaty negotiations in the 1850s, Young adult.

  Miguel figures out a way to save the beloved maguey plant in his Mexican pueblo. Ages 5-8.

  Traditional stories from twelve different North American Indian peoples are grouped around the recurrent themes of the sun, moon and stars; fantastical journeys; and two popular cultural heroes, Spider Woman, a benevolent sorceress, and Coyote the trickster.

  From pottery makers to fierce warriors, readers will discover the traditions of five different tribes--Hopi, Comanche, Mohican, Navajo, and Mandan--in these tales of Native American children. Ages 5-8.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Depicts traditional lifestyles of children in five different tribes of North American Indians through vignettes set in a time almost two hundred years ago. The tribes are the Muskogee, Dakota, Huron, Tlingit, and Nootka. Ages 5-8.

  A collection of Indian legends about such natural phenomena as thunder and lightning, earthquakes, tornados, and rainbows. Age 10.

  While trying to find his brothers, Ermine encounters an Eagle-man and his ancient mother who help him teach the people living on the coast of the Pacific Northwest how to overcome their isolation and experience the joy of life. Ages 5-8.

  Left alone to guard the family's wilderness home in eighteenth-century Maine, a boy is hard-pressed to survive until local Indians teach him their skills. Age 12+.

  A special children's version of the Thanksgiving Address, a message of gratitude that originated with the Native people of upstate New York and Canada and that is still spoken at ceremonial gatherings held by the Iroquois, or Six Nations. Ages 4-7.

  A collection of legends about the stars from various North American Indian cultures, including explanations of the Milky Way and constellations such as the Big Dipper. Ages 9-11.

91. In the Good Old Days

  Retells the wandering of John Chapman whose devotion to planting apple trees made him a legendary figure in American history. Ages 5-8.

  When Hannah finds an ivory necklace that belonged to her great-grandmother, it gives her dreams; and she knows she must make restitution to the elephants for their suffering caused by the ivory trade. Ages 8-12.

  Every year at blackberry time Matthew visits the red-tailed hawk in the black walnut tree in the meadow, and she teaches him how to use his senses to fully appreciate the natural world. Ages 6-10.

  John Chapman loved animals and nature so much that he left home to live in the wilderness. Wherever he roamed, he cleared the land to plant apple
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

He gave the trees to settlers who followed, thus earning the fond name "Johnny Appleseed." Ages 6-9.

- **Leopold, Aldo.** *A Sand County Almanac.* Laib. 1982.
  A Sand Country Almanac combines some of the finest nature writing since Thoreau with an outspoken and highly ethical regard for America's relationship to the land. Ages 12+.

  Rhymed text and illustrations relate the life of John Chapman, whose distribution of apple seeds and trees across the Midwest made him a legend and left a legacy still enjoyed today. Ages 4-8.

92. A Look at Lifestyles

- **Bash, Barbara.** *In the Heart of the Village: The World of the Indian Banyan Tree.* Little, Brown. 1996.
  This book captures the soul of the ancient and sacred banyan, painting a vivid picture of its importance to the people and other life forms that flourish beneath and within its welcoming branches. Ages 6-10.

- **Cherry, Lynne.** *The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest.* Harcourt. 1990.
  This inspired look at what the Kapok tree means to the creatures that live in it-and what rain forests mean to the world's ecology-was at the forefront of the ecological movement ten years ago and continues to resonate profoundly with children everywhere. Ages 10+.

  Kamanya believes in the shaman's wisdom about the healing properties of plants found in the Amazon rain forest and hopes one day to be a healer for his people. Ages 6-10.

  These traditional stories come from Native Americans, as well as from peoples of Africa, Fiji, China and Central Asia, Australia, and Portugal. Some feature animal characters, while others have human protagonists. Ages 8-12.

  Age 8.

  In an act of bravery and defiance against the white men encroaching on their territory in 1867, a group of young Cheyenne braves derail and raid a freight train. Ages 5-8.

  Age 8-11.

  This picture book is adapted from a speech purportedly delivered by Chief Seattle at treaty negotiations in the 1850s. Young adult.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  Miguel figures out a way to save the beloved maguey plant in his Mexican pueblo. Ages 5-8.
  Traditional stories from twelve different North American Indian peoples are grouped around the recurrent themes of the sun, moon and stars; fantastical journeys; and two popular cultural heroes, Spider Woman, a benevolent sorceress, and Coyote the trickster.
  In the distant era of myth time, before people forgot how to speak the language of animals, two young men from the northern plains set out to travel farther than any of their people have ever gone before. Ages 9+.
  A turtle carved in rock on a bluff over the Hudson River by Indians long ago watches with sadness the changes man brings over the years. Ages 6-9.
  A collection of Indian legends about such natural phenomena as thunder and lightning, earthquakes, tornados, and rainbows. Age 10.
  There is much mystery and speculation surrounding these tigers, who are as revered as they are feared. By observing the tigers, talking to the villagers and listening to their stories, which are steeped in legend, scientists are trying to uncover the hidden truths about these magnificent beasts. Ages 10+.
  Ages 5-8.
  Based on a classic folk tale from India, this haunting story gives children insight into India's history and culture while teaching them that environmental protection is everyone's concern. It is carefully researched and illustrated with detailed watercolors of rural India.
  Left alone to guard the family's wilderness home in eighteenth-century Maine, a boy is hard-pressed to survive until local Indians teach him their skills. Age 12+.
  Presents twelve Hawaiian myths which explain how the earth was created, why volcanoes on Hawaii erupt, why the days are longer in summer, and other natural phenomena.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

  A collection of legends about the stars from various North American Indian cultures, including explanations of the Milky Way and constellations such as the Big Dipper. Ages 9-11.

93. Paper Civilizations
  Discusses Chinese civilization mainly of the Han and T'ang dynasties, when paper and printing were invented and art and poetry flourished. Ages 9+.
  A history of the modern printing industry, including how paper and ink are made, looking particularly at the printing press invented by Gutenberg around 1450 but also at its precursors. Ages 5-8.
  Highlights inventors and their inventions, from the printing of books in the fifteenth century to today's electronic devices. Ages 12+.
  Traces the history of paper from ancient times to the present. Ages 5-10.
  Discusses the achievements of the ancient Chinese in astronomy, medicine, science, and engineering, as well as such influential Chinese inventions as paper, printing, gun powder, and the compass.
  Discusses the invention of mechanical printing, from its origins in China through Gutenberg to present technology, examining typography, graphic arts, paper, bookbinding, photography, and the cultural contexts of printing. Ages 10+.
  Surveys the development of the printing press, from advances in Asia and Gutenberg's work in Germany to the profound impact of printing on civilization in general. Ages 10-12.
  Describes a day in the life of a colonial printer, the workings of a printing press, and how it was used to spread news. Ages 8+.

94. Where Are the Cedars of Lebanon?
  As reserves of this precious resource disappear or become polluted, people are beginning to fight r control of available water. This book examines the
crucial roles that supplies of fresh water are playing in world politics, how various areas of the world are trying to solve their water problems, and what success they are achieving. Ages 12+.

  Ages 4-8.

  Always remembering how the monkeys in her Costa Rican valley disappeared when all the trees were cut down, Marta grows up, plants more trees, and sees the monkeys come back. Ages 5-8.

  In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression. Ages 12+.

  One day the people of Redding, Iowa, turned on their spigots and nothing came out. Thirty-eight of the town's 40 wells had dried up. Unfortunately, Redding is not the only community ever to face a lack of water. Here is an in-depth look at the many reasons there is not enough water for everyone, as well as the social and environmental implications of water shortages. Ages 12+.

  Describes the massive forest fires that burned almost one million acres of Yellowstone National Park in 1988 and the effects, both positive and negative, on the ecology of the forest there. Ages 9-12.

95. Did You Notice?

  Giants in the Land is an incredible look at the role the giant pine trees of New England played in the history of the United States, especially in the years preceding the Revolutionary War. Grades 3-6.

  On a camping trip in an Australian rain forest with his father, a young boy thinks about the history of the plant and animal life around him and wonders about their future. Ages 5-8.

  Chronicles the events and changes in a young boy's life and in his environment, from babyhood to grownup, through wordless scenes observed from the window of his room. Ages 5-8.

  With accessible verse and stunning artwork, here is a book in the tradition of Norman Rockwell that captures the particularly American experience of life on the prairie. Ages 7-11.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

An environmental history of the Nashua River, from its discovery by Indians through the polluting years of the Industrial Revolution to the ambitious clean-up that revitalized it. Ages 6-9.

  Examines the many forms of wildlife that can be displaced if their environment is destroyed by development and discusses how communities and schools can provide spaces for them to live. Ages 5-10.

  In this eloquent "biography" of a fictional New Hampshire village, Blackwater evolves from a forested wilderness to a thriving farm community to a gentrified retreat. Ages 4-8.

  In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression. Ages 12+.

  Describes the gradual transformation of a cleared farm field into a dense forest. Ages 5-8.

  Year after year, the plum tree which the farmer planted is witness to the continuing generations of his family. Ages 5-8.

  Discusses the eruption and healing of Mount St. Helens. Ages 9-12.

  A Sand Country Almanac combines some of the finest nature writing since Thoreau with an outspoken and highly ethical regard for America's relationship to the land. Ages 12+.

  Explains, in sim--ple text and illustrations, how and why Earth Day became an international holiday calling global attention to the problems of pollution, environmental destruction, and waste of natural resources. Ages 6-8.

  Follows an oak tree and its company of plants and animals from its beginning as an acorn to its death 282 years later. Ages 6-8.

  A turtle carved in rock on a bluff over the Hudson River by Indians long ago watches with sadness the changes man brings over the years. Ages 6-9.

  Recounts the adventures of seventeen-year-old Fred Dellenbaugh, the youngest member of the second Powell expedition, which explored the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon in 1871-2. Ages 10+.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Structured like "This Is the House that Jack Built," this environmental rhyme aims to show the interdependence of living things in the ancient forests. Grades preK-

  - Ruth Deike has incorporated the imagery and discoveries of Stone Wall Secrets with hands-on classroom activities that illustrate basic earth science concepts for students. Grades 3-7.
- Van Allsburg, Chris. Just a Dream. Houghton Mifflin. 1990. When he has a dream about a future Earth devastated by pollution, Walter begins to understand the importance of taking care of the environment. Ages 7-10.
- Wheatley, Nadia, and Donna Rawlins. My Place. Kane/Miller Publishers. 1994. My Place is a wonderfully intimate history of Australia starting in 1988 and going back 200 years to 1788. Young readers learn its history by being told the story of one particular place by the generations of Australian children who have lived there. Ages 9-12.

96. Improve Your Place

- Baehr, Patricia. For A Good Cause. Newbridge.
Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

This collection of short profiles features a diverse group of people telling how and why they took action for a cause close to their hearts. Guided reading level U.

- Berger, Melvin. _Can Kids Save the Earth?_ Newbridge. Students discover that other children all over the world are helping to improve the environment, and they learn what they can do to help, too. Leveled reader: guided reading level N.

- Berry, Joy. _Every Kids' Guide to Saving the Earth_. Living Skills Press. 1992. Using everyday situations, this activity-filled title shows how children can develop habits and attitudes which will make their homes, neighborhoods, communities, and even their whole planet a better place in which to live. Ages 9-12.

- Brooks, Felicity. _Protecting Trees and Forests_. EDCP. 1991. Trees are vital to the health of the Earth but they are disappearing at an alarming rate. Why is this happening and what can be done to protect them? This colorful book provides a simple yet fascinating introduction to the conservation of trees and forests. Ages 7-10.


- Cole, Henry. _Aani and the Tree-Huggers_. Lee & Low Books. 1995. Horrified by the city people who have come to cut down their beloved forest homeland, Aani and other members of her village try to make them understand how important the trees are, and a single act of bravery helps save the forest. Grades 2-5.


- Cooney, Barbara. _Miss Rumphius_. Viking Press. 1982. As a child Great-aunt Alice Rumphius resolved that when she grew up she would go to faraway places, live by the sea in her old age, and do something to make the world more beautiful--and she does all those things, the last being the most difficult of all. Ages 4-8.

- Duper, Linda Leeb. _160 Ways to Help the World: Community Service Projects for Young People_. Facts on File. 1996. Do you want to make the world a better place but don't know where to start? Then it's time to 'think globally, act locally.' 160 Ways To Help The World will help you make a positive impact on your community. Ages 10+.

A provocative story that gives a clear message of conservation and brings it into focus for young audiences. Grades K-3.

  Examine the many forms of wildlife that can be displaced if their environment is destroyed by development and discusses how communities and schools can provide spaces for them to live. Ages 5-10.

  Jean Giono's beautiful allegorical tale is legendary. Written in the 1950's, its message was ahead of its time, inspiring readers to rediscover the harmonies of the countryside and prevent its willful destruction. Ages 10+.

  After Tanya decides to plant a tree for her Earth Day project, her only problems are getting the money to buy it and finding a place to put it. Ages 6-9.

  A young child discovers, in a rhymed question and answer dialogue, what he can do to help his environment. Ages 5-8.

  John Chapman loved animals and nature so much that he left home to live in the wilderness. Wherever he roamed, he cleared the land to plant apple trees. He gave the trees to settlers who followed, thus earning the fond name "Johnny Appleseed." Ages 4-8.

  Discusses the importance of trees as sources of food, oxygen, and other essential things. Ages 5-9.

  This collection of stunning artwork and photographs and easy-to-read text is designed both to teach children about the wonderful planet we live on and to inspire awe and respect for the sacredness of this mother planet Earth. Ages 4-8.

  Resource guide for children for learning political action skills that can help them make a difference in solving social problems at the community, state, and national levels. Ages 12+.

  Rhymed text and illustrations relate the life of John Chapman, whose distribution of apple seeds and trees across the Midwest made him a legend and left a legacy still enjoyed today. Ages 4-8.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Explains, in simple text and illustrations, how and why Earth Day became an international holiday calling global attention to the problems of pollution, environmental destruction, and waste of natural resources. Ages 6-8.

  
  An A-to-Z list of activities, emphasizing simple deeds well within the ability of most children, outlines the ways in which individuals can take an active role in the protection of our planet. Grades 4-8.

  
  A cumulative folk song that traces a fine tree back to the acorn planted by a boy whose bed was feathered by a bird nesting in a similar tree. Ages 5-8.

  
  Describes ways people help some wild animals in need of human protection, particularly in keeping their environments safe for them to live without injury. Ages 6+.

  
  Describes and explains major environmental issues of the world today including soil erosion, deforestation, mechanised agriculture, oil pollution of the oceans, acid rain, overfishing, and nuclear power. Ages 12+.

  
  When they find blue logging markings in the ancient forest where they like to hike, a boy and his father try to save the trees from being cut down. Includes information about how to find and enjoy ancient forests. Ages 5-7.

  
  The story goes through the stages of growth as the egg evolves from birth to the glorious moment when the butterfly takes wing. Ages 4-8.

  
  Explains what hazardous wastes are, how they are produced, and why it is difficult to dispose of them. Ages 4-8. ISBN 0516055062.

  
  When he has a dream about a future Earth devastated by pollution, Walter begins to understand the importance of taking care of the environment. Ages 7-10.

Suggested Children’s Literature for PLT PreK-8 Activities

Contains lots of non-trivial ideas and contact information. Useful for groups and individuals seeking projects. Ages 10+.