Children's Nature Books for Threes and Up



This series, by Dianna Hurts Aston and Sylvia Long, has incredibly colorful and detailed illustrations. The books are so beautiful adults and children will love them. The text is full of fun (and concise) information.







Another series, by Kate Messner and Christopher Silas Neal, is also full of interesting information, though told in more of a story format. There are a wide range of topics so you can find a book on a topic that interests your child or will prepare them for an adventure away from home.



This book, written by Steve Voake and illustrated by Charlotte Voake, takes the reader (and listener) into the backyard where all kinds of wonderful things are happening if we just look for them. It can also be a helpful book for children who are a bit fearful of insects.

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Nicola Davies and Mark Heard created this wonderful compilation of facts, nature vocabulary, poetry and fun things to do. If you only have room for one book, this one is full of good information delivered in many formats.



This beautiful book by Florence Guiraud is for older children, at least five years old and up. It focuses on birds, insects and fish and the things around them. Younger children will enjoy the illustrations but the text is for older ones or a child who is really fascinated by one or more of the topics covered.



A stunning book for older children (five and up) is by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Norris. It is a book of poetry based on things that were once common knowledge for most children but are less than common now. The illustrations are detailed and softly colored as if to show we could lose what we refuse to see. The alphabet runs through this book with highlighted letters for the next poem. Children who read well will love puzzling out the words hidden among all the other letters. This is a book that will enchant children and adults!

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There are an increasing number of books available that tell the stories of scientists who study nature.



One of my favorites is <u>Summer Birds</u> by Margarita Engle and Julie Paschkis about Maria Merian. She was born in 1647 and helped disprove the then commonly held belief that butterflies, moths and frogs spring from the the mud.



Another favorite is this book about Lucy Evelyn Cheesman by Christine Evans and Yasmin Imamura. Evelyn became the first woman curator of the London Zoo's insect house. She made it a special place to visit instead of the nearly deserted place it had been.



From constellations, to snowflakes, to plants and critters this book, by Julia Rothman with help from John Niekrasz, has information and illustrations to keep the answers coming. This is a good book for a backpack, if you and your child have questions when you are out exploring.