

# Children's Books on Science, Technology & Environmental Protection

An Annotated Bibliography

*Compiled and Written by*

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*Prepared for*

A Sense of Wonder

Stories of Nature, Science & History

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## Introduction

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There are many excellent books written for children about nature and science that focus mainly on the subject matter itself. This bibliography has a biographical emphasis. It includes recently published books (mostly within the past five years) that feature people, both contemporary and historical, who have made significant contributions in the fields of science, technology and environmental protection.

The individuals that readers will meet in these books share a sense of wonder about the universe and its possibilities. We hope that their stories will inspire young people to make their own discoveries and to experience a deeper appreciation of and sense of responsibility for the natural world.

Please note that this bibliography is a sampling of the books available and not definitive or all-inclusive. Conference participants will also receive a separate handout of the many outstanding books written by the distinguished authors and illustrators featured at the conference – David Aguilar, Joy Hakim, Wendell Minor, Sy Montgomery, Anita Silvey and Catherine Thimmesh.

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## Animals

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**Bouler, Olivia.** *Olivia's Birds: Saving the Gulf.*

Sterling Children's Books, 2011. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 6. The eleven-year-old author raised more than \$150,000 for the Audubon Society's Gulf Coast oil spill recovery efforts through the sale of her bird paintings. This book combines her artwork with information about birds and nature preservation.

**Burns, Loree Griffin.** *The Hive Detectives: Chronicle of a Honey Bee Catastrophe.*

Houghton Mifflin, 2010. 66 pages

Grades 4 – 8. Apiarist Dave Hackenberg inspected four hundred of his hives and found that the bees had simply vanished. This book describes how bee scientists have been working to understand colony collapse disorder. *With full-page photographs.*

**Engle, Margarita.** *Summer Birds: The Butterflies of Maria Merian.*

Henry Holt, 2010. 32 pages

Grades 2 – 4. In the Middle Ages, people believed that insects were evil, born from mud in a process called spontaneous generation. This is the story of the young girl who took the time to observe and in so doing disproved the age-old theory. *In picture book format.*

**Halls, Kelly Milner.** *Saving the Baghdad Zoo: A True Story of Hope and Heroes.*

Greenwillow Books, 2010. 64 pages

Grades 5 – 8. The true story of how conservationists and animal lovers rescued the animals from the Baghdad Zoo after the start of the Iraq War in 2003. *Photo-essay format.*

**Hoose, Phillip.** *The Race to Save the Lord God Bird.*

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2004. 196 pages

Grades 6 – 8. This book tells the story of the ivory-billed woodpecker's extinction in the United States and discusses what the encounters between this bird and human beings have taught us about preserving endangered creatures. *With photographs.*

**Jenkins, Martin.** *Can We Save the Tiger?*

Candlewick Press, 2011. 50 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This book is about the thousands of animals in danger of extinction and our responsibility to make changes to save them. *Fully illustrated.*

**Lasky, Kathryn.** *Silk & Venom: Searching for a Dangerous Spider.*

Photography by Christopher Knight.

Candlewick Press, 2011. 61 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This book takes the reader to the Dominican Republic with arachnologist Greta Binford, accompanied by the author and photographer, in search of the dangerous and elusive recluse spider, on a research project that helps answer many scientific questions by studying spiders, their habitats and their venom.

**Lourie, Peter.** *Whaling Season: A Year in the Life of an Arctic Whale Scientist.*

Houghton Mifflin, 2009. *Scientists in the Field Series.* 80 pages

Grades 4 – 6. This book profiles the work of Dr. John Craighead George, who researches the bowhead whale out of Barrow, Alaska. Dr. George works closely with the Iñupiaq Eskimos who harvest the bowhead whale and pass along traditional knowledge about whaling. *Illustrated with photographs.*

**Markle, Sandra. *The Case of the Vanishing Golden Frogs: A Scientific Mystery.***

Millbrook Press, 2012. 48 pages

Grades 3 – 8. This book looks at the Panamanian golden frog, which has been vanishing due to a fungus infection, and it follows a team of scientists working to save these frogs and protect frog populations worldwide. *Full-page photographs in photo-essay format.*

**McKnight, Diane. *The Lost Seal.***

Illustrated by Dorothy Emerling.

Moonlight Publishing, 2006. 35 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This book, accessible to less experienced readers, focuses on the dilemma faced by scientists when a stranded young Weddell seal shows up at a research camp in Antarctica, far from his natural habitat on the McMurdo Sound sea ice. *In picture book format, with drawings by the illustrator and by school children interested in the project.*

**Thomas, Peggy. *For the Birds: The Life of Roger Tory Peterson.***

Illustrated by Laura Jacques.

Calkins Creek, 2011. 40 pages

Grades 3 – 6. A biography that follows this American artist, activist, and bird lover from his childhood, to art school, to his writing of the Peterson Field Guides, and eventually to his work as a global environmentalist. *In picture book format with a lot of text.*

**Turner, Pamela S. *The Frog Scientist.***

Photography by Andy Comins.

Houghton Mifflin, 2009. *Scientists in the Field Series.* 58 pages

Grades 3 – 6. Join Dr. Tyrone Hayes, his family, and graduate students in the field and the laboratory as they research the devastating effects of the pesticide atrazine on frogs. *Fully illustrated with color photographs.*

**Turner, Pamela S. *A Life in the Wild: George Schaller's Struggle to Save the Last Great Beasts.***

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008. 103 pages

Grades 4 – 8. For more than fifty years, explorer-naturalist George Schaller has been on a mission to save the world's great wild beasts and their environments. *This biography is illustrated with Schaller's own photographs.*

**Turner, Pamela S. *Project Seahorse.***

Photography by Scott Tuason.

Houghton Mifflin. *Scientists in the Field Series.* 2010. 57 pages

Grades 4 – 8. Join biologists Amanda Vincent, Heather Koldeway, Jesus Dongallo, and Mia Comeros, assistant Rodrigo Paden, and local villagers in their research of the declining seahorse populations and the damaged coral reefs along the Danajon Bank in the Philippines. *Fully illustrated with color photographs.*

**Winter, Jeanette. *The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life With the Chimps.***

Schwartz & Wade Books, 2011. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This biography is about the life and career of Jane Goodall from her childhood interest in animals to her adult work as a scholar of animal behavior in Africa. *Picture book.*

**Zoehfeld, Kathleen Weidner. *Wild Lives: A History of the People & Animals of the Bronx Zoo.***

Alfred A. Knopf, 2006. 86 pages

Grades 4 – 8. This book examines a century of zoo keeping at one of the most famous zoos in the world. The ethics of removing animals from their habitats and the ongoing threats to the existence of many species are also discussed. *With many photographs from the Wildlife Conservation Society.*

## Astronomy and Space Exploration

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**Burleigh, Robert. *One Giant Leap.***

Illustrated by Mike Wimmer.

Philomel Books, 2009. 40 pages

Grades 3 – 6. This is the story of the July 20, 1969 moon landing by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, told in poetic language that also includes informational details. *In picture book format with full-page illustrations.*

**Chaikin, Andrew. *Mission Control, This is Apollo: The Story of the First Voyages to the Moon.***

Illustrated by Alan Bean.

Penguin Group, 2009. 114 pages

Grades 5 – 8. This book includes space history from the Mercury missions through Apollo 17 and beyond. It is *illustrated by astronaut Alan Bean*, who walked on the moon on Apollo 12 and has devoted his post-NASA life to creating art.

**Floca, Brian. *Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11.***

Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008. 32 pages

Grades 2 – 5. This story of NASA's 1969 Apollo 11 mission to the moon is told in straightforward and poetic text. *In picture book format.*

**Jackson, Ellen. *The Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes.***

Photography by Nic Bishop.

Houghton Mifflin Books, 2008. 60 pages

Grades 3 – 6. Astronomer Alex Filippenko and associates from observatories in Hawaii and California hunt for supernovae and other large-scale astronomical phenomena to learn what the stars and galaxies can tell us about the fate of the universe. *Photo-essay format with text.*

**Mortensen, Lori. *Come See the Earth Turn: The Story of Léon Foucault.***

Illustrated by Raúl Allén.

Tricycle Press, 2010. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 6. This book explores the life and work of nineteenth-century French physicist

Léon Foucault, who invented a pendulum that provided proof that the Earth rotated on its axis. *In picture book format.*

**Scott, Elaine. *Space, Stars, and the Beginning of Time: What the Hubble Telescope Saw.***

Clarion Books, 2011. 64 pages

Grades 4 – 8. This book includes an explanation of the Hubble telescope, its mission, and its discoveries, as well as overviews of the history of astronomy, the Big Bang, and black holes. *Illustrated with many photographs taken by the Hubble telescope.*

**Scott, Elaine. *When is a Planet Not a Planet?: The Story of Pluto.***

Clarion Books, 2007. 42 pages

Grades 3 – 6. In 2006, a group of astronomers announced that Pluto was no longer a planet. This book explains how technology changed our understanding of the universe. *Illustrated with full-page photographs.*

**Stone, Tanya Lee. *Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared To Dream.***

Candlewick Press, 2009. 130 pages

Grades 5 – 8. Nearly 20 years before the U.S. officially admitted women into the astronaut program, 13 women, known as the Mercury 13, worked for the right to travel into space. This book also includes information about the women’s liberation movement. *Photo-essay format.*

**Siy, Alexandra. *Cars on Mars: Roving the Red Planet.***

Charlesbridge, 2009. 57 pages

Grades 5 – 8. In 2004, two robots landed on Mars. Controlled by scientists at NASA, the remote-controlled rovers collected and analyzed geological samples and transferred data back to earth. *Illustrated with full-page photographs.*

**Turner, Pamela S. *Life on Earth – and Beyond: An Astrobiologist’s Quest.***

Charlesbridge, 2008. 109 pages

Grades 6 – 8. Beginning with the question, “Are we alone?”, this book follows researcher Dr. Chris McKay as he studies life in extreme environments from deserts to deep ocean regions to help answer the question of whether life can exist beyond Earth. *Extensively illustrated with photography in the field, and with artists’ renderings.*

## Botany

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**Bolden, Tonya. *George Washington Carver.***

Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2008. 41 pages

Grades 3 – 8. George Washington Carver developed hundreds of unexpected products from common plants. This biography reveals what an extraordinary man Carver was: a scholar, innovative scientist, pioneering conservationist, and committed educator. *Many illustrations.*

**Collard, Sneed B. *The Prairie Builders: Constructing America’s Lost Grasslands.***

Houghton Mifflin, 2005. *Scientists in the Field Series.* 71 pages

Grades 3 – 6. Join biologists Pauline Drobney and Diane Debinski, their crews, other scientists, and volunteers on the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, as they work to bring back the native tallgrass prairie. *With many photographs.*

**Ray, Deborah Kogan. *The Flower Hunter: William Bartram, America's First Naturalist.***

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2004. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 6. In this fictionalized biography, young Billy Bartram gathers specimens and plants seeds, while keeping a journal of his experiences learning about nature in colonial America from his father.

**Thomas, Peggy. *Farmer George Plants a Nation.***

Illustrated by Layne Johnson.

Calkins Creek, 2008. 40 pages

Grades 3 – 6. This picture book biography focuses on George Washington's life as a farmer, inventor, and scientist with an emphasis on Washington's innovative thinking and experimentation. *In picture book format with a lot of text.*

## Environmental Protection and Climate Change

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**Cherry, Lynne. *How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming.***

Dawn Publications, 2008. 66 pages

Grades 4 – 8. This book describes how scientists find evidence of climate change, and what can be done to counteract global warming. *Includes many photographs.*

**Collard, Sneed B. *Science Warriors: The Battle Against Invasive Species.***

Houghton Mifflin, 2008. *Scientists in the Field Series.* 48 pages

Grades 5 – 8. This book describes invasive species and the work of individual researchers as they study the invaders' impact on habitats and search for biological controls. *Photographs.*

**Delano, Marfé Ferguson. *Earth in the Hot Seat: Bulletins From a Warming World.***

National Geographic, 2009. 63 pages

Grades 4 – 6. This book explores the science of climate change and the extent and consequences of global warming, and it offers suggestions for doing something about it. Includes interviews with scientists and activists. *With many photographs and maps.*

**Drummond, Allan. *Energy Island: How One Community Harnessed the Wind and Changed Their World.***

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 6. The Danish island Samsø has received worldwide attention for its energy independence, achieved by moving completely away from fossil fuels to renewable resources. The leader of the movement was a grade-school teacher who started his visionary campaign with his students. *In picture book format.*

**Kurlansky, Mark. *The World Without Fish.***

Illustrated by Frank Stockton.

Workman Publishing Company, 2011. 183 pages

Grades 6 – 8. This is the story of what’s happening to the fish, the oceans, and our environment, including why the fish we most commonly eat could become extinct within fifty years.

With a focus on supporting sustainable fishing and how we can make a difference. *Interwoven with the book is a graphic novel.*

**Landau, Elaine. *Oil Spill! Disaster in the Gulf of Mexico.***

Millbrook Press, 2011. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 8. This book explores the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico that began on April 20, 2010 and became what may be the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history. It includes an overview of the spill’s effects and what people are doing to help clean it up. *Photos and maps.*

**Lawlor, Laurie. *Rachel Carson and Her Book that Changed the World.***

Illustrated by Laura Beingessner.

Holiday House, 2012. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. In celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of *Silent Spring*, this is a biography of the pioneering environmentalist who alerted the public to the harmful impact of chemicals on animal and plant life. *In picture book format with a fair amount of text.*

**Levine, Ellen. *Rachel Carson: A Twentieth-Century Life.***

Viking Publishing/Penguin Young Readers, 2007. 224 pages

Grades 5 – 8. This book discusses Rachel Carson’s efforts to protect the environment, from her childhood nature outings through the impact of her 1962 book, *Silent Spring*. *With many primary sources and direct quotes.*

**Locker, Thomas. *Rachel Carson: Preserving a Sense of Wonder.***

Fulcrum Publishing, 2004. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This book explores Carson’s childhood, her career as a writer, her love of nature, particularly the ocean, and concludes with an appreciation of her impact on the environment. Includes some of her most memorable quotes. *In picture book format with painted illustrations.*

**Ride, Sally. *Mission Planet Earth: Our World and Its Climate - and How Humans are Changing Them.***

Flash Point/Roaring Brook Press, 2009. 78 pages

Grades 5 - 8. Beginning with the astronaut’s view of Earth’s fragile atmosphere, this book explains climate change and global warming. With many photographs, charts, and maps.

**Rohmer, Harriet. *Heroes of the Environment: True Stories of People Who are Helping to Protect Our Planet.***

Chronicle Books, 2009. 109 pages

Grades 5 – 8. This book presents the true stories of 12 people, most of them teenagers or young adults, who have done great things for the environment. *Photographs and illustrations.*

**Rosenstock, Barbara.** *The Camping Trip that Changed America.*

Dial Books for Young Readers, 2012. 32 pages

In 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt joined naturalist John Muir on a trip to Yosemite.

During their trip, the two held discussions that would ultimately lead to the establishment of our National Parks. *Slightly fictionalized and in picture book format.*

**Simon, Seymour.** *Global Warming.*

Collins, 2010. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 6. In collaboration with the Smithsonian, this book offers information about rising sea levels, ocean temperatures and greenhouse gases, and on the resulting problems of animal survival. *With many full-page photographs.*

**Suzuki, David.** *You Are the Earth.*

Greystone Books, 2010. 144 pages

Grades 4 – 8. Seeking to instill conservation ethics in children, this book examines the interconnectedness of life on Earth and the planet's resources. Each chapter includes a relevant myth, tale, or legend from cultures across the world.

**Walker, Sally M.** *We Are the Weather Makers: The History of Climate Change.*

Candlewick Press, 2009. 320 pages

Grades 7 – 8. This book looks at the history of climate change, how it will unfold over the next century, and what we can do to prevent a disastrous future. It includes interviews with people who have been directly affected by climate change, as well as tips for living a greener life.

## Invention

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**Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem.** *What Color is My World? The Lost History of African-American Inventors.*

Illustrated by Ben Boos and A.G. Ford.

Candlewick Press, 2012. 32 pages

Grades 4 – 6. A fictional story is the framework for this collective biography of African-American inventors and innovators. *In an unusual format, some of the information is given on folded flaps and written in the style of a school report while other entries are more expansive.*

**Kamkwamba, William.** *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind.*

Illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon.

Dial Books for Young Readers, 2012. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. When 14-year-old William Kamkwamba's Malawi village was hit by a drought in 2001, everyone's crops began to fail. In the library, he came across a book on windmills and figured out how to bring electricity to his village. *In picture book format.*

**Krull, Kathleen.** *The Boy Who Invented TV: The Story of Philo Farnsworth.*

Illustrated by Greg Couch.

A.A. Knopf, 2009. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This biography of Philo Farnsworth covers his early interest in machines and electricity, leading up to how he put it all together in one of the greatest inventions of the 20th century – the television. *In picture book format with a lot of text.*

**Lee, Dora. *Biomimicry.***

Illustrated by Margot Thompson.

Kids Can Press, 2011. 40 pages

Grades 5 – 8. Defining biomimicry as a way of thinking that uses nature as a model for developing ideas and technologies, this book presents applications already in use, as well as the potential for future inventions inspired by the natural world. *Fully illustrated.*

**Sweet, Melissa. *Balloons over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade.***

Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2011. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This is the story of the puppeteer and inventor Tony Sarg, whose genius and dedication led to his gift to America – the helium balloons that would become the trademark of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. *In picture book format.*

**McCully, Emily Arnold. *Marvelous Mattie: How Margaret E. Knight Became an Inventor.***

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. The story of Margaret E. Knight, of Maine and New Hampshire, who was known as “the Lady Edison” because of her inventions, which included the square-bottomed paper bag. *In picture book format.*

**Weston, Mark. *Honda: The Boy Who Dreamed of Cars.***

Illustrated by Katie Yamasaki.

Lee & Low Books, 2008. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This biography of Japanese businessman Soichiro Honda, founder of the Honda Motor Company, focuses on his early influences and later career as an innovative inventor and manufacturer of motorcycles and cars. Lightly fictionalized. *In picture book format.*

See also in the Series section:

*Getting to Know the World's Greatest Inventors and Scientists Series*

## Medicine and Genetics

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**Bardoe, Cheryl. *Gregor Mendel: The Friar Who Grew Peas.***

Illustrated by Jos. A. Smith.

Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2006. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 6. Regarded as the world's first geneticist, Mendel, born in 1822, discovered one of the fundamental aspects of genetic science: animals, plants, and people all inherit and pass down traits through the same process. *In picture book format with a lot of text.*

**Dendy, Leslie A. *Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine.***

Henry Holt & Co., 2005. 213 pages

Grades 6 – 8. This book includes the stories of ten men and women, from the 1770s to the present, who devoted their lives, and sometimes risked them, to answer some of the big questions in science and medicine.

**Jurmain, Suzanne. *The Secret of the Yellow Death: A True Story of Medical Sleuthing.***

Houghton Mifflin, 2009. 104 pages

Grades 5 – 8. This medical mystery is the story of Walter Reed and his team of U.S. Army doctors who went to Cuba in 1900 to study yellow fever and determine how it was spread. *Illustrated with period photos.*

**Lasky, Kathryn. *One Beetle Too Many: The Extraordinary Adventures of Charles Darwin.***

Illustrated by Matthew Trueman.

Candlewick Press, 2009. 38 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This book chronicles naturalist Charles Darwin's voyages on the Beagle, a journey that informed his ideas, eventually leading him to publish *On the Origin of Species*, the foundation of contemporary biology. *In picture book format.*

**Phelan, Glen. *Double Helix: The Quest to Uncover the Structure of DNA.***

National Geographic, 2006. Science Quest Series. 59 pages

Grades 5 – 8. An overview of the quest to understand heredity, this book focuses on the accomplishments of Francis Crick and James Watson, who uncovered the structure of DNA. Also included are the contributions made by other scientists including Rosalind Franklin and Linus Pauling. *With a timeline and many illustrations.*

**Phelan, Glen. *Killing Germs, Saving Lives: The Quest for the First Vaccines.***

National Geographic, 2006. Science Quest Series. 59 pages

Grades 5 – 8. This book traces the creation of the vaccines that revolutionized modern medicine, through portraits of the scientists involved, including Louis Pasteur, Joseph Lister, and Florence Nightingale. *With a timeline and many illustrations.*

**Venezia, Mike. *Charles Drew: Doctor Who Got the World Pumped Up to Donate Blood.***

Scholastic, 2009. 32 pages

Grades 2 – 4. This solidly researched biography, accompanied by humorous drawings, tells of Charles Drew who developed the field of blood transfusion, and established a system of blood banks. *Picture book format.*

**Winner, Cherie. *Circulating Life: Blood Transfusion from Ancient Superstition to Modern Medicine.***

Twenty-First Century Books, 2007. Discovery! Series. 112 pages

Grades 6 – 8. This book looks at the history of and science behind blood transfusion, including the bizarre, superstitious theories of early medical practitioners. The author includes the advances in medical knowledge and technologies and considers how racial prejudices and the spread of AIDS affected attitudes toward transfusion. *With photographs.*

## Oceanography

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**Berne, Jennifer.** *Manfish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau.*

Illustrated by Eric Puybaret.

Chronicle Books, 2008. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This biography of oceanographer Jacques Cousteau follows him from his childhood curiosity about the natural world to his later achievements in oceanic exploration and film-making. *In picture book format.*

**Burns, Loree Griffin.** *Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion.*

Houghton Mifflin, 2007. 56 pages

Grades 4 – 8. Oceanographer Curtis Ebbesmeyer tracks trash that has spilled into the sea and uses his data to understand and protect the world's oceans. *In photo-essay format.*

**Chin, Jason.** *Coral Reefs.*

Roaring Brook Press, 2011. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. Using a fantasy framework, this book provides an introduction to coral reefs. A young girl gets a surprise when the text of a library book she is reading transforms her surroundings, and she learns how adaptation and cooperation enable coral reef animals to survive. *In picture book format.* (See also the author's *Redwoods.*)

**Mallory, Kenneth.** *Diving to a Deep-Sea Volcano.*

Houghton Mifflin, 2006. 60 pages

Grades 4 - 8. Ninety-five percent of the volcanic activity on earth occurs in the ridge of underwater mountains in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, which is where the scientist Rich Lutz has tracked the evolution of bizarre creatures that spawn in hydrothermal vent fluids that are poisonous to most other forms of life. *In photo-essay format.*

**Nivola, Claire A.** *Life in the Ocean: The Story of Sylvia Earle.*

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. 32 pages

Grades 3 - 5. This is a biography of pioneering oceanographer and environmentalist Sylvia Earle, named by Time magazine as its first "Hero of the Planet" in 1998. *Picture book format.*

**Sheldon, David.** *Into the Deep: The Life of Naturalist and Explorer William Beebe.*

Charlesbridge, 2009. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. Born in 1877, William Beebe was a pioneer in the field of ecology, the father of deep-sea exploration, and an avid conservationist. This biography follows his adventures from childhood through his adult years observing wildlife in their natural habitats. *Picture book format.*

## Paleontology

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**Deem, James M.** *Bodies From the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Recovery of the Past.*

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2008. 58 pages

Grades 5 – 8. As glaciers melt, more frozen bodies are appearing, adding greatly to the knowledge researchers have about history and culture. This book includes information about the finding of a 5,000-year old mummy. *In photo-essay format.*

**Dingus, Lowell, et. al. *Dinosaur Eggs Discovered! Unscrambling the Clues.***

Twenty-First Century Books, 2007. 112 pages

Grades 5 – 8. This book examines the discovery of fossilized dinosaur eggs by a group of scientists in Argentina, who figured out the catastrophe that killed the unborn dinosaurs and preserved the site for millions of years. *With many photographs.*

**Ray, Deborah Kogan. *Dinosaur Mountain: Digging Into the Jurassic Age.***

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010. 33 pages

Grades 3 – 5. This book tells the story of dinosaur hunter Earl Douglas and his colleague William Holland, who, with the financial support of Andrew Carnegie, discovered, unearthed and preserved the extensive dinosaur bone beds in northeastern Utah in the early 20th century. *In picture book format with drawings and full-page watercolors.*

**Rubalcaba, Jill and Peter Robertshaw. *Every Bone Tells a Story: Hominin Discoveries, Deductions, and Debates.***

Charlesbridge Publishing, 2010. 180 pages

Grades 6 – 8. In this book about four hominins who lived long before recorded history, the authors explore how and where their remains were discovered and what they tell scientists about how they lived and why they died out. *With photographs.*

**Sereno, Paul C. and Natalie Lunis. *Supercroc: Paul Sereno's Dinosaur Eater.***

Bearport Publishing, 2006. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 6. This is the story of Paul Sereno's 1997 excavation in the desert, which revealed facts about the giant prehistoric croc that lived and fought among the dinosaurs. *With many photographs.*

**Sheldon, David. *Barnum Brown: Dinosaur Hunter.***

Illustrated by the author.

Walker & Company, 2006. 32 pages

Grades 3 – 5. Working for the American Museum of Natural History, Brown became a leading paleontologist during the late 1800s, eventually discovering the first nearly complete *Tyrannosaurus Rex* specimen. *A biography in picture book format.*

## Recommended Series

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### *Discovery! Series*

Twenty-First Century Books. 120 - 140 pages

Grades 5 – 8. A series about historical and modern scientific discoveries. Titles include:  
Andryszewski, Patricia. *Mass Extinction: Examining the Current Crisis* (2008)  
Friedlander, Mark P. *Outbreak: Disease Detectives at Work* (2009)

Johnson, Rebecca L. *Investigating Climate Change: Scientists' Search for Answers in a Warming World* (2009)

La Pierre, Yvette. *Neandertals: A Prehistoric Puzzle* (2008)

**Venezia, Mike. *Getting to Know the World's Greatest Inventors and Scientists Series***

Scholastic, 32 pages.

Grades 3 and up. An accessible and appealing series for less experienced readers, in picture book format. Written and illustrated with humor and well-researched factual information.

Titles in this series include:

*Albert Einstein: Universal Genius* (2009)

*Alexander Graham Bell: Setting the Tone for Communication* (2009)

*Benjamin Franklin: Electrified the World with New Ideas* (2009)

*Daniel Hale Williams: Surgeon Who Opened Hearts and Minds.* (2010)

*Henry Ford: Big Wheel in the Auto Industry* (2009)

*Lise Meitner: Had the Right Vision about Nuclear Fission* (2010)

*Luis Alvarez: Wild Idea Man* (2010)

*Marie Curie: Scientist Who Made Glowing Discoveries* (2009)

*Mary Leakey: Archaeologist Who Really Dug Her Own Work* (2009)

*Rachel Carson: Clearing the Way for the Environmental Protection* (2010)

*Stephen Hawking: Who Got a Big Bang Out of the Universe* (2009)

*Steve Jobs & Steve Wozniak: Geek Heroes Who Put the Personal Into Computers* (2010)

*Thomas Edison: Inventor With a Lot of Bright Ideas* (2009)

*The Wright Brothers: Inventors Whose Ideas Really Took Off* (2010)

**Krull, Kathleen. *Giants of Science Series***

Viking, 140 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. This biography series highlights major figures in science whose contributions have had extraordinary influence on the study of the natural world. Each is written in a lively, accessible writing style. *Illustrated with occasional drawings.* Titles include:

*Marie Curie* (2007)

*Charles Darwin* (2010)

*Leonardo da Vinci* (2005)

*Albert Einstein* (2009)

*Sigmund Freud* (2006)

*Isaac Newton* (2006)

**Kulling, Monica. *Great Ideas Series***

Tundra Books, 32 pages.

Grades 3 – 5. This series introduces inventors to less experienced readers. *In picture book format,* and lightly fictionalized. Titles include:

*All Aboard! Elijah McCoy's Steam Engine* (2010)

*In the Bag! Margaret Knight Wraps It Up* (2011)

*It's a Snap! George Eastman's First Photograph* (2009)

### ***Photobiography Series***

National Geographic Society, 64 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. A biography series *with photos, drawings, and quotes* from speeches and writings. Titles include:

Bausum, Ann. *Dragon Bones and Dinosaur Eggs: A Photobiography of Explorer Roy Chapman Andrews* (2000)

Collins, Mary. *Airborne: A Photobiography of Wilbur and Orville Wright* (2003)

Delano, Marfé Ferguson. *Genius: A Photobiography of Albert Einstein* (2005)

Delano, Marfé Ferguson. *Inventing the Future: A Photobiography of Thomas Alva Edison* (2002)

Matthews, Tom. *Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell* (1999)

### ***Scientists in the Field Series***

Houghton Mifflin, 50 - 80 pages.

Grades 4 – 8. Far from the research laboratory, these *photo-essays* show scientists' firsthand adventures in the natural world. Titles include:

Carson, Mary Kay. *The Bat Scientist* (2010)

Carson, Mary Kay. *Emi and the Rhino Scientist* (2007)

Hodgkins, Fran. *The Whale Scientist: Solving the Mystery of Whale Strandings* (2007)

Jackson, Donna M. *The Bug Scientists* (2002)

Jackson, Donna M. *Extreme Scientists: Exploring Nature's Mysteries from Perilous Places* (2009)

Kramer, Stephen. *Hidden Worlds: Looking Through a Scientist's Microscope* (2001)

Lourie, Peter. *The Manatee Scientists: Saving Vulnerable Species* (2011)

Sayre, April Pulley. *Secrets of Sound. Studying the Calls and Songs of Whales, Elephants, and Birds* (2002)

Turner, Pamela. *The Frog Scientist* (2009)

### ***Women's Adventures in Science Series***

Scholastic, 110 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. A series that examines the lives and research of contemporary female scientists.

Titles include:

Bortz, Fred. *Beyond Jupiter: The Story of Planetary Astronomer Heidi Hammel* (2005)

Hopping, Lorraine Jean. *Bone Detective: The Story of Forensic Anthropologist Diane France* (2005)

Skelton, Renee. *Forecast Earth: The Story of Climate Scientist Inez Fung* (2005)

Brown, Jordan. *Robo World: The Story of Robot Designer Cynthia Breazeal* (2005)

## Resources

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### American Association for the Advancement of Science: Prize for Excellence in Science Books

The Prize for Excellence in Science Books celebrates outstanding science writing and illustration for children and young adults. The prize is meant to encourage the writing and publishing of high-quality science books for all age groups. AAAS believes that, through good science books, this generation and the next, will have a better understanding and appreciation of science. The web page lists the winners and runners-up for current and past awards.

[www.sbsonline.com/Subaru/Pages/PrizesHome.aspx](http://www.sbsonline.com/Subaru/Pages/PrizesHome.aspx)

### Children's Book Guild: Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award

This award honors an author or author-illustrator whose total work has contributed significantly to the quality of nonfiction for children, which includes written or illustrated work intended to illuminate the following fields of knowledge: science, technology, social science, history, biography, and the arts. [www.childrensbookguild.org/nonfiction-award](http://www.childrensbookguild.org/nonfiction-award)

### Green Earth Literature Program: Green Earth Book Awards

The Newton Marasco Foundation (NMF) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. NMF, in partnership with Salisbury University, created the Green Earth Book Award to promote books that inspire children to develop a deeper appreciation, respect and sense of responsibility for their natural environment.

[www.newtonmarascofoundation.org/programs/a\\_ge.cfm](http://www.newtonmarascofoundation.org/programs/a_ge.cfm)

### National Science Teachers Association: Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K–12

NSTA publishes a yearly list of books that were selected as outstanding children's science trade books. The books were chosen by a book review panel appointed by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and assembled with the Children's Book Council (CBC).

[www.nsta.org/publications/ostb/](http://www.nsta.org/publications/ostb/)

### Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

This is an annual award that recognizes excellence in the writing of nonfiction for children, given by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).

[www.ncte.org/about/awards/sect/elem/106877.htm](http://www.ncte.org/about/awards/sect/elem/106877.htm)

### Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award

This award, established by the Association for Library Service to Children in 2001, is presented annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished informational book published in English during the preceding year.

[www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/sibertmedal/](http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/sibertmedal/)