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*Juliana Horatia Ewing*

Brought to the windmiller's home as a foundling on a dark and stormy night, the infant Jan soon won his way into the hearts of his new family, especially that of little Abel who served as his nursemaid. Together they lay for hours watching the clouds. Once Abel showed Jan how to draw them in the dirt, he wanted to do nothing else. He drew on slates at school, then as a pig-minder fashioned pictures with colored leaves that blew away in the wind. The schoolmaster encountering him at this occupation befriended him, providing supplies for the budding artist and raising his aspirations. The story begins slowly with rich descriptions and carefully etched characters, then accelerates as the plot twists and turns, and finally gallops to a fine finish fitting for such a talented lad. **Ages 10-12**

**Stories of Don Quixote Written Anew for Children**
*James Baldwin*

A retelling for the youthful reader of the most interesting parts of Cervantes' great novel about Don Quixote, the eccentric gentleman who fancies himself a knight-errant. The adventures most appealing to children are included, and related in such a way as to form a continuous narrative, with both the spirit and style of the original preserved as much as possible. **Ages 10-12**

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Robert Browning
Robert Browning’s well-known poem of the piper who piped a tune to rid the town of Hamelin of its rats, but when the townspeople refused the promised payment for his service, he played another tune altogether, prompting later generations to remember that they must not forget to pay the piper. Unusually attractive edition, elaborately illustrated with richly colored full page illustrations by Hope Dunlap, along with numerous drawings and marginal decorations. 8.5 x 11 inches.
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Draw close to the fire, all you who believe in the spirit of Christmas, whether you call it Santa Claus, or simply good will to men; and listen to the story of Nicholas the Wandering Orphan who became Nicholas the Wood-carver, a lover of little children. Follow him through his first years as a lonely little boy, who had the knack of carving playthings for children; then as a young man, busy over the little toys; then as a prosperous, fat, rosy old man, who overcomes all sorts of difficulties in order to attain his ambition, a toy for every child in the village. Learn how he started to drive a beautiful sleigh drawn by prancing reindeer; why he first came down a chimney; how he filled the first stocking; where the first Christmas tree was decorated; and finally how he came to be known as Saint Nicholas and Santa Claus.
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Share the excitement of three little children as they discover how beans grow from seeds, then start to wonder how other plants get their start, which leads them to watch closely for new life springing up all around them. Numerous black and white drawings enliven the text.
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All the animals in Tommy Smith’s neighborhood lived in fear of him. Thinking that he would treat them more kindly if he knew more about them, they each agreed to meet him and share their life story. In these conversations Tommy Smith did indeed learn lots of information about the animals: the food they ate, the places they slept, the enemies they faced, and much more. In the course of these encounters with the frog and toad, the rook, the rat, the hare, the snake, the peregrine, the mole, the wood-pigeon, the squirrel, and the owl, Tommy’s heart did soften, and, as the barn owl had predicted, he became a friend to all the animals. Several black and white illustrations by G. W. Ord complement the text.
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First volume in the Eyes and No Eyes series, introduces the youthful reader to the variety of animal and plant life that three children observe on their way to school through fields and woods. The goal of the series is to inspire children to become keen observers of wildlife and to heighten their curiosity about their natural surroundings. Eight color illustrations and numerous black and white drawings complement the text. 5.5 x 8.5 inches. Ages 7-9
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Second volume in the Eyes and No Eyes series, introduces children to the variety of plant and animal life around ponds and rivers. Through life stories of frogs, dragon-flies, fish, water-bugs, water birds, otters, and voles, children’s interest in water creatures is awakened. An exhibit of water plants at a flower show concludes the volume. Seven color illustrations and numerous black and white drawings complement the text. 5.5 x 8.5 inches. Ages 8-10
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Arabella Buckley
Sixth volume in the Eyes and No Eyes series, introduces children to insect life by collecting a variety of specimens and then examining them in detail, identifying their parts and observing their life cycles. Includes caterpillars, familiar moths and butterflies, harmful and useful beetles, wasps and bees, flies, ants, and crickets and grasshoppers. Eight color illustrations and numerous black and white drawings complement the text. 5.5 x 8.5 inches. Ages 8-10
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Arabella Buckley
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Arabella Buckley
Fifth volume in the Eyes and No Eyes series, introduces children to trees and shrubs, encouraging them to ponder all the ways in which trees are useful to us. They learn how a tree starts and how it continues to grow year after year. They study an oak tree in detail, along with the animal life it supports, then contrast it with cone-bearing trees and trees of hedgerow, garden, and park. Eight color illustrations and numerous black and white drawings complement the text. 5.5 x 8.5 inches. Ages 8-10
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Engaging account of why seeds travel and how they do it. Learn how some seeds fly, others float, and still others are shot away. Then find out two ways in which animals play a role in seed dispersal. Numerous black and white illustrations complement the text. Ages 8-11
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When Jack receives a book on insects for his birthday, Maggie wishes one could get “into” a book. And so they do, experiencing adventures with insects of all sorts as they “travel” through the book. Along the way they encounter a butterfly with a grievance, extraordinary caterpillars, a hungry spider, a distinguished musician (a katydid), as well as fireflies, locusts, grasshoppers, wasps, bees, and more. Each animal is brought to life so vividly through the story that the reader unconsciously absorbs the details of its existence: its physical characteristics, its habits and preferences, and its interactions with other animals. Ages 9-11
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The Bee People
Margaret Warner Morley
An attractive introduction to the curious structure, habits, and activities of bees, in which readers learn how the bees’ wondrous body parts equip them to gather nectar and pollen, construct the hive, and nurture the young, and how the different kinds of bees interact in the life of the hive. Over one hundred pen drawings by the author illustrate the features described in the text. Ages 8-12
118 pages $8.95
Through vivid depictions of a dozen family groupings, the author demonstrates that mother animals and birds often train their young in order to supplement their natural instincts. The deer and her fawns, the black bear and her cubs, the fishhawk and her nestlings, the keen-eyed heron, the stupid porcupine, and the mighty moose are some of the animals whose teachings are described in this book.

Ages 10-14
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William J. Long
Vivid sketches of small mammals familiar to country dwellers including the squirrel, chipmunk, woodchuck, rabbit, muskrat, skunk, fox, weasel, mink, raccoon, porcupine, opossum, and mouse. Anecdotes based upon the author’s firsthand observations and personal encounters with these creatures of the wild.

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A month by month account of the pageant of nature that can be observed outside your door, all through the year from snowfall in January to hibernation in December. The highlights of each month are recounted, along with background information about the particular insects, birds, trees, flowers, mammals, reptiles, invertebrates, or fish that are featured. Each chapter concludes with a list of natural events to watch for during that month. A great book to read slowly over the course of a year. Ages 12-18
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The Spring of the Year
Dallas Lore Sharp
The excitement of the author is palpable as he recounts his observation of one sign of spring after another. Readers are likely to be infected with his enthusiasm and take on some of the activities suggested in the Things To See, Things To Hear, and Things To Do chapters that are interspersed between accounts of wondrous happenings in spring in the great out of doors. Special emphasis is placed on the rewards to be gained by selecting and coming to know one particular place intimately.
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The Fall of the Year
Dallas Lore Sharp
Stirring accounts of the author’s autumn adventures in the out of doors, interspersed with specific suggestions for tramps afield in the fall of the year providing things to look for and hear and do as the world turns toward winter. Includes six bits of sound advice about going afield at any season that are not to be missed! Ages 10-12
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Winter
Dallas Lore Sharp
At the first snowfall the author urges the reader to head out of doors in search of tracks and the stories they tell. He continues to point out the sounds and sights, the things to do, the places to visit, the how and why, that children may catch the spirit of the season, come to know the wild life of winter, and through that knowledge come to love winter for its own sake. Ages 10-12
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Tommy Smith at the Zoo
Edmund Selous
There is something special about Tommy Smith—everywhere he goes, animals talk to him! On a family vacation to London, Tommy goes to visit the zoo, and discovers that the lions, penguins, ostriches, bears, boars and other animals are very willing to come forward and tell him about themselves. Tommy’s natural curiosity guides each conversation with questions, and by the end he has learned about the things the animals eat and how they live. This imaginative presentation of animal behavior is as informative as it is fun to read.
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George F. Atkinson
A guide to discovery of the forces at work in the world of plants. Through germinating seeds and varying their growing conditions, students learn by observation the different ways seeds germinate and young plants respond to moisture and light. Further experiments shed light on the manner of nourishment, respiration, and reproduction. The reader is given plenty to ponder since the text often poses questions without supplying answers. The life stories of the sweet pea, oak, ferns, moss, and mushrooms and an account of some of the forces plants have to contend with in their struggle to survive encourage students to continue to read and interpret their surroundings. An engaging introduction to botany for middle school and beyond. Ages 12-15
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A Nature Study Guide
W. S. Furneaux
An indispensable guide for teachers in the method of nature study that will inform their efforts to bring children in direct contact with things, to cultivate the habit of careful observation and discrimination, to create a living interest in the surroundings, and to encourage independent thought. Includes a full explanation of the benefits of nature study, the way to conduct nature lessons indoors and a full range of seasonal studies outside, as well as the preparation and management of valuable aids to the study of nature, such as the aquarium, the terrarium, the garden, and museum. Strongly recommended as a companion to The Handbook of Nature Study. Ages 12-18
408 pages $15.95

The Lay of the Land
Dallas Lore Sharp
A series of nature sketches, whose topics range from muskrats building for winter to buzzards nesting in the swamp, written in a way that encourages in the reader the habit of close observation. That the substance for most of the essays comes from personal observation of a small tract of land over a number of years illustrates how much can be discovered through regular observation in all seasons. In the final chapter he urges readers to adopt a similar practice.
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