



The Clifton Institute

Recommended Reading List

(Organized by grade level and program theme)

Kindergarten

Meet-A-Tree

Tap the Magic Tree by Christie Matheson

Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert

Maple by Lori Nichols

The Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry

We Planted a Tree by Diane Muldrow

Wangari's Trees of a Peace: A True Story from Africa by Jeanette Winter

Who Will Plant a Tree? By Jerry Pallotta

Home Sweet Habitat

Five Busy Beavers by Stella Partheniou Grasso

A Stone Sat Still by Brendan Wenzel

Finding Wild by Megan Wagner Lloyd

Faraway Fox by Jolene Thompson

All the Animals Where I Live by Philip C. Stead

Beavers Build Lodges by Elizabeth Raum

Night in the Country by Cynthia Rylant

Forest Bright, Forest Night by Jennifer Ward

In the Meadow by Yukiko Kato

1st Grade

Budding Birders

Bird Talk by Ann Jonas

The Birdwatchers by Simon James

Hooray for Birds! By Lucy Cousins

Plume by Isabelle Simler

Birds by Kevin Henkes

Vulture View by April Pulley Sayre

Fledging by Robert J. Blake

Bring on the Birds by Susan Stockdale

Tracks & Scat

How to Find a Fox by Nilah Magruder

Now by Antoinette Portis

Listen, Listen by Phillis Gershator

Run Wild by David Covell

The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life with the Chimps by Jeanette Winter

Whose Tracks Are These? By James D. Nail

Explorers of the Wild by Cale Atkinson

2nd Grade

Wonders of Virginia Wildlife

Stellaluna by Janell Cannon

Box Turtle at Long Pond by William T. George

Little Beaver and the Echo by Amy MacDonald

Old Beaver by Udo Weigelt

Possum and the Peeper by Anne Hunter

Night Animals by Gianna Marino

Growing Up on the Piedmont

Waiting for Wings by Lois Ehlert

Hank Finds an Egg by Rebecca Dudley

Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin

A Bear's Year by Kathy Duval

Soar High, Dragonfly by Sheri M. Bestor

My Little Fox by Rick Chrustowski

3rd Grade

Wonderful Web of Life

Carl and the Meaning of Life by Deborah Freedman

The Salamander Room by Anne Mazer and Steve Johnson

No Monkeys, No Chocolate by Melissa Stewart

This is Our Earth by Laura Lee Benson

Amazing Animal Adaptations

They Call Me Woolly: What Animal Names Can Tell Us by Keith Duquette

Terrific Tongues by Maria Gianferrari and Jia Liu

Pink is for Blobfish by Jess Keating

Two Days in May by Harriet Peck Taylor

Feathers: Not Just for Flying by Melissa Stewart

Animal Journeys by Patricia Hegarty

Animals Do, Too! By Etta Kaner

4th Grade

Beautiful Butterflies

Velma Gratch and the Way Cool Butterfly by Alan Madison

An Extraordinary Life: The Story of a Monarch Butterfly by Laurence Pringle

Water, Water Everywhere

A Cool Drink of Water by Barbara Kerley

Water is Water by Miranda Paul

A River Ran Wild: An Environmental History by Lynne Cherry

Jack: The Story of a Beaver by Shirley E. Woods

Out of the Woods: A True Story of an Unforgettable Event by Rebecca Bond

5th Grade

Clifton Rocks!

Everybody Needs A Rock by Byrd Baylor and Peter Parnall

Fascinating Forests

Tiger Boy by Mitali Perkins

North Woods Girl by Aimee M. Bissonette

Aani and the Treehuggers by Jeannine Atkins

The Shaman's Apprentice: A Tale of the Amazon Rainforest by Lynne Cherry

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Building a Better Ecosystem

The Skydiving Beavers: A True Tale by Susan Wood

Going Wild: Helping Nature Thrive in Cities by Michelle Mulder

When the Monkeys Came Back by Kristine L. Franklin

Mama Miti: Wangari Maathai and the Trees of Kenya by Donna Jo Napoli

My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George

Plants and Animals and Fungi- Oh my!

Life by Cynthia Rylant

The Truth About Bears by Maxwell Eaton III

The Legend of the Lady Slipper by Margi Preus

At This Very Moment by Jim Arnosky

A Mammal is an Animal by Lizzy Rockewell

Invertebrate Explorations- early fall/late spring

Some Bugs by Angela DiTerlizzi

An Extraordinary Ordinary Moth by Karlin Gray

Thinking About Ants by Barbara Brenner

Additional Programs

Nature Writing (Grades 3 and up)

Keeping a Nature Journal by Clare Walker Leslie & Charles E. Roth

The Lost Words by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris

Lizards, Frogs, and Polliwogs by Douglas Florian

Hi, Koo! A Year of Seasons by Jon J. Muth

Daniel Finds a Poem by Micha Archer

The Tree that Time Built: A Celebration of Nature, Science, and Imagination by Mary

Ann Hoberman and Linda Winston

Nature Art (Grades K-5)

Keeping a Nature Journal by Clare Walker Leslie & Charles E. Roth

The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush by Tomie dePaola

Laws Guide to Nature Drawing and Journaling by John Muir Laws