

Annotated Bibliography of Easy Informational Books

Animals

Dodson, Peter. (2011). *Stegosaurus Up Close, Plated Dinosaur*. Enslow, 24 pp. Vivid illustrations and easy-to-read text provide a clear description of Stegosaurus and its environment. Headings, quiz, glossary, bibliography, index. IL 2-3 RL 2.5

Dussling, Jennifer (2011). *Slinky, Scaly Snakes*. Dorling Kindersley, 32 pp. Features easy-to-read descriptions of a variety of snakes. Only 4-5 lines per page. IL 2-4 RL 2.9 550L

Hughes, Catherine (2010). *National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Animals*. National Geographic, 128 pp, part of National Geographic Little Kids First Big Books. In photos and easy-to-read text, describes the features, habitats, and everyday lives of a variety of animals. Has a Facts box that provides information on Kind of Animal, Home, Size, Food, Sounds, and Babies. Could be used to show how to organize and summarize information. Parent Tips for extension activities. Index. IL 1-3 RL 2-3 660L

Lennie, Charles (2015). *Stegosaurus*. Abdo, 24 pp. Informative but easy-to-read description of Stegosaurus, its habitat, activities, and its fossils. Glossary, index. Publisher website has video, more information on same level as book, and links to more advanced websites. IL K-2 RL 1

*Marsh, Laura (2012). *Caterpillar to Butterfly*. National Geographic, 32 pp. Explains with photos and easy-to-read language the four stages that butterflies pass through. Exceptionally clear presentation. Phonetic respellings, embedded and end-of-book glossary. IL K-3 RL 1-2, 400 L

Marsh, Laura (2014). *Sea Otters*. National Geographic Kids, 32 pp. In photos and easy-to-read text, describes sea otters and tells where and how they live. Explains concepts, such as *mammals* and *kelp* in text. Phonetic respellings, heads, map, embedded glossary in text. Picture glossary at end of book, vocabulary activities. IL 1-2 RL-1

Okido, (2014). *My Animal Book Facts and Fun, Questions and Answers, Things to Make and Do*. Thames & Hudson, 64 pp. Provides basic facts about animals by answering questions about what animals eat and where they live. Written in brief, easy language. Heads, gloss, supervised website, index. IL K-2 RL 2.2.

- Reasoner, Charles (2010). *When I Hatch What Will I Be?* Blue Door/O'Rourke, 18 pp. Shows cocoon or egg, tells where it is found, and asks, "When I Hatch What Will I Be?" Interactive. IL K-1 RL easy 1.
- Rice, Dona (2012). *A Butterfly's Life* (Time for Kids Nonfiction Readers: Level 1.5). Teacher Created Materials, 20 pp. Explains in easy-to-understand fashion the life cycles of a butterfly. Illustrated glossary. IL K-2 RL 1 190L
- *Stewart, Melissa (2014). *World's Fastest Animals*. Sterling, 32 pp. Part of American Museum of Natural History Easy Readers. Photos and 2 to 4 lines of text depict basilisk lizard, cheetah, pronghorn sheep, and other speedsters of the animal world. Easy to read but engaging and informative. Could be a mentor text for students' writing. IL 1-3 RL1-2
- Thomson, Sarah (2005, 2006). *Amazing Whales!* HarperCollins, 32 pp. Part of I Can Read series. Describes blue, killer, and sperm whales, dolphins, and porpoises in easy-to-understand language accompanied by photos. IL K-3 RL 1-2 620L

Biography

- Bridges, Ruby (2003, 2009). *Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story*. Scholastic, 32 pp. In easy-to-understand language and accompanied by realistic photos of the time, Ruby Bridges explains how she helped integrate an elementary school in New Orleans. IL 2-4 RL 2 410L
- Edwards, Roberta (2009). *Who Was George Washington?* Grosset & Dunlap, 112 pp. Using easy-to-understand language, paints a portrait of George Washington. Timeline, bibliography. IL2-4 RL 2.8 720L
- Jazynka, Kitson (2018). *Buzz Aldrin*. National Geographic Kids, 48 pp. Makes extensive use of photos to highlight life of late astronaut. Defines difficult words in an embedded glossary and end-of-book glossary. IL: 2-5 RL 4.9 850L
- Kelly, David A. (2013). *Miracle Mud : Lena Blackburne and the Secret Mud That Changed Baseball*. Millbrook Press, 32 pages. Although falling short of his dream of becoming a star baseball player, Lena Blackburne discovered a secret mud that is still being used today to prepare baseballs for big league play. Consisting of drawings and captions, the text is easy to read. IL 3-6 RL 3.7 480L

Sisson, Stephanie Ross (2014). *Star Stuff: Carl Sagan and the Mysteries of the Cosmos*. Roaring Book Press, 40 pp. Curious as a boy and inspired by the wonders of the 1938 World's Fair, Carl Sagan went on to investigate the heavens. Text is presented in form of easy-to-read captions. Could be a mentor text for writing a caption autobiography. Possible read aloud. IL 2-4 RL 2.9

Geography/Social Studies

Rice, Dona (2012). *Homes Around the World*. Teacher Created Materials, 20 pp. Shows and tells about a variety of homes. Very easy reading. Illustrated glossary. IL K-2 RL 1 260L

Rice, Dona (2012). *Places Around the World*. Teacher Created Materials, 20 pp. Shows and tells about a variety of homes. Very easy reading. Illustrated glossary. IL K-1 RL 1.p 260L

Carney, Elizabeth (2015). *Little Kids First BIG Book of the World*. National Geographic for Kids, 128 pp. With maps and photos and easy-to-read text depicts each continent, its countries, the land, the people, the animals, and the sights. Parent Tips, glossary, index. IL IL 2-3 RL 690.

Hughes, Catherine (2010). *National Geographic Kids First Big Book of Space*. National Geographic, 128 pp.. With numerous illustrations and easy-to-read text, describes the solar systems, deep space, and space exploration. Defines difficult words in context. Excellent background builder. Maps, glossary, index. IL 1-4 RL 2-3

Lajiness, Katie (2019). *Ravens: Problem Solvers*. Text and full-page photos provide an interesting overview of a clever bird. Glossary. Abdo, 32 pp. IL 1-4 RL 3.8 630L

Rustad, Martha E. H. (2015). *Tornadoes Be Aware and Prepare*. Capstone, 32 pp., 4-5. Easy-to-understand explanation of tornados. Glossary, bibliography with supervised website, index. IL 3-4 RL 640L

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