

Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture

Selections from the Children's Book Collection:

Biographies

Rachel Carson. Accorsi, William. New York: Holiday House, 1993.

A biography of the iconic biologist whose writings helped instigate the environmental movement. Early readers. j QH31 .C23 A27 1993.

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers: How a First Lady Changed America. Appelt, Kathi.

New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2005.

A biography of Lady Bird Johnson who, as the wife of President Lyndon Johnson, reminded citizens about the importance of conserving natural resources and promoted the beautification of cities and highways by planting wildflowers. Early readers. j SB439 .Ap48 2005.

Audubon: Painter of Birds in the Wild Frontier. Armstrong, Jennifer.

New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2003.

A brief but wonderfully illustrated telling of the story of this nineteenth-century painter and naturalist who is most famous for his detailed paintings of birds. Early readers. (j folio) QL31.A9 Ar57 2003

Girls Who Looked Under Rocks: The Lives of Six Pioneering Naturalists. Atkins, Jeannine.

Nevada City, CA: Dawn Publications, 2000.

Brief biographies of six woman naturalists from the 17th to 21st centuries: Maria Sibylla Merian, Anna Botsford Comstock, Frances Hamerstrom, Rachel Carson, Miriam Rothschild, and Jane Goodall. Advanced readers. j QH26 .At52 2000.

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

New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2006.

Presents the life of the geneticist, discussing the poverty of his childhood, his struggle to get an education, his life as a monk, his discovery of the laws of genetics, and the rediscovery of his work thirty-five years after its publication. Early readers. j SB123.4 .B37 2006

George Washington Carver. Carter, Andy. Minneapolis, MN: Carolrhoda Books, 2001.

Recounts the life of the African-American agriculturist at the Tuskegee Institute, emphasizing his love of plants and his belief in living in harmony with the natural world. Early readers.

j S417.C25 245 2001.

Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez. Krull, Kathleen. San Diego, CA: Harcourt, Inc., 2003.

A biography of Cesar Chavez, from age ten with emphasis on his Arizona ranch, to age thirty-eight when he led a peaceful protest against California migrant workers' miserable working conditions. Early readers. j SB186 .K939 2003.

John Muir, America's Naturalist. Locker, Thomas. Golden, Colo.: Fulcrum Pub., c2003.

Presents an overview of the life of the naturalist who founded the Sierra Club and was influential in establishing the national park system. Early readers. j QH31.M9 L796 2003

Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai. Nivola, Claire A. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2008.

The inspiring story of how Wangari Maathai mobilized the women of Kenya to reforest their land. Early readers. j SD409 .N649 2008

The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian's Art Changed Science. Sidman, Joyce. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, c2018.

Explores the extraordinary life and scientific discoveries of Maria Merian, who discovered the truth about metamorphosis and documented the science behind the mystery in this visual biography that features many original paintings by Maria herself.

Advanced readers or adults. j QK98.M54 Si13 2018

Out of School and Into Nature: The Anna Comstock Story. Slade, Suzanne. Ann Arbor, MI: Sleeping Bear Press, c2017.

A picture book biography about naturalist and artist Anna Comstock (1854-1930), who defied social conventions and pursued the study of science. She pioneered a movement to encourage schools to conduct science and nature classes for children outdoors, thereby increasing students' interest in nature. Early readers. j QH31.C72 S53 2017

An Apple for Harriet Tubman. Turner, Glennette Tilley. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman, 2006.

This biography follows Harriet Tubman from her days as a young slave who was whipped for eating an apple, through her work on the Underground Railroad, and finally to Tubman at home in her very own apple orchard which became a symbol of freedom for her and others.

Advanced readers. j SB363 .T852 2006.

The Man Who Made Parks: The Story of Parkbuilder Frederick Law Olmsted. Wishinsky, Frieda.

Plattsburgh, N.Y.: Tundra Books, c1999.

When the great cities of North America were being developed, there was little thought to creating "green spaces." A lover of nature since childhood, Olmsted transformed a swampy wasteland into New York City's Central Park and went on to design many of the most important public places in North America. Advanced readers. SB470 .O5 W757 1999

Updated November 2023. Books are listed alphabetically by the author's last name. For more educational resources, please ask a librarian.