

## Bibliography of Books--Children and Nature

- Baker, Nick, **Amateur Naturalist**, National Geographic, 2005  
Great book for those who would like to explore nature with their kids.
- Boring, Mel, **Fun With Nature Take Along Guide**, NorthWord Books For Young Readers, 1998.  
Great for teachers, parents and guides. Good for campers. Lots of information and ideas for exploring the outdoors.
- Boring, Mel, & Evert, Laura, & Burns, Diane etc. **More Fun With Nature Take Along Guide**, NorthWord Books For Young Readers, 2002.  
Great continuation of Fun With Nature listed above. Great for teachers, parents and guides. Good for campers. Lots of information and ideas for exploring the outdoors
- Broda, Herbert, **Schoolyard Enhanced Learning: Using the Outdoors As An Instructional Tool, K-8**, Stenhouse Publishers, 2007.  
Nice book by an educator to get kids outside for learning. Nice blend of theory and the practical.
- Bucklin-Sporer, Arden, **How To Grow A School Garden: A Complete Guide For Parents And Teachers**, Timber Press, 2010.  
Lots of information. Inspirational, entertaining and exciting. I just look at this book and I feel like going out and planting stuff! Nicely written.
- Comstock, Anna Botsford, **Handbook of Nature Study**, Cornell University Press, 1986.  
Reprint of a classic book on nature study. Huge 800+ pages. Lots of timeless information here.
- Cornell, Joseph, **Sharing Nature With Children**, Dawn Publications, 1998.
- Danks, Fiona, & Schofield, Jo, **Nature's Playground: Activities, Crafts and Games To Encourage Children to Get Outdoors**, Chicago Review Press, 2007.  
Good outdoors activities for all seasons.
- Garrett, Linda, Small Wonders: **Nature Education For Young Children**, Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 2006  
This book is geared towards young kids, (eg. pre-K through K). Provides information, drawings, and field tested activities. Kids learn by seeing and doing. Nicely done.

Grant, Tim, **Greening School Grounds: Creating Habitats For Learning**, New Society Publishers, 2001.

When I was in elementary school, the school grounds were concrete jungles. (Of course in those days we walked to school ten miles through five feet of snow in both directions!) This wonderful source suggests how to transform school grounds into natural spaces that can be effectively used for fun and learning.

Grant, Tim, (ed) and Littlejohn, Gail (ed) **Teaching Green-The Elementary Years: Hands-on Learning in Grades K-5**, Stenhouse Publishers, 2005.

Grant, Tim, (ed) and Littlejohn, Gail (ed), **Teaching Green-The Middle Years: Hands-on Learning in Grades 6-8**, New Society Publishers, 2004.

Grant, Tim, (ed) and Littlejohn, Gail (ed), **Teaching Green-The High School Years: Hands-on Learning in Grades 9-12**, New Society Publishers, 2009.

Kahn, Peter, **The Human Relationship With Nature: Development and Culture**, MIT Press, 2001

More theoretical. How do we as humans relate to and value nature?

Kirkland, Jane, **No Student Left Indoors: Creating a Field Guide To Your Schoolyard**, Stillwater Publishing, 2007

This is a really nice book. Very well organized and gives lots of great information.

Leslie, Clare Walker, **Keeping A Nature Journal: Discover A Whole New Way of Seeing The World Around You**, Storey Publishing, 2003

Keeping a nature journal is one way of connecting with nature. This is THE book to both inspire and provide nuts and bolts how to information.

Leslie, Clare, Walker, **The Nature Connection: An Outdoor Workbook for Kids, Families, and Classrooms**, 2010. Great book. Includes "How To Be a Naturalist, and a Month-by-Month Guide to exploring nature. Includes a section on how to use the book to meet state curriculum standards, bibliographic material and resources.

Lingelbach, Jenepher, and Purcell, Lisa (eds), **Hands-On Nature**, Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 1986

Value laden with both information and activities. Covers adaptations, habitats, cycles, designs of nature & earth and sky.

Louv, Richard, **Last Child In The Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature Deficit Disorder**, Algonquin Books, 2008.

This is one of those books that will change your entire outlook. Louv discusses how kids today are more likely to be disconnected from the natural world even as research indicates the positive benefits of outdoors play. This one is a must read, and in my opinion belongs in every parent and educator's personal library.

Milord, Susan, **The Kids' Nature Book: 365 Indoor/Outdoor Activities & Experiences**, Williamson Publishing, 1996.

Great activities for every day of the year.

Orr, David, **Ecological Literacy: Educating Our Children For A Sustainable World**, Sierra Club Books, 2005.

A variety of contributions dealing with different aspects of ecological awareness. If we all become more ecologically literate, we will hopefully act in ways that are more sustainable towards nature.

Packham, Chris, **The Practical Naturalist**, DK Publishing, 2010.

Intended to get you off that couch and into the natural world! Nice book.

Potter, Jean, **Nature In A Nutshell For Kids, Over 100 Activities You Can Do In Ten Minutes or Less**, Josey Bass, 1995.

All kinds of experiments. Interesting and entertaining.

Sobel, David, **Beyond Ecophobia: Reclaiming The Heart In Nature Education**, Orion Society, 1999.

Outdoor play can enhance child development. Lots of book citations.

Sobel, David, **Childhood And Nature: Design Principles For Education**, Stenhouse Publishers, 2008

Geared towards educators, but great for anyone dealing with kids. Sobel suggests that connections with nature can occur in our back yard (not necessarily only in majestic or exotic places.) He suggests seven design principles that can help educators develop learning experiences for kids that involve nature and can also cut across many other parts of the curriculum.

Stone, Michael, **Smart By Nature: Schooling for Sustainability**, Watershed Media, 2009.

This is a guide to successful ideas and approaches from both independent and public schools. How can schools themselves become models for sustainability.

Van, Matre, Steve, **Earth Education: A New Beginning**, Institute For Earth Education, 1990.

A book that is critical of other approaches to earth education. After you get through the critiques, there is much of value in this book, both philosophically and also in terms of nuts and bolts teaching approaches and techniques.

Tomlinson, Susan Leigh, **How To Keep A Naturalist's Notebook**, Stackpole Books, 2010.

Similar to Leslie in that this encourages keeping a field notebook. A different author with a different style. Some folks like Leslie. Others enjoy Tomlinson's approach. Both are good.

Ward, Jennifer, **I Love Dirt! 52 Activities To Help You And Your Kids Discover The Wonders of Nature**, Trumpeter, 2008

Neat interactive ways to connect your child with the outdoors.

Waters, Alice, **Edible Schoolyard: A Universal Idea**, Chronicle Books, 2008.

Everybody loves to eat! Alice Waters documents an approach to education that involves gardening, cooking and enjoying food. Good vision type thing. (I liked her restaurant too.)

Wolverton, B.C. **How To Grow Fresh Air: 50 Houseplants That Purify Your Home or Office**, Penquin Books, 1996.

For older (middle grades and high school) and adults. This book belongs in every thinking person's library. Not your typical houseplant book, but rather a guide to specific plants that help remove toxins from the air. One of my favorite books. Good background information for parents/teachers.

Wolverton, B.C. and Takenaka, Koxburo, **PLants, Why You Can't Live Without Them**, Lustre Press, Roli Books, 2010.

Great companion book to **How To Grow Fresh Air**. If you ever had any doubts about why we need plants and floral items, this book will eliminate them. Very detailed, factual information. Presented in a straightforward no nonsense way. For older (middle grades to high school) kids and adults.