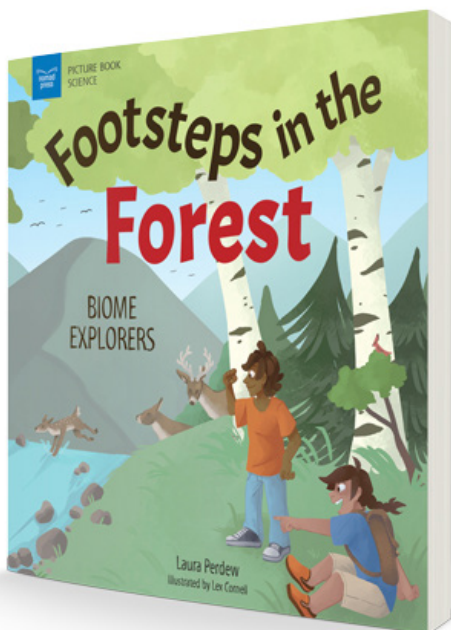


Nomad Press

CLASSROOM GUIDE



Gear up to tour the world's forest biomes with trees large and small, creatures short and tall in this nonfiction picture book!

In **Footsteps in the Forests: Biome Explorers**, kids 5 to 8 take a walk on a rain forest canopy walkway, sit quietly to observe temperate forest wildlife, and bundle up to visit a chilly boreal forest. There are more than 3 trillion trees on Planet Earth, so we've got lots of exploring to do! Discover leafcutter ants, toucans, squirrels, opossums, ferns, mosses, snowshoe hares, and much more on our tour of the world's forests. Plus, learn the role humans play in keeping the forest biome healthy, and why that's critical to the global environment.

Learn more at nomadpress.net/nomadpress-books/footsteps-in-the-forest/

Softcover: 9781647410728, \$9.95
Hardcover: 9781647410698, \$19.95
eBook: all formats available, \$6.99
Specs: 9.5 x 9.5, 32 pages, color interior

Reading Level: Ages 5–8
Interest Level: Grades K–5
Focus: Earth Science
GRL: M



For more information, contact Nomad Press:
andi@nomadpress.net, 802.649.1995



Distributed by Baker & Taylor Publisher Services
To order: orders@btpubservices.com, 888.814.0208

SAMPLE GLOSSARY

adapt: to change to survive in new or different conditions.

biome: a community of plants and animals that live together in a certain climate.

boreal forest: a cold biome where the trees are mostly coniferous.

canopy: an umbrella of trees over the forest.

climate: the long-term weather patterns in a particular area.

climate change: the long-term change in the earth's weather patterns.

coniferous: describes plants and trees that do not shed their leaves each year.

deciduous: describes plants that shed their leaves each year.

decompose: to rot or break down.

deforestation: the act of completely cutting down and clearing trees.

Check out all the books in the Picture Book Biomes set!



For more information, contact Nomad Press:
andi@nomadpress.net, 802.649.1995



Distributed by Baker & Taylor Publisher Services
To order: orders@btpubservices.com, 888.814.0208

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

BEFORE READING:

Establish Background Knowledge

- What do you already know about biomes?
- What do you already know about trees and forests?
- Do you live in or near a forest? If not, what biome do you live in?

Skill Introduction

- What do you do when you come to a word or phrase you do not know?
- How do illustrations and maps help someone learn?
- How do hands-on activities help people learn?

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 2 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2.4.C Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.

DURING READING:

Check for Understanding

- How are the forest biomes - rainforest, boreal forest, and temperate forest - different from each other?
- What kinds of animals live in these forests?

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.6 Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts, including using adjectives and adverbs to describe (e.g., When other kids are happy that makes me happy).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.2 Identify the main topic of a multiparagraph text as well as the focus of specific paragraphs within the text.

AFTER READING:

Summary and Expansion

- What are some of the ways forests around the world are in danger?

- Why is it important to keep the Earth's forests healthy?
- What can people do to help keep forests safe?
- How should people behave when they visit forests? Why?
- What might happen if all the forests around the world disappeared?
- How are the plants and animals in a forest connected? How do they rely on each other for survival?
- How is a glossary helpful?
- What does the poem on the first page mean? How does it help you understand the rest of the book?

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.8 Describe how reasons support specific points the author makes in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.10 By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 2-3 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2.3 Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.6 Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification. (See grade 2 Language standards 1 and 3 here for specific expectations.)



Activity Time!

Four Seasons in the Forest

Temperate forests have four different seasons: winter, spring, summer, and fall. During each season, the forest looks different and there may be different animals and insects around.

WHAT YOU NEED

paper, colored pencils

WHAT YOU DO

Begin by researching what happens in a temperate forest during each season. Pay attention to precipitation, what is going on with the different plants and trees, and what the animals are doing each season. Remember, there will be active, full-time residents, animals that hibernate, and animals that migrate.

Divide your paper into four equal parts. Label the rectangles "winter," "spring," "summer," "fall." Then, draw a picture of what the forest looks like during each season.

Write a poem or short story based on your drawing of the four seasons in a temperate forest.

Tropical forest



28

Temperate forest in autumn



AUTHOR INTERVIEW



HOW DID YOU GET STARTED WRITING FOR KIDS?

I am a middle school teacher turned author, but if I'm honest I've always been a writer! When my twins came along in 2006, I began writing for the education market so I could work at home. Since then I've published a fiction picture book, *THE FORT* (Page Street

Kids, 2020), and over 50 books for the education market. My focus now is on books about nature, ecology, and environmental issues.

CAN YOU TALK ABOUT YOUR RESEARCH PROCESS?

I start by surfing the internet to get introduced to a topic I've been assigned for a project. I go to my local library, too—librarians are the best! If possible, I take a field trip. Plus, I reach out to experts in the field and ask if they'd be willing to answer some questions. Most people are happy to help. Documentaries are another great source of information and inspiration.

WHY WILL KIDS FIND THESE BIOMES BOOKS FASCINATING?

I love writing books for kids that help to show them the wonders of our natural world, and hopefully to inspire them to explore more and to take action to help protect our planet. These books are definitely informational, but what's

different about this series is that it takes readers on journeys through the different biomes as if they are experiencing the biomes firsthand, integrating important science concepts including climate and plant and animal adaptations using a narrative, conversational tone.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO LEARN ABOUT THE DIFFERENT BIOMES ON PLANET EARTH?

It's important to learn about Earth's biomes because the planet is an amazing and interconnected place. The more we know about Earth the more we understand it. **And in the words of Jane Goodall, "Only if we understand, will we care. Only if we care, will we help. Only if we help, shall all be saved."**

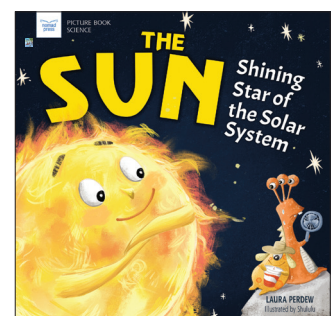
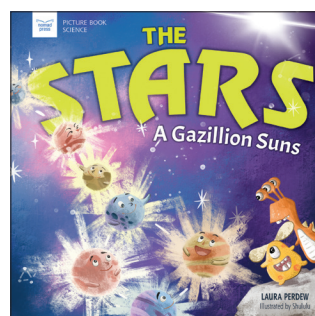
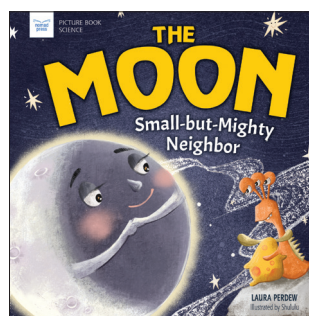
WHAT CAN KIDS DO TO HELP TAKE CARE OF NATURAL SPACES?

Kids can do a lot to help take care of the environment. The first step is to keep exploring, reading, and learning. Other steps include walking or biking instead of riding in a car; reusing items as often as possible; eating local food; organizing a clean up of a natural place nearby; planting a tree or a pollinator garden; avoiding using pesticides; and helping to spread the word about protecting our environment!

DO YOU DO AUTHOR VISITS?

I do! Visits are an excellent way for me to connect with kids and share with them what I do and what I've learned. I also want to get kids excited about nonfiction and help them find the hook and the fun in research and writing.

More picture books from Laura Perdeu and Nomad Press



For more information, contact Nomad Press:
andi@nomadpress.net, 802.649.1995



Distributed by Baker & Taylor Publisher Services
To order: orders@btpubservices.com, 888.814.0208