

The background of the cover is a lush, sun-dappled forest. A large, gnarled tree trunk dominates the left side. A young girl with short brown hair, wearing a white sleeveless dress, is sitting on a thick tree branch, her back to the viewer as she gazes upwards. In the upper right, a small monkey is perched on a branch, silhouetted against the bright light filtering through the green leaves. The overall atmosphere is magical and serene.

FOREST OF STORIES

An Annotated Bibliography
of Tree-themed Picture Books

Compiled and Selected by
Evelyn Sue Wong and
Rhoda Myra Garces-Bacsal, PhD



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Foreword

Forest of Stories, our third collection of children's picture books on a common theme to be launched at the Asian Festival of Children's Content, has a special significance this year.

As Singapore celebrates its 50th anniversary, *Forest of Stories* is a tribute to our founding father, the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, for his vision and legacy in transforming Singapore into a City in a Garden. A most meaningful way to honour his memory and legacy is to inspire our children and grandchildren to love and care for the environment through knowledge and making a difference each in our own way and as a community. This can be nurtured through imparting the joy of reading and the power of a good story.

Our collections of children's stories on the themes of water in AFCC2013, rice in AFCC2014, and trees for AFCC2015, are a celebration of our natural environment that provide us nourishment and joy to our lives everywhere in the world. *Splash! Asia*, *All About Rice!* and *Forest of Stories* are available online as a resource for parents, educators, researchers, librarians, authors, illustrators, storytellers, publishers and everyone who loves books.

Our appreciation and thanks to the National Library Board for the continued collaboration, with the publication of this bibliography launched at My Tree House.

Enjoy a walk through this forest of stories, and share your favourite children's picture books about trees with us. We look forward to adding new stories yet to be written and illustrated!

Claire Chiang
Chairperson
Board of Advisors
Asian Festival of Children's Content



Introduction

Cherry blossoms, autumn leaves. Mango, persimmon, apple trees. Helping to plant a seed, a sapling, waiting, and watching it grow. Listening to birds hidden in the branches. Laughing as we play hide and seek under the cool shade of a big tree as children, with our children, with our grandchildren. Crying when our kite is caught in a tree too high to reach. Hurt when trees are cut down without warning. Happy when we plant a seed, a sapling, and know that, together, we can grow a forest. Cherry blossoms, autumn leaves, growing up together with trees, at home with nature.

Forest of Stories is an annotated bibliography of children’s picture books about trees that will capture your imagination, touch your hearts, and inspire your spirit. There are over 100 stories from Asia and around the world in this collection which we gathered into five themes: Tree of Dreams and Nourishment, Turning of the Seasons, Trees are Wild Things, Trees as Sanctuary, I Speak for the Trees. We hope this will be a useful resource for parents, teachers, creators of children’s content, and everyone who loves books.

As Singapore celebrates 50 years as a nation, we would like to pay tribute to its founding father, the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, for his vision and legacy in transforming Singapore into a ‘City in the Garden’ enjoyed by Singaporeans and visitors alike. Since the 1960s, a Parks and Recreation Department and now the National Parks Board have been the custodians of this vision.

On 16 June 1963, then Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew planted a mempat tree in the middle of Holland Circus to start a national effort to add beauty and reduce the harsh environment. That tree and roundabout had to be removed to make way for road projects. In 1971, Mr Lee planted a second tree, a yellow flame, in Tanjong Pagar to launch the annual tree planting day.

The yellow flame tree has grown from a sapling to 20 metres and remains in the community where Mr Lee had served for 60 years. The yellow flame and many much older trees in Singapore have stories to tell. You will find some memories retold in this collection, and we look forward to more in future.



Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew planting a *mempat* (*cratoxylum formosum*) tree at Holland Circus (junction of Holland Road, Farrer Road and Queensway) to mark the beginning of his tour of Ulu Pandan constituency. The ceremony also signified the beginning of an island-wide tree planting campaign.

Here is a glimpse into what you will discover as you stop to enjoy each of the stories that have been gathered under five themes, with the poetic and the profound beautifully expressed in words and illustrations. We hope children will share these stories with others, and share with us new stories about trees!

Evelyn S Wong
Forest of Stories Committee

THE 5 THEMES



Tree of Dreams and Nourishment

This collection of stories reflect the wonder of trees that provide nourishment for both the body and the soul. As trees provide fruits that sustain our needs, they also provide beauty that feeds the soul. These “silent soldiers” also serve as sentinels of hope and courage that allow a young reader to find strength within.



Singing Away the Dark
by Caroline Woodward and
illustrated by Julie Morstad

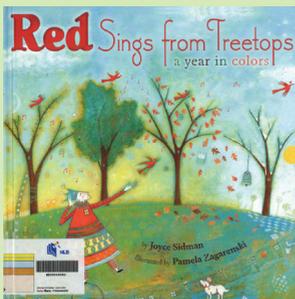


The Red Tree
by Shaun Tan

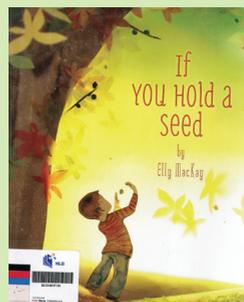


Turning of the Seasons

This theme shows the wondrous cycle of life of trees as the seed is transformed from sapling to imposing heights with roots firmly planted into the earth’s core with the passing of the seasons. There is also the realization of the importance of letting go as part of growing up with “one more leaf holding tight,”¹ fluttering in the winds as the turning of time is marked with vibrant colors and whispering leaves.



Red Sings from Treetops
by Joyce Sidman; Ill Pamela Zagarenski

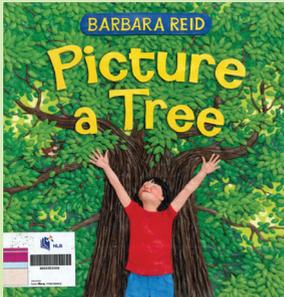


If You Hold a Seed
by Elly MacKay

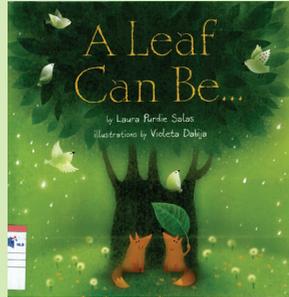
¹ From *The Little Yellow Leaf* by Carin Berger

Trees are Wild Things

Captivating illustrations and tales celebrate the untamed nature of trees that inspire flights of fancy and plant seeds of things unseen and conceived in a child's eye. From myths, folktales and fables to contemporary stories, children will be taken into a tangle of tales transforming trees into a "shade spiller" or a bear cave or even a "house held up by trees" with a little help from a wide-eyed child's winged imagination.



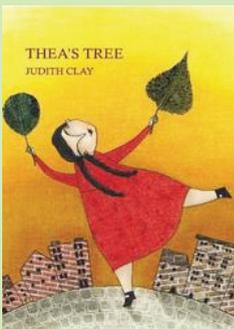
Picture a Tree
by Barbara Reid



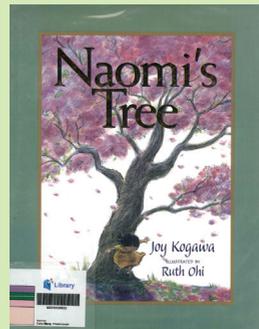
A Leaf Can Be...
by Laura Purdie Salas and
illustrations by Violeta Dabija

Trees as Sanctuary

Children will see trees as friends and as home through the voices of children, parents, grandparents and generations before. Trees not only provide shelter to living creatures, they also bear witness to a young child's growth, societal progress, and generations of lives lived, lost, and saved. They serve as roots marking our ancestry, a memorial to societies long gone, and a keeper of secrets to those who find sanctuary in its shadowy branches.



Thea's Tree
by Judith Clay

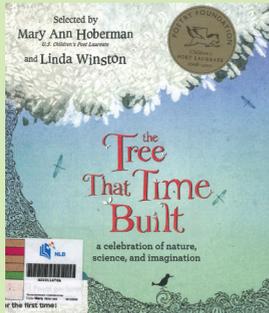


Naomi's Tree
by Joy Kogawa; Ill Ruth Ohi.

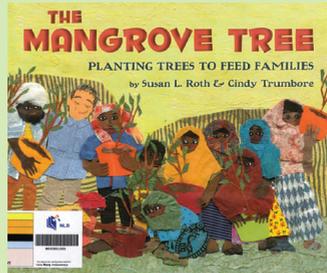
THE 5 THEMES

I Speak for the Trees

Children will be inspired by creatively illustrated books about trees (non-fiction), as well as empowering stories of fictional and real-life individuals who are changing the world, one tree at a time. In this collection, the many resolute voices and actions, young and old alike, as Dr Suess' Lorax says, speak for the trees.



The Tree That time Built
Anthology selected by
Mary Ann Hoberman and
Linda Winston



The Mangrove Tree –
about Dr Sato (Japanese) in Africa.
Susan L Roth & Ciny Trumbore.

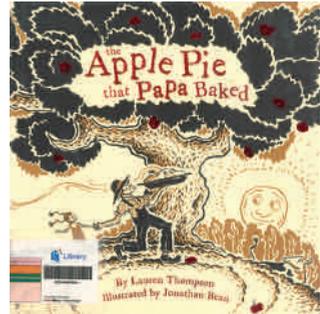
Tree of Dreams and Nourishment



The Apple Pie that Papa Baked

Author: Lauren Thompson and illustrated by Jonathan Bean
Illustrator: Leslie Wu
(2007). US: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers
Call No.: J P English THO

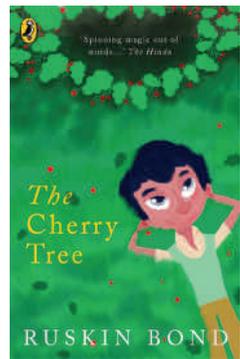
Told in a cumulative narrative, this nostalgically illustrated picture book leads the readers through the various steps taken by a doting father to make a yummy apple pie for his daughter. It presents the readers all the wonderful things that go into pie making, the apples, the trees, the roots, the rain, clouds, sky, sunshine, the love and all!



The Cherry Tree

Author: Ruskin Bond
Illustrator: Allan Eitzen
(1996). India: Boyd Mills Press
Call No.: JSF English BON

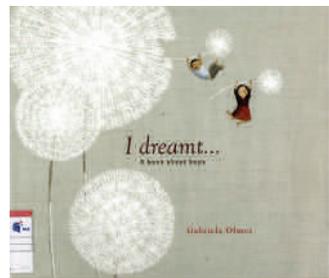
This poem describes the planting of a cherry seed by the poet and how it grows despite various trials and inconstant care. When the tree eventually provides one cherry fruit, the poet enjoys a sense of joy for having contributed to its growth and hence being one with nature.



I dreamt... a book about Hope

Author: Gabriela Olmos
Illustrators: Manuel Monroy, Juan Gedovius, Chubasco, Marissa Arroyo, Maria Figueroa, Alejandro Herrerias, Mauricio Gomez Morin, Gonzalo Tassier, Valeria Gallo, Alvaro Rocha Buitron, Fabricio Vanden Broeck and Alejandro Magallanes.
(2013). Mexico: Groundwood Books, House of Anansi Press
Call No.: JP English OLM

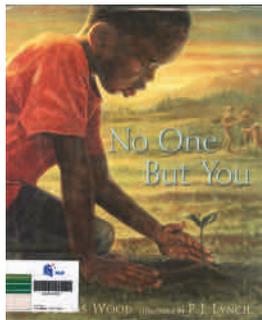
Thirteen Mexican artists share their vision on what a life without violence could be like in this beautiful picture book depicting a child's hope and dreams. In the dream, pistols shoot butterflies; scarred drug lords sell only soap bubbles; wars are fought with flowers. The artists transition from dream to reality by empowering the children to "learn from city trees that fight back and break open the sidewalks" ... and continue to grow and breathe despite everything."



No One But You

Author: Douglas Wood
Illustrator: PJ Lynch
(2011). US: Candlewick Press
Call No.: JP English WOO

Through rhythmical language, muted and realistic illustrations, this radiant book shows young readers the many enchanting things that can be done to experience the beauty of nature. It invites the child to celebrate this sense of aliveness by listening “to the song of a redbird in a treetop or the wind in the pines,” inspiring readers, young and old alike, to take time and “smell the moist earth after a rain shower” and to enjoy nature’s sparkles and miracles.



The Red Tree

Author: Shaun Tan
Illustrator: Julie Morstad
(2001). USA: Lothian Children’s Books
Call No.: JP English TAN

This is a book filled with visual metaphors – as heartaches take on monstrous forms, a child’s uncertainties transformed into strange and frightening creatures. Yet it is also a book about a glimmering red – hopeful tiny seeds that can bloom into a huge crimson tree amidst dark, flying, haunted things that go bump in the night.



Singing Away the Dark

Author: Caroline Woodward
Illustrator: Julie Morstad
(2010). US: Simply Read Books
Call No.: JP English WOO

This lovely early-winter-morning story tells of a little girl’s mile-long walk through a dark forest to her school bus stop. Alone and cold, she calls on the “big, old trees” her “silent soldiers” to help her find the courage within her. The little girl then sings a song of confidence amidst the tall and strong trees to keep herself from getting scared.



We Planted A Tree

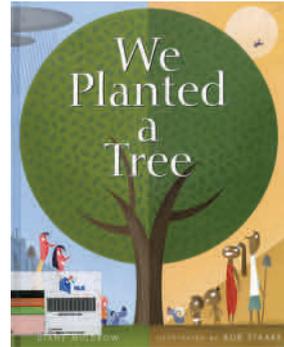
Author: Diane Muldrow

Illustrator: Bob Staake

(2010). Paris, Tokyo, Brooklyn: Golden Books

Call No.: J P English MUL

Two young families from different cultures and different parts of the world, plant a tree. As the trees grow, so do the families. Wherever you live, trees not only nourish families, they add beauty to the community and help heal the world.



Turning of the Seasons



... and then it's spring

Author: Julie Fogliano
Illustrator: Erin Stead
(2012). US: Roaring Book Press
Call No.: JP English FOG

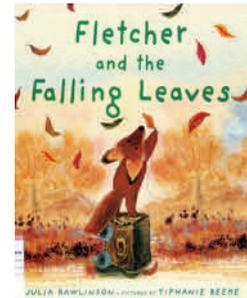
A young boy is tired of seeing nothing but brown around him. He takes matters in his own hands, literally, and plants little seeds that bring along with it "a little green" here and there or "a hopeful, very possible sort of brown." The young boy's patience, the dog's faithful gaze, the birds and the bears, and the seeds waiting for spring add to the hum amidst the seemingly-interminable waiting.



Fletcher and the Falling Leaves

Author: Julia Rawlinson
Illustrator: Tiphonie Beeke
(2006). USA: Greenwillow Books
Call No.: JP English RAW

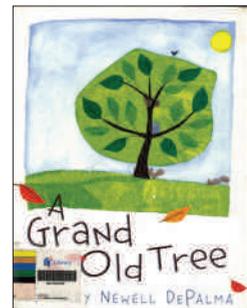
When summer ends, Fletcher sees his favourite tree being to turn brown and dry and its leaves fall off. Fletcher thinks that the tree is falling sick but his mother reassures him that "it's only autumn". With unwavering loyalty, Fletcher gathers the tree's dancing leaves and keeps watch over them until he beholds a magical sight at the very end. This awe-inspiring story is a moving account of friendship and the passing of the seasons.



A Grand Old Tree

Author: Mary Newell de Palma
(2005). US: Arthur A. Levine Books
Call No.: JP English 582.16 DEP

Using simple, short narrative and bright and cartoonish illustrations, this book presents a very touching story about the life cycle of a grand old tree. It creates an emotional tale on life and renewal. A great book for anyone who is interested in learning about the life cycles of trees and seeing how trees develop and die.



Green

Author: Laura Vaccaro Seeger
(2012). USA: Roaring Book Press
Call No.: JP English SEE

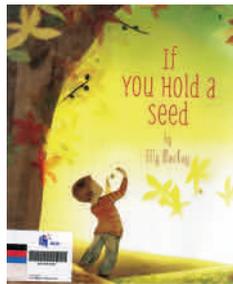
How many kinds of green are there in our life? Tapping on the beautiful illustrations, sparse text and creative use of cut-out shapes, this concept picture book reminds readers to take note of all the shades of green around them. Flipping through the pages, the readers will be wonderfully immersed as the artist pays homage to wondrous shades and unimagined bounty of green everywhere.



If You Hold A Seed

Author: Elly MacKay
(2013). USA: Running Press Kids
Call No.: JP English MAC

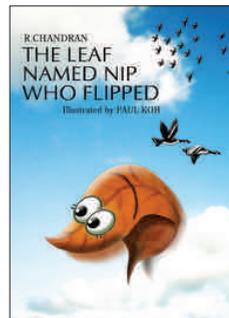
This book presents a very simple story about planting seeds of hope and waiting with patience and love for the seed to blossom into something extraordinary. A little boy plants a seed near his home and watches it grow. As time passes by, the seed gradually transforms into a seedling, sapling, then into a tall tree. So does the little boy, who also becomes a young father for his little son. Together, they sit on the branch of this tree, and make plans to plant a new seed of hope.



The Leaf Named Nip Who Flipped

Author: R Chandran
(2008). Singapore: Marzarts Publishing
Call No.: English 428.6 CHA

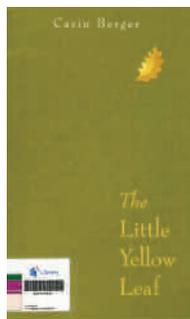
Nip is a leaf who asks itself if there is more to being a leaf than just providing food for the plant. Once he starts to turn yellow and begins his journey, he finally understands the art and adventure of letting go.



The Little Yellow Leaf

Author: Carin Berger
(2008). USA: Greenwillow Books
Call No.: JP English BER

Autumn arrives and all the other leaves are falling off, but the little yellow leaf manages to cling to an oak tree branch and states that he is not ready to jump yet even when snow begins to fall and he is lonely and cold. Finally, he sees another steadfast leaf that remained in the tree's branches. Together, they let go and soar off into the sky. This is a story about facing the unknown, learning to let go and a celebration of the friendship that helps us take the leap.



The Memory Tree

Author: Britta Teckentrup
(2013). UK: Orchard Books
Call No.: JP TEC

Fox has lived a long and happy life with his friends in the forest. One day he is tired, so he lies down in his favorite clearing, and falls asleep there forever. Fox was deeply loved by his animal friends. They come together to honor his memory by recounting the moments they shared with him. As they share their memories, a tree begins to grow where Fox was. The tree eventually became big and strong enough to provide shelter to all the animals in the forest and serves as a "memory tree" honouring Fox's life.



Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf

Author: Lois Ehlert
(1991). US: HMH Books for Young Readers
Call No.: JP English EHL

This book tells a heart-warming story of the life of a sugar maple tree from seedling to sapling to being planted in a backyard and the friendship between the tree and the child who planted it. Ehlert's collage art depicts in colorful detail how the passing of the seasons turns "tree flowers" into "winged seeds." The book also provides substantial information regarding parts of the trees and how to plant a tree.



Red Sings from Treetops: A Year in Colors

Authors: Joyce Sidman and Pamela Zagarenski
(2009). USA: HMH Books for Young Readers
Call No.: JP English SID

In this collection of poems, the colors speak, taste, and touch the winds, the leaves, the gnarled branches – even the birds are not spared by the dancing splash of paints. Each verse leaves an imprint, an echo of the seasons, laced in multi-colored shades and hues. Pamela Zagarenski does each dripping, crunchy, windswept line of Joyce Sidman justice with her distinctive artwork that signifies a year in colors.



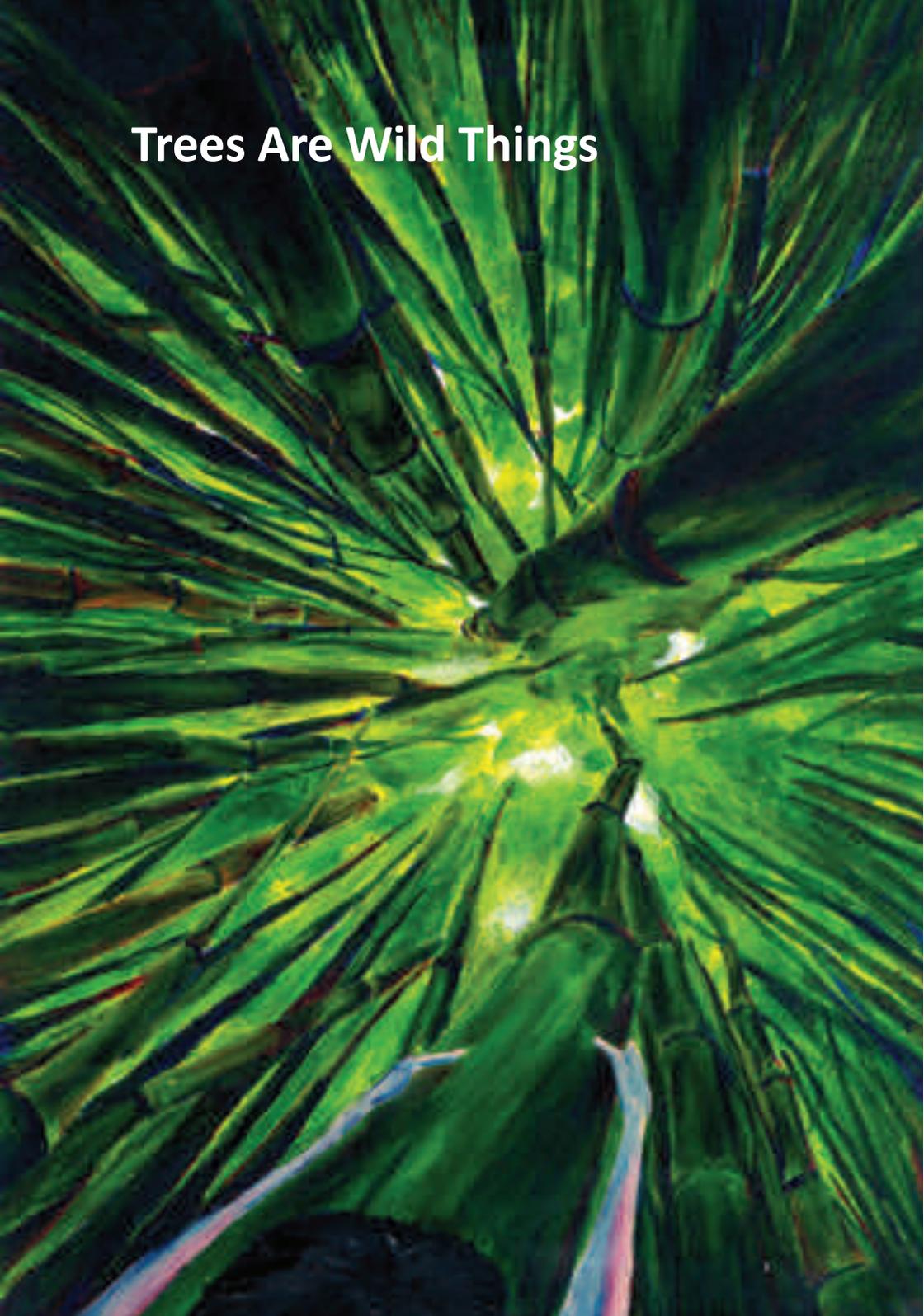
The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree

Author: Gail Gibbons
(1988). US: HMH Books for Young Readers
Call No.: Early Literacy J P English GIB

This is a lovely story about a boy named Arnold and his very special apple tree. It takes the readers on an informative and visual trip through the changing seasons and shows how Arnold's apple tree changes with the seasons and what Arnold does during each season with his apple tree. A great book to explain how the seasons change.



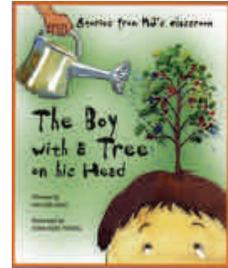
Trees Are Wild Things



The Boy with a Tree On His Head

Author: Ho Lee Ling
Illustrator: Chia Kok Tiong
(2007). Singapore: Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports
Call Number: J English HO

A new boy, Mark, joins MJ's classroom. But there's something different about him -- there's a tree on his head. At first Mark is teased and discriminated, but things change when Mark joins a race and his tree, as well as its fruits, come in very useful.



Cherry Blossom Fairies

Author: Shu-Nu Yen, Candy
Illustrator: You-Ran Zhang
(2003; 2013). Taiwan: GrimmPress
Call No.: Unavailable

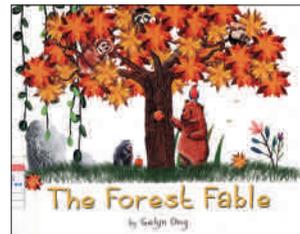
A young boy is on a mountain adventure to find the cherry blossom that his grandma had talked so fondly of. However, due to environmental degradation, the cherry blossom was in danger of disappearing forever. Clutching a petal in his hand, the boy sets off with the animals to find the silver pearl that would revive the cherry blossom fairy and her festival. (Chinese)



The Forest Fable

Author: Gelyn Ong
(2013). Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Children
Call No.: J SING English ONG

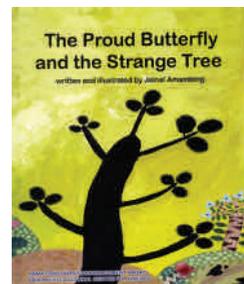
When a lumberjack arrives in the forest, a myriad of creatures find themselves in danger of losing their sweet home. Through the intricate scene depiction of the hesitant lumberjack and his loving interaction with wildlife, this enchanting fable conveys a clear environmental message: "We should do our part to save our forests."



The Proud Butterfly and the Strange Tree

Author: Jainal Amambing
(2010). Malaysia: Oyez!Books
Call No.: Unavailable

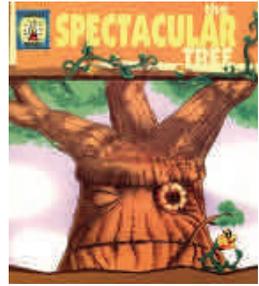
A very beautiful butterfly is shunned by the other butterflies as it is always boasting and praising itself. Coming across a black ugly tree one day, the butterfly is horrified to discover the next day that the tree has grown to be beautiful while it has itself lost its beauty and turned ugly. Eventually the butterfly's genuine repentance is rewarded and it regains its beauty and new friends, but not its pride.



Ang Kagila-gilalas na Puno (The Spectacular Tree)

Author: Robert Gunnar Magnuson
(2001). Philippines: Lampara Books
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN: 9716098405

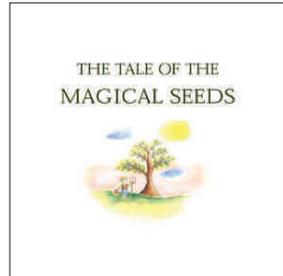
A young climbing plant aspires to grow as tall as the Acacia tree. Sadly, he realizes that he is unable to grow straight up to the sky. So he decides to reach out and help a hopeless Acacia tree and finally make it grow into a spectacular tree. By emphasizing collaboration, dependency and co-habitation, this story reminds the readers that each creature in our world needs another. No man is an island. (English and Tagalog)



Tale of The Magical Seeds

Author: See Ching Chin
(2002). Singapore: National Parks Board
Call No.: English JRSING 333.72 CHI

A master gardener helps the inhabitants of a developing tropical island to rediscover the importance of planting trees and flowers, achieving a harmonious balance of nature and human progress, and remembering to pass these ideals on to each new generation.



Wolf and the Beast

Author / Illustrator: Ye Zi
Illustrator: Low Joo Hong
(2012). Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Education
Call Number: J Chinese YEZ

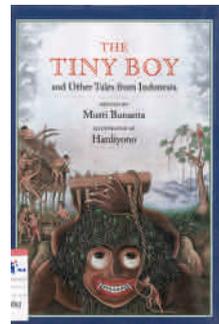
The trees in the forest have mysteriously disappeared. Is a monster responsible? The wolf called Four Teeth decides to scare the other animals in the forest by dressing up as the monster. The tables are turned when the real monster appears. (Chinese)



The Tiny Boy and Other Tales from Indonesia

Retold by: Dr Murti Bunanta
Illustrator: Hardiyono
(2013). Indonesia: Groundwood Books
Call No.: J 398.2 BUN-[FOL]

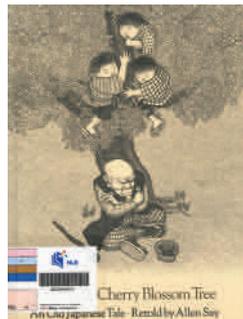
This picture book showcases a fascinating collection of eight folk tales that celebrate hero, sacrifice, love, gratitude and family. Most of the tales have been passed for generations through the oral tradition of storytelling, but the messages they convey are still relevant today. They raise our attention to the value of the small and odd things, the importance of our natural resources and the value of never taking our food for granted.



Under the Cherry Blossom Tree: An Old Japanese Tale

Author: Allen Say
(1997).USA: Houghton Mifflin Co.
Call No.: J English 398.2 SAY-[FOL]

The book retells a classic Japanese tale of a wicked landlord on whose head sprouted a cherry tree after he accidentally swallowed a cherry pit. Spring had finally come and everyone in the village was happy except the miserly landlord. Being crabby and grumpy, he sat alone eating cherries and watching as the villagers sang and danced in the meadow. Then, accidentally, he swallowed a cherry pit. The following spring, the pit began to sprout. And a cherry tree was growing from the top of his head. That is when the misfortune of the landlord starts.

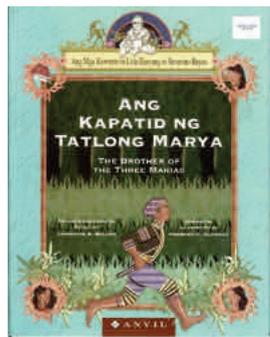


SEEDS OF CURIOSITY

Ang Kapatid ng Tatlong Marya (The Brother of the Three Marias)

Retold by: Christine S. Bellen
Illustrator: Frances C. Alcaraz
(2007). Philippines: Anvil Publishing, Inc.
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN: 9789712718946

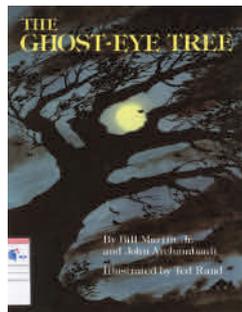
An old couple who are folk healers use the leaves of a mysterious tree called the kolesmeloko to help the sick. Every morning, their daughters climb the tree and pick its leaves. As there is a huge demand for the leaves due to their healing power the couple decides to cut down the tree to collect and sell all the leaves. A serpent living in the tree takes the daughters and marries them to the king of the lions, eagles, and sharks. The couple has a son, and years later he goes in search of his sisters. (English and Filipino)



The Ghost-Eye Tree

Author: Bill Martin Jr., John Archambault
Illustrator: Ted Rand
(1988). US: Square Fish
Call No.: EL JP English MAR

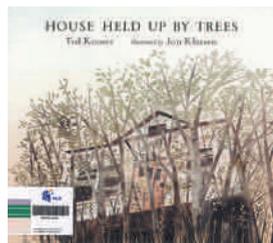
On a dark and windy autumn night, a young boy and his older sister are sent by their mother to the end of town to fetch a bucket of milk. Walking down the lonely road, they pass the scary "Ghost-Eye tree" and their imagination gets the better of them.... This story highlights the relationship between siblings and how wild children's imagination can be when confronted with creepy shadows on a dark, lonely road.



A House Held Up By Trees

Author: Ted Kooser
Illustrator: Jon Klassen
(2012). US: Candlewick Press
Call No.: JP English KOO

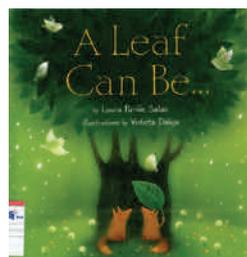
This book speaks lovingly about the tiny little details that demonstrate one's love for home, the meticulous care and the tireless ways through which we make it our own. And it also speaks about holding on for as long as we can, and finally knowing when to let go. Rather than perceiving this "house held up by trees" as an abandoned, unwanted home – this house calls out to its ancestor trees, returning home finally.



A Leaf Can Be

Author: Laura Purdie Salas
Illustrator: Violeta Dabija
(2012). USA: Millbrook Press
Call No.: JP English SAL

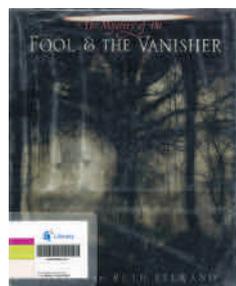
Who knew how versatile a simple leaf can be? Through rhyming text and colorful art, this book demonstrates the many ways "a leaf can be": from shade spiller, mouth filler, and tree topper to sun taker, air cleaner, and water ladle. This book seamlessly interweaves the scientific information with lyrical verse, showing that these "wind riders" and "frost catchers" do play a significant role in the life of trees and the beauty of nature.



The Mystery of the Fool and the Vanisher

Authors: David and Ruth Ellwand
Illustrator: Jon Klassen
(2008). UK: Candlewick Press
Call No.: J English ELL

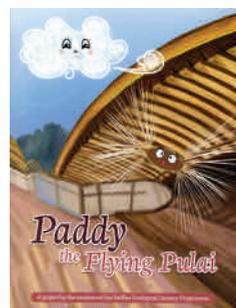
In this eerie tale-within-a-tale book, the authors, through the use of hauntingly exquisite photographs and innovative journaling format text, tell readers a thrilling and time-shifting mystery that happened from a long-ago archeological dig in England. It presents an interesting look at the magic of the natural world and the mystery of the imagination.



Paddy the Flying Pulai

Authors: Ong Su Qing Miranda, Mock Yuan Ning,
Darryl Lee Xing Jie, Ong Dingjie, Ng Jun How Melvin
Illustrators: Sean Yap and Summer Seet Shiyng
(2014). Singapore: Raffles Institution
Call No.: J SING English ONG

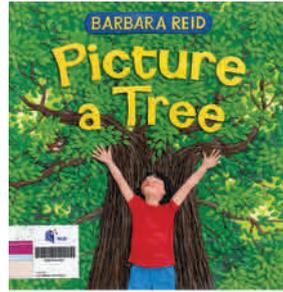
This is the story of Paddy the Pulai who is alone on his adventure through the Southern Ridges to look for a place to call home. While his journey is filled with many ups and downs, he is finally able to find a place where he can grow, with the help of animal friends that he meets along the way. This book is based on a project by students from the Raffles Ecological Literacy Program.



Picture A Tree

Author: Barbara Reid
(2013). USA: Albert Whitman & Company
Call No.: JP English REI

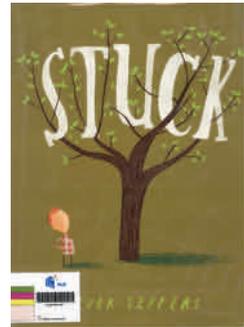
"Picture a tree. What do you see?" is Barbara Reid's challenge to the young reader. The exquisite art in this book was made with Plasticine that was shaped and pressed onto illustration board depicting trees putting on snow-suits or glowing in the darkness. Trees can also serve as a tunnel of leaves or an ocean of greens, a bear cave or a clubhouse for agile limbs and grasping hands. This is a book that invites a young child to look at trees with fresh eyes, seeing things never before imagined.



Stuck

Author: Oliver Jeffers
(2011).UK: Philomel
Call No.: JP English JEF

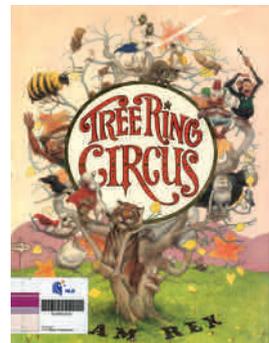
When Floyd gets his beloved kite stuck in a tree, he becomes mentally 'stuck' as well. The only way he can think of to get his kite down is to toss things at it. Funnily, these things all get stuck too, from shoes, cat, firemen, to huge ships and whale, fire engine and firemen. Eventually, the tree is so full with objects that the kite falls out by itself in an effortless and hilarious manner. This book is surely a fun read which will definitely have young readers laughing out loud throughout.



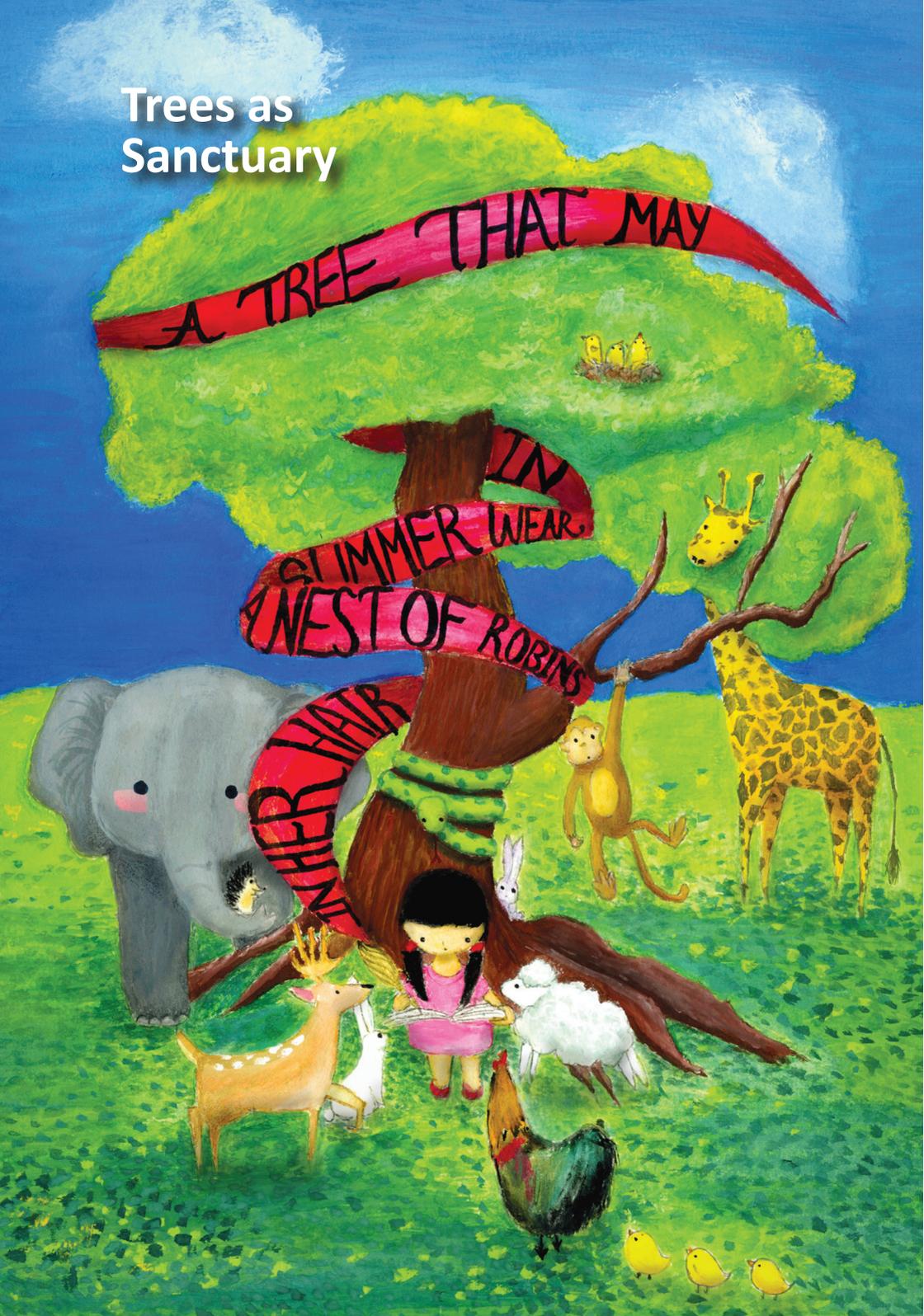
Tree Ring Circus

Author: Adam Rex
(2006). USA: HMH Books for Young Readers
Call No.: JP English REX

Three miles out of town, after a freak lightning strike, a seed shoots up magically into a big tree. Very soon, nearby animals and a clown climb up the tree to live in it. Then, a travelling circus stops by to look for their lost clown. While the circus people think of ways to retrieve their clown, some animals from the circus truck also manage to escape and get in the tree. All the animals climb up on the tree and enjoy themselves there until one elephant climbs to the top and the inevitable happens. This is a fun, adventure-filled, concept book that young readers would enjoy.



Trees as Sanctuary



TREES AS FRIENDS

Ancient Ones: The World of the Old-Growth Douglas Fir

Author: Barbara Bash
(2002). USA: Sierra Club Books for Children
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-1578050819

This is one of three books selected from the author's highly acclaimed 'Tree Tales' series. The watercolor illustrations are stunning as you look up at the giant Douglas Fir, walk through the old-growth forest, and learn of intricate life the ancient trees support.



The Elephant and the Tree

Author: Lee Jin Pyn
(2009). Singapore: RP Kids
Call No.: J English LEE

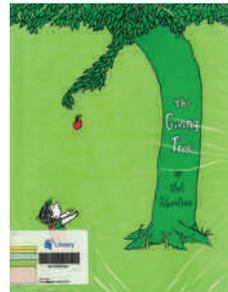
This picture book is about the enduring friendship between an Asian elephant and a tree. A small elephant and a tiny tree grow up together and become the best friends ever. Together the elephant and the tree explore the forest they call home. There, they find that life can be unpredictable and may sometimes lead them down a difficult path. Nevertheless, the two friends find that as long as they have each other, they will never be alone.



The Giving Tree

Author: Shel Silverstein
(1964). USA: Harper Collins Publishers
Call No.: JP English SIL

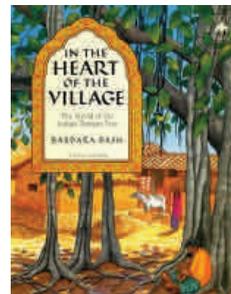
This is a touching tale about the pain of love and the enduring beauty of friendship. It traces the loving relationship between a tree and a young boy over several decades and shows a moving account of how the tree loves the boy, and helps the boy with all his needs throughout his life, even to the extent of sacrificing its own life.



In the Heart of the Village: The world of the Indian Banyan Tree

Author: Barbara Bash
(1996). USA: Gibbs Smith
Call No.: J English 583.962 BAS

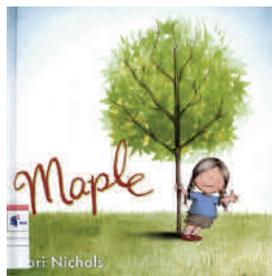
This is a beautifully illustrated environmental tale that highlights the interconnectedness between the daily lives of people and the egrets, spotted owls, langur monkeys and flying foxes that all living under/in the branches of the ancient banyan tree.



Maple

Author: Lori Nichols
(2014). USA: Nancy Paulsen Books
Call No.: JP English NIC

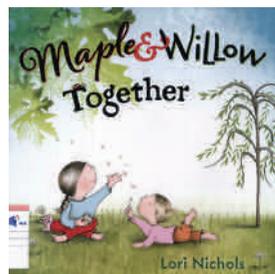
This is a quiet story about family love, growth, siblings, and making space for young selves to grow. The parallels in the growth of Maple and her tree are ingeniously crafted. While caring for her maple tree came easily to Maple, caring for her baby sister doesn't come intuitively. However, Maple has a giving gift and finally learns how to be a big sister. This is a quiet, sweet story that cannot help but grow on the reader.



Maple and Willow Together

Author: Lori Nichols
(2014). USA: Nancy Paulsen Books
Call No.: JP English NIC

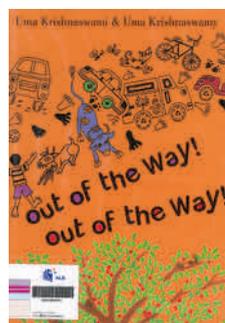
This story is the sequel to Maple and shows in greater detail the relationship between Maple and her sister Willow. Told in a realistic and colorful way, the book demonstrates the occasional rough patches that siblings usually go through and how these are resolved in a loving manner.



Out of the Way! Out of the Way!

Author: Uma Krishnaswami
Illustrator: Uma Krishnaswami
(2010). India: Tulika
Call No.: JP English KRI

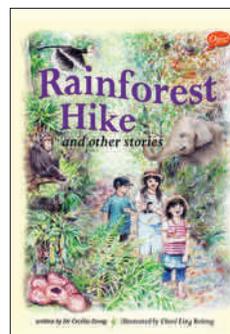
In this delightful picture book, a small gesture has enormous consequences through future generations when a small boy finds a tree seedling in the middle of a path and puts some stones around it to protect it. As time goes by, the tree grows and becomes a landmark, a meeting-place. The path changes its course to go round the tree. It becomes a road and then a major thoroughfare, with urban spread growing up around it. Meanwhile, we see the boy become a young man, a father and a grandfather.



Rainforest Hike and Other Stories

Author: Cecilia Leong
Illustrator: Chooi Ling Keiong
(2015). Malaysia: Integra Majujaya Media
Call Number: Unavailable

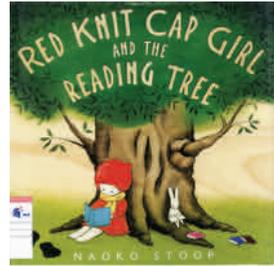
This collection of stories follows Timmy and Xiao Rae as they find themselves in different locations including the rainforest, night market and elephant sanctuary. In the rainforest, they spot different plants and animals and learn about the sarsaparilla tree.



Red Knit Cap Girl and the Reading Tree

Author: Naoko Stoop
(1964). USA: Megan Tingley Books
Call No.: JP STO

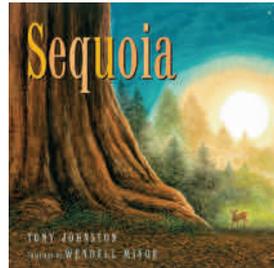
On a day when it is too hot to play around, Red Knit Cap Girl decides to read a book under a tree. While she is reading, a little squirrel catches her eye and brings to her attention a big tree with a large nook at its base. Red Knit Cap Girl and her animal friends decide to make it their shared reading nook and each one contributes their personal books and a variety of things to make it wonderful for everyone. Using simple prose and radiant Japanese style illustrations, this story highlights the joy of reading and the importance of sharing.



Sequoia

Poems by: Tony Johnston
Paintings by: Wendell Minor
(2014). USA: Roaring Book Press
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-1596437272

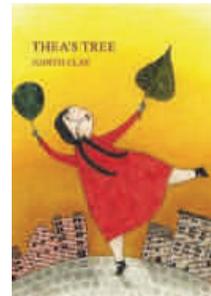
In this stirring tribute to the millenia-old tree, the giant Sequoia watches as days, seasons, years pass by. It stretches its ancient arms, home to owls and more, and clouds gather around its tallest branches. The world grows beneath its broad canopy.



Thea's Tree

Author: Judith Clay
(2014). India: Karadi Tales
Call No.: JP English CLA

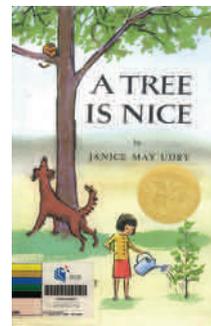
After hearing her parents' fascinating stories about the trees from their childhood in India, what Thea, the little girl, wants most in the world is a real tree to play with. But in the city where she lives, there are no trees. So one day, Thea decides to go out to search for a tree. When she finds an autumn leaf, she follows it in the hopes of finding its tree. Although she never finds it in the end, she is able to grow one after she is gifted a seed by an old tree that she comes across with in a dream.



A Tree Is Nice

Author: Janice May Udry
Illustrator: Marc Simont
(1987). USA: Harper Collins Publishers
Call No.: JP English 582.16 UDR

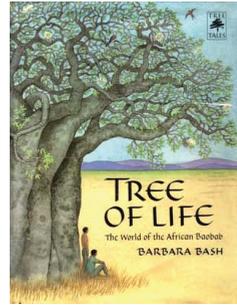
This is a very nice and simple picture book that shows the readers the various types of trees and the ways in which they can enrich our lives and our world. It encourages the readers to plant a tree so that one can witness how trees are able to provide not only shelter and protection but also beauty and inspiration in the environment.



Tree of Life: The World of the African Baobab

Author: Barbara Bash
(2002). USA: Sierra Club Books
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-1578050864

The lyrical prose and beautiful watercolors follow the lifecycle of trees around the world and the many lives that they welcome to their branches for nourishment and shelter. This book is about the amazing baobab tree of the African savannah, and the animals and people it helps to support.



The Trees in the Garden

Author: Cheewan Wisasa
Illustrator: Preeda Panyachand
(1998). Thailand: Amarin Printing and Publishing Public Co Ltd
Call number.: Unavailable

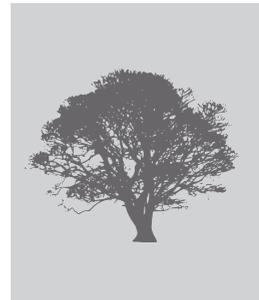
This award-winning children's picture book welcomes you to join children joyfully playing together among the fruit trees in their village. Although written in Thai verse, children everywhere will enjoy identifying some of the tropical fruits and telling their own stories from the delightfully detailed scenes drawn on 2-page spreads. Lime, soursop, guava, air jumbo, tamarind, buah kuching, buah chiku, mangosteen, rambutan and durian!



Walking Into Mangrove Forest

Author: Samantha Ong
Illustrator: Low Khay Yhooi
(2010). Malaysia: Gu Ru Ku Hornbill
Call No.: Unavailable

While in search of the nicer home that he has always dreamed of, Freddie, a Fiddler Crab, meets a special friend. As they go in search of his dream home, they meet many types of animals, insects, and people who live in the mangrove forest and help Freddie realize that where he is living is special.

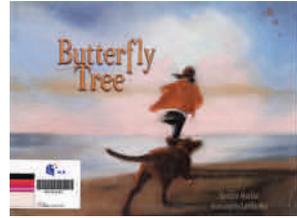


TREES AS HOMES

Butterfly Tree

Author: Sandra Markle
Illustrator: Leslie Wu
(2011). US: Peachtree Publishers
Call No.: JP English MAR

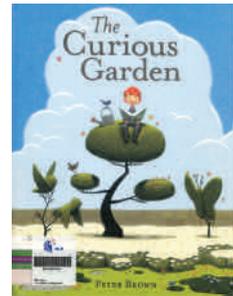
A young girl named Jilly, her dog, and her mother are alarmed by a mysterious and orange cloud they see in the distance. On their way to investigate, Jilly is spooked, but her mother teaches her how to look and listen quietly. In the end, they make an amazing discovery of thousands of orange monarch butterflies finding temporary shelter in trees.



The Curious Garden

Author: Peter Brown
(2009). USA: Little Brown Book for Young Readers
Call No.: J AV English 791.43 CUR

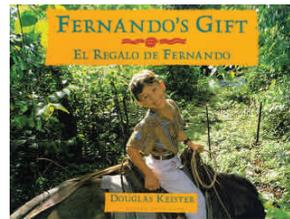
While going out to explore the neighborhood one day, a little boy named Liam stumbles upon a struggling garden and becomes determined to take care of it. He reads books on gardening and collects the tools and skills necessary to bring his garden to full bloom. As time goes by, with Liam's tender loving care, the garden spreads throughout the gloomy city and transforms it into a lush urban garden.



El Regalo de Fernando (Fernando's Gift)

Author: Douglas Keister
(2004). Costa Rica: Sierra Club Books for Children
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-0871569271

In this bilingual (English and Spanish) picture book Fernando and his family and friends are living in the rain forest of Costa Rica. Through the gentle depiction of their love and harmonious interaction with the lush forest that they call home, the book stimulates a new appreciation for the beauty and bounty of the precious tropical rain forest.



Homeland Trees

Author: Various Authors
Illustrator: Various Artists
(2015). Singapore: Kim Dong Publishing
Call Number: Unavailable

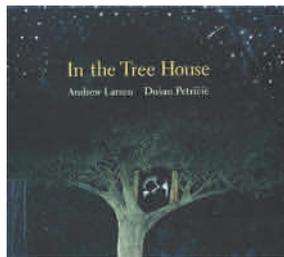
The poems in this collection are selected from among the best in the treasury of Vietnamese poetry for children. We hope that these beautiful and innocent words will provide good fun during family time, and help with the young readers' development of language ability in both Vietnamese and English.



In The Tree House

Author: Andrew Larsen
Illustrator: Dusan Petricic
(2013). US: Kids Can Press
Call No.: JP English LAR

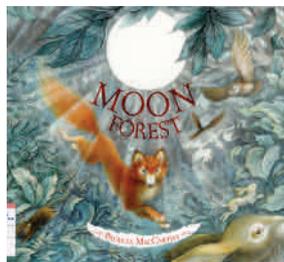
With his brother and father, a little boy has his best summer ever when they build a treehouse in the backyard of their new house. He and his brother spend all their time together in the tree house playing and learning until his brother gets older and makes his own friends and doesn't want to hang out with his younger sibling anymore. So the little boy spends his time in the tree house alone until a black-out one night brings his brother back up in the tree. This story reinforces family values and reminds the readers how important and enjoyable it is to spend time with family and siblings.



Moon Forest

Author: Patricia MacCarthy
(2013). UK/London: Frances Lincoln Children's Books
Call No.: JP English MAC

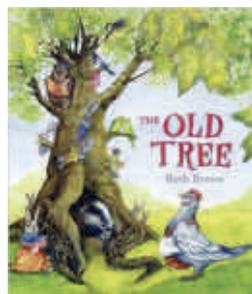
With beautifully written text and dream-like illustrations, this lovely picture book leads the readers through a food hunting adventure of a mother fox in the night-drown forest. It vividly depicts all the sights, sounds and reality of the moonlight-illuminated forest as the fox pounces through the trail and the other animals take flight for their survival. This is a great book choice for bedtime reading.



The Old Tree

Author: Ruth Brown
(2007). USA: Candlewick Press
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-0763634612

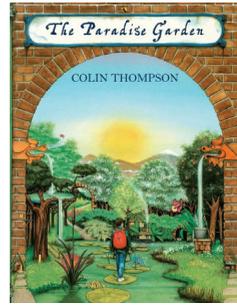
Pigeon Post delivers mail to the many residents of the Old Tree. No one notices the big white X on the trunk of the tree, except Pigeon Post. Captain Crow spots men cutting down a tree not far away. What can they do to save the tree? This delightful tale of cooperation and conservation with luminous acrylic and watercolor illustrations will engage readers, with a final surprise of a beautiful pop-up tree.



The Paradise Garden

Author: Colin Thompson
(1998). UK: Knopf Books for Young Readers
Call No.: J English THO

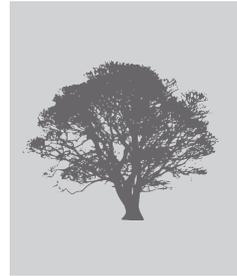
This unique story follows a Peter's journey of self-redemption. Peter is weary of the noise and chaos of the city life, so he sneaks away and finds his refuge in a garden paradise. Peter is so in love with the peace, beauty and serenity of this new place that he decides to spend several weeks there, where he finally learns how to take time for himself and calm down. Eventually he realizes that he can find peace wherever he goes.



Rainforest Surprise

Author: Samantha Ong
Illustrator: Low Khay Yhooi
(2010). Malaysia: Gu Ru Ku Hornbill
Call No.: Unavailable

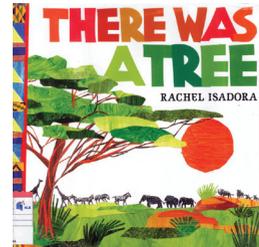
A young boy enters a 130 million year old tropical rainforest and takes children on a learning adventure about the natural habitats of animals, insects and the Orang Asli.



There Was a Tree

Author: Rachel Isadora
(2012). Africa: Nancy Paulsen Books
Call No.: JP English 782.42 ISA

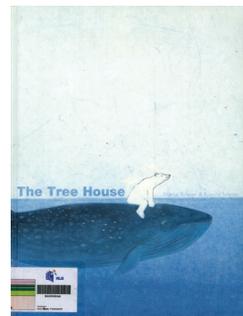
"And the green grass grew all around, all around." The well-known cumulative children's song "The Green Grass Grew All Around" has been adapted into this colorful picture book. It tells the story of a beautiful umbrella acacia tree and how it grows to become a beautiful element of nature in an African setting. The author utilizes colorful pictographic rebus icons to illustrate the repeated words in the text which makes it fun and easy for young readers to follow along and read the story.



The Tree House

Author: Marjorie Tolman
Illustrator: Ronald Tolman
(2010). USA: Lemniscaat
Call No.: JP English TOL

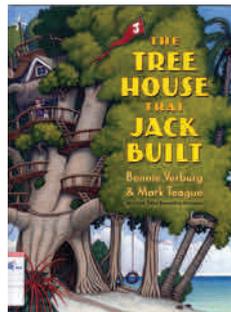
This delightful wordless picture book tells a story of two bears and their adventures in a tree house that sticks up in the ocean. The two bears together explore the tree house and find that it is a perfect place to read books, eat food, and watch the skies. As time goes by, flamingos, pandas, bears, and other animals that pass by join the two bears. Together they have a wonderful time in the tree house.



The Tree House That Jack Built

Author: Bonnie Verburg
Illustrator: Mark Teague
(2014). USA: Orchard Books
Call No.: JP VER

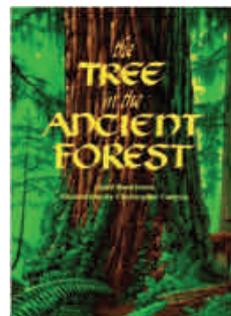
This picture book presents a delightful retelling of a much-loved traditional “The House that Jack Built” story. By combining bright and imaginative illustrations and rhyming text, the story leads readers to a soothing journey of a wondrous day in the most exciting and massive tree house ever! A great bedtime story for younger children.



The Tree in the Ancient Forest

Author: Carol Reed-Jones
Illustrator: Christopher Caynon
(1995). USA: Dawn Publications
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-1883220310

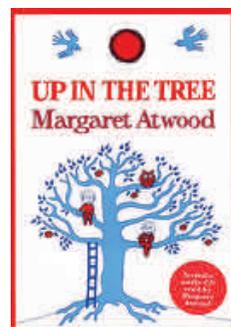
This is a portrayal of the amazing life of inhabitants that depend on one another for survival in and around giant trees in ancient forests, with a repetitive, cumulative verse that children universally enjoy.



Up in the Tree

Author: Margaret Atwood
(2010). Canada: Bloomsbury
Call No.: JP English ATW

This is a playful and whimsical story of two wide-eyed little children who live up happily in their tree house with an owl. But one day, when two beavers come along and gnaw their wooden ladder (that leads up into the tree) into matchsticks, the children are not so sure that they want to be so alone. What will they do?

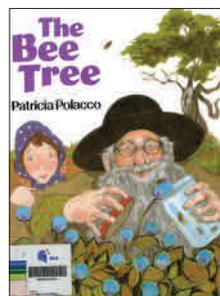


TREES AND ANCESTRY

The Bee Tree

Author: Patricia Polacco
(1998). US: Puffin
Call No.: EL JP English POL

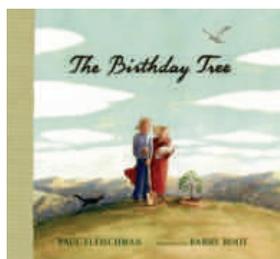
When Mary Ellen gets bored with her reading, Grandpa knows a hunt for a bee tree is just what she needs. Half the town joins their exciting chase, but it is not until everyone returns home that Mary Ellen makes a discovery of her own: that sometimes, even the sweetest of things must be worked for.



The Birthday Tree

Author: Paul Fleischman
Illustrator: Barry Root
(2008). US: Candlewick Press
Call No.: Unavailable

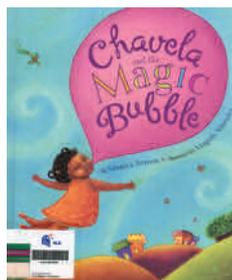
Having lost three sons to the sea, a sailor and his wife decide to live on land, far away from the sea. When their fourth son Jack is born in the new home, the couple plants an apple tree to honor his birth. As Jack grows taller, so does the tree. Over time, Jack and apple tree becomes very close friends. But one day the couple awake to find Jack's bed empty. When they see a gull perched on top of the tree, they realize that their Jack has run away to sea.



Chavela and the Magic Bubble

Author: Monica Brown
Illustrator: Magaly Morales
(2010). Mexico: Clarion Books
Call No.: JP English BRO

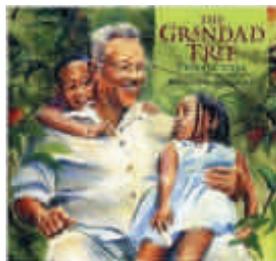
Chavela is a chubby-cheeked young girl who loves chewing chicle. She especially enjoys sharing her chicle with her grandma and listening to stories about her grandmother and great-great father in Mexico. One day she finds a magic chicle which takes her on a journey that lets her learn how her beloved chewing gum is made from sapodilla trees.



The Grandad Tree

Author: Trish Cooke
Illustrator: Sharon Wilson
(2000). UK: Walker Books
Call No.: JP English COO

Leigh and her brother, Vin, always remember the good times when playing with grandfather under their apple tree. Although grandfather dies, and the world around them keeps on changing, their love for Grandad will never alter with time.



Grandma Lim's Persimmons

Author: Sunita Lad Bhamray
Illustrator: Marjorie Van Heerden
(2013). Malaysia: Oyez!Books
Call No.: JP English BHA

Grandma Lin loves to grow persimmons in her garden. She saves the biggest and most beautiful persimmons for her granddaughter Mei Ling. But before she can give the best persimmon she has ever grown to Mei Ling, the persimmon disappears after a storm blows it off the tree. That's when a centipede, a spider and a cat save the day for Grandma Lin.



Grandpa Green

Author: Lane Smith
(2011).US: Roaring Book Press
Call No.: JP English SMI

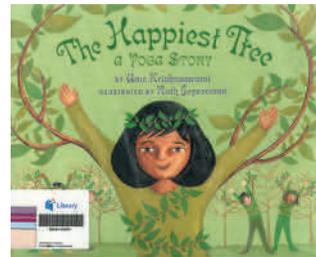
A young boy walks through a topiary garden to retrieve the gloves and other items misplaced by his great-grandfather who used to be a horticulturist. Told with very few words and lovingly-crafted, ingeniously-woven images, this is a book to be held, treasured, and loved through the ages.



The Happiest Tree: A Yoga Story

Author: Uma Krishnaswami
Illustrator: Ruth Jeyaveeran
(2005). India: Lee & Low Books
Call No.: JP English KRI

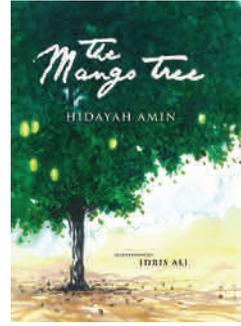
Meena is very excited about her class play. However, when she finds out that she has to act as a tree, all her prior excitement vanishes as she fears she is too clumsy to be a steady tree. Luckily, she comes across a yoga class and is convinced to try it out to help improve her posture. From there, she begins to learn that she can overcome life obstacles through the power of perseverance and determination.



The Mango Tree

Author: Hidayah Amin
Illustrator: Idris Ali
(2013). Singapore: Helang Books
Call Number: J English 959.57051092 HID

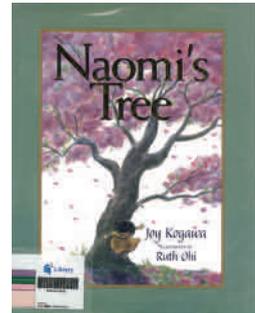
When Hidayah is born, a mango seed is planted in the garden of her family home by her grandmother. As she grows, so does the tree. Hidayah forms a close connection with the tree as it becomes her confidant, and she misses it when she leaves home to study and travel. When she returns home, she despairs when the tree is chopped down to make way for development.



Naomi's Tree

Author: Joy Kogawa
Illustrator: Ruth Ohi
(2008). Canada: Fitzhenry and Whiteside
Call No.: J English KOG

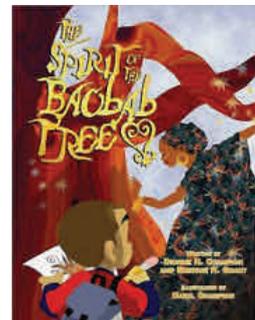
This book shares a real story about the enduring friendship between a Japanese-Canadian family and their cherry tree. It describes the plight, loss, courage and love of the family when they are uprooted from their homes in the aftermath of World War II and how the cherry tree gives the family courage and resilience to transcend difficult circumstances with patience and peace.



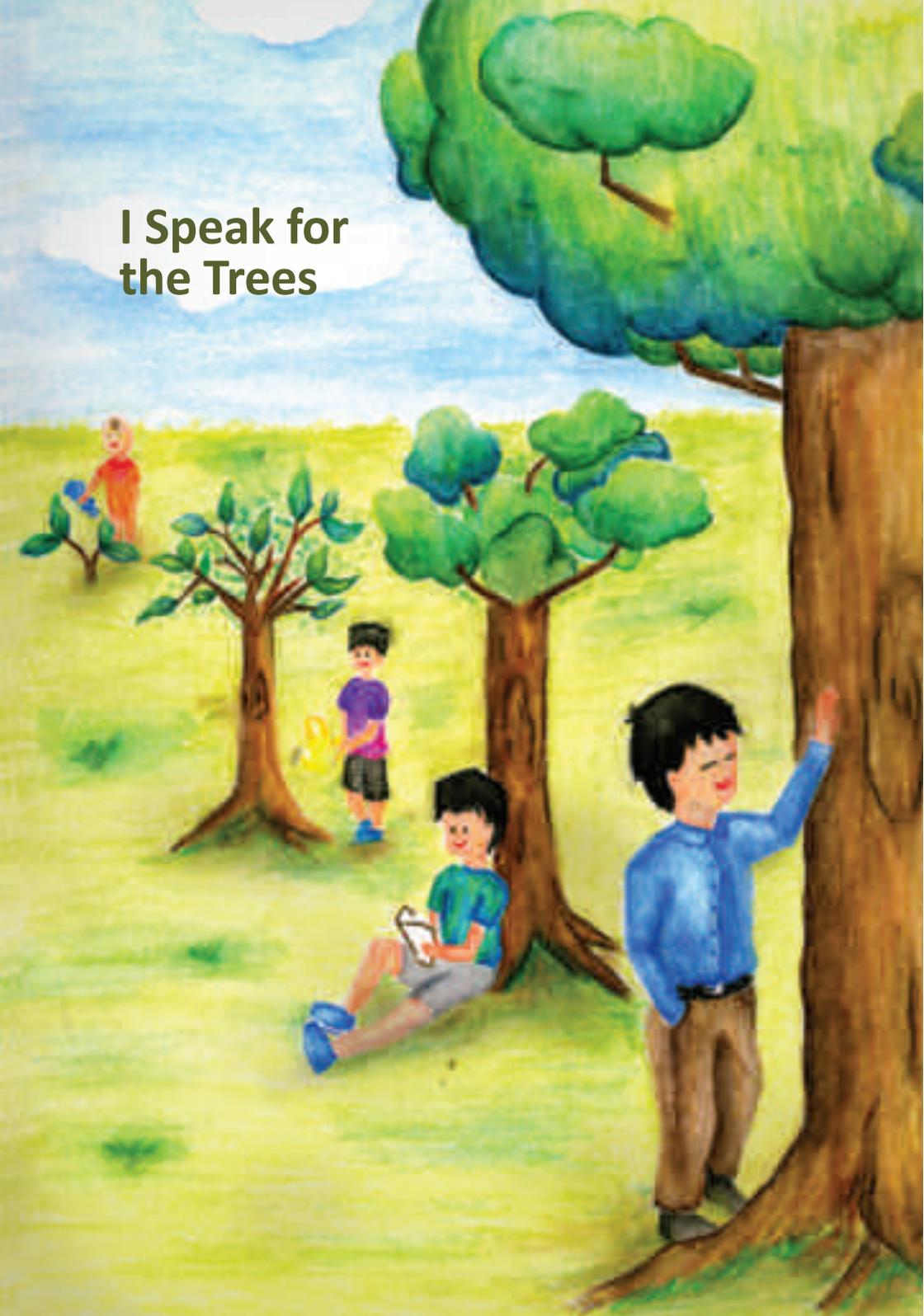
The Spirit of the Baobab Tree

Author: Dionne Champion
Contributor: Sherice Grant
(2008). US: Xlibris, Corp
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-1436378413

As a foster child, nine-year-old Jelani turns to drawing as a means to cope with loneliness and the mean children in his class. One day a magical storyteller appears from the pages of Jelani's sketchbook and leads them on a historical journey through time. Uncovering the truth behind his drawings, Jelani and his classmates experience first-hand how their ancestors lived and what their social, economic, political, and cultural life was like. Drawing on the past experiences of his ancestors, Jelani finds the strength he needs to overcome his own obstacles, and he and his classmates develop a new sense of pride about their past, present and future.



I Speak for the Trees

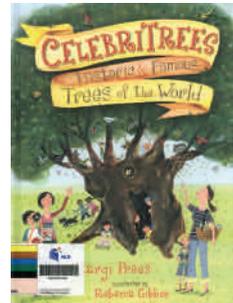


LIFE OF TREES

Celebritrees: Historic and Famous Trees of the World

Author: Margi Preus
Illustrator: Rebecca Gibbon
(2011). USA: Henry Holt & Co.
Call No.: JP English 582.16 PRE

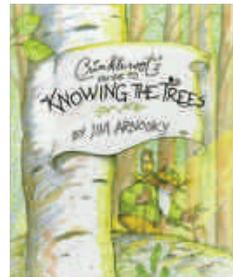
This book introduces 14 different trees from around the world, famous because they are the oldest, tallest, widest, or because they are fascinating stories behind them. The author provides a history of each tree and provides further scientific information about its size and age. A great book to inspire students' interest in trees.



Crinkleroot's Guide to Knowing the trees

Author: Jim Arnosky
(1992). Canada: Simon & Schuster
Call No.: Unavailable

This book offers a fun and entertaining way to teach kids about nature. Led by the charming teacher Crinkleroot, it tells the readers how trees grow, develop, and live in the most accessible way.



Our Planet

Author: Jimi Lee
Illustrator: Jimi Lee
(2013). Hong Kong: Michael Neugebauer
Call Number: JP English LEE

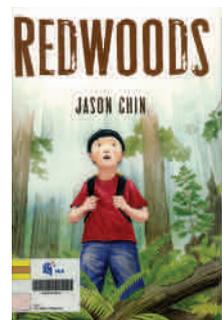
This wordless picture book shows how human progress and development of cities overwhelms the planet. Given a second chance, is it possible to reach a harmonious balance with nature?



Redwoods

Author: Jason Chin
(2009). US - but Asian American author/illustrator
Call No.: JP English 585 CHI

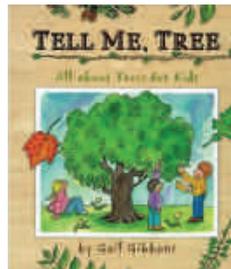
A young boy finds a book about redwood forests on his subway ride home. So he picks up the book and starts to read it. He is so captivated by the information in the book, he finds himself travel to California to climb into the Redwood canopy. After his adventures in the pages of the book, he leaves the book on a park bench for another child to pick up and read.



Tell me, Tree: All about trees for kids

Author: Gail Gibbons
(2008). USA: Little Brown Books for Young Readers
Call No.: EL JP English 582.16 GIB

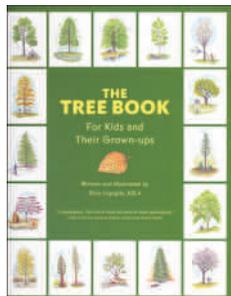
In this inviting, oversized scientific picture book, the author provides a simple, informative and eye-pleasing guide on the parts, functions and types of the tree. Discussion of photosynthesis and the other tree-related scientific terms, such as phloem and cambium, also included in the book which definitely will make it a great curriculum resource.



The Tree Book for Kids and their Grown-ups

Author: Gina Ingoglia
(2008). USA: Brooklyn Botanic Garden
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 9781889538433

This picture book answers tree-related questions in an easy and entertaining way. It introduces to readers 33 different trees that grow in North America and their detailed profiles.



A Tree In My Village

Author: Paritosh Sen
(1996). India: Banyan Tree
Call No.: Ref Asian Children English 759.954 SEN

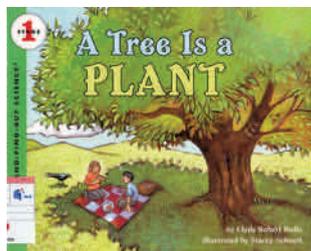
In this vibrant and joyful picture book, the author leads the readers through a visual journey of the variety of bird, animal and insect life and the ecosystem in and around the Arjuna tree in his childhood village. Through these minute observations, the author reveals the remarkable chain of life, and the interdependence of all living creatures.



A Tree is a Plant

Author: Clyde Robert Bulla
Illustrator: Stacey Schuett
(2001). USA: Harper Collins
Call No.: EL JP English 582.16 BUL

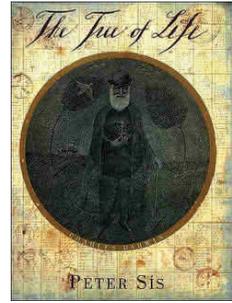
This is an engaging first book for preschool and early-primary-grade children to learn about the continuous life cycle of trees, with the transformation of an apple tree through four seasons. It effectively explains the parts of tree, their functions and the science concepts around it in a very simple language.



The Tree of Life: Charles Darwin (2003)

Author: Peter Sis
(2003). UK: Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Call No.: Unavailable/ ISBN-13: 978-0374456283

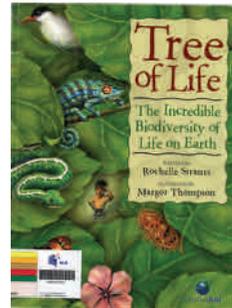
This award-winning picture book biography of the genius thinker, Charles Darwin, is both entertaining and educational with the story about his life starting from childhood.



Tree of Life: The Incredible Biodiversity of Life on Earth

Author: Rochelle Strauss
Illustrator: Margot Thompson
(2004). Canada: Kids Can Press
Call No.: J 578.01 STR

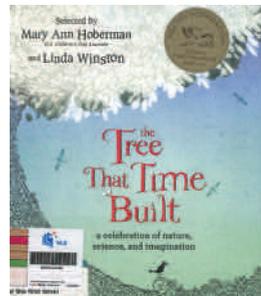
This scientific picture book provides a child-friendly introduction to biodiversity. Through its dazzling illustrations and text, the book shares how living things on earth are classified and interconnected. It also explains how everything that we do affect all aspects of our life on the planet. It raises the reader's awareness on what we can do daily to help protect our ecosystem.



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

Author: Anthology of poems selected by U.S. Children's Poet Laureate Mary Ann Hoberman and Cultural Anthropologist/Teacher Linda Winston
(2009). USA: Sourcebooks: Jabberwocky, 2009
Call No.: J English 808.81 TRE

This book of poetry details the mystery in nature, the magic of science, the mystery within each organism's breathing being. Aside from gathering together a treasury of poems that celebrate the natural world around us, the anthologists came up with their own method of categorization as to how the poetry comes together in a meaningful way – their own phylum of poetic threads, if you may. This book is living proof that if we are able to 'look at the familiar with strange eyes' – through the eyes of a poet, the writer, the systematic naturalist, the empiricist – then the likelihood of seeing the universe in a rosebud – is immensely promising.

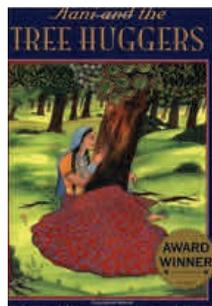


WARDEN OF THE FOREST

Aani and the Tree Huggers

Author: Jeannine Atkins
Illustrator: Venantius J. Pinto
(1995). USA: Lee & Low Books
Call No.: JP English ATK

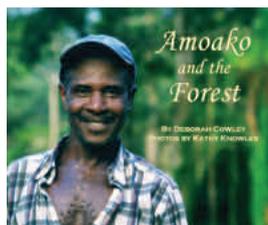
Based on a true event in northern India, this moving story of a young girl's quiet act of bravery will inspire children everywhere. Young Aani and women in her village try to stop men from the city who have come to cut down trees by explaining that the trees provide food, fuel and homes to animals. But the tree cutters continue. Finally, Aani wraps her arms around one of the trees. The village women join her, and they save the village's beloved forest, and her favorite tree. The distinctive illustrations are inspired by Indian miniature painting.



Amoako and the Forest

Author: Deborah Cowley
Photographer: Kathy Knowles
(2008). Ghana: OSU Children's Library Fund
Call No.: Unavailable

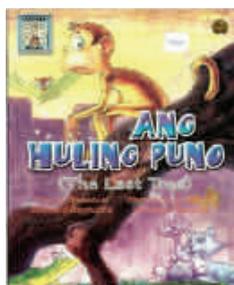
This picture book presents a first-hand work and life account of a forester, Amoako, who is working with a legal logging company in Ghana. Through the use of stunning photographs and informative images of trees, this book vicariously leads the readers through the whole logging process.



Ang Huling Puno (The Last Tree)

Author: Retold by Richard Reynante
Illustrator: Arnould Nuestro
(2001). Philippines: Lampara Books
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-9715180016

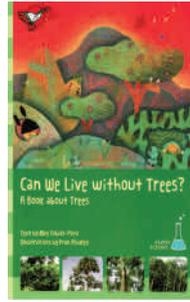
The story is about saving the last tree in the city where animals live, and children play happily. The tree is planned to be cut down to make way for a huge building. To prevent the tree from being cut, the animals and children work together to come up with a plan. The story motivates children to assume their roles as guardians of nature. (English and Filipino)



Can We Live Without Trees?

Author: May Tobias-Papa
Illustrator: Jill Milroy
(2014). Philippines: Adarna House
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN: 978-971-508-484-0

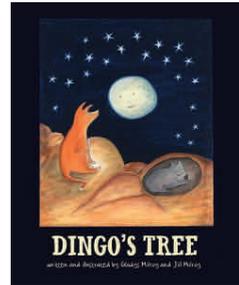
Can anyone imagine a world without trees? Through reading this beautiful picture book, children will learn how important trees are to humans and all living things, and how we can help to save our forests. (English and Filipino)



Dingo's Tree

Authors: Gladys Milroy and Jill Milroy
Illustrator: Jill Milroy
(2013). Australia: Magabala Books
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN 978-1921248436

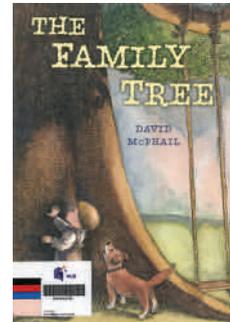
This is the story of Dingo, Wombat, Crow and their friends as they struggle to exist alongside the devastation of mining that is tearing up their beautiful homeland. This powerful children's cautionary tale on the destruction and havoc that mining causes to the land and to community is both touching and hard-hitting.



The Family Tree

Author: David McPhail
(2012). US: Henry Holt & Co.
Call No.: JP English MAC

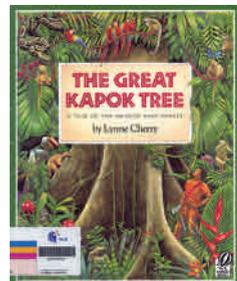
A young man makes his home in a beautiful forest, leaving a special tree to shelter his front yard. Generations of his family bond with the tree, and when some workers come to cut the tree down to make way for a highway, his great-great-grandson takes a stand to save the tree.



The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest

Author: Lynne Cherry
(1991). Brazil: HMH Books for Young Readers
Call No.: JP English CHE

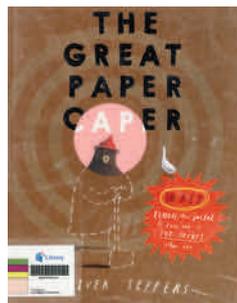
One day, a lumberjack exhausts himself trying to log a giant kapok tree that is home to many rainforest animals. While he falls asleep, the forest's residents, one by one, come down the tree trunk and whisper in his ear about the importance of the tree and how their lives depend on it. Finally, all the earnest pleading seems to work. When the lumberjack wakes up, he decides to drop the ax and walk out of the rain forest.



The Great Paper Caper

Author: Oliver Jeffers
(2008). UK: Harper Collins Publishers
Call No.: JP English JEF

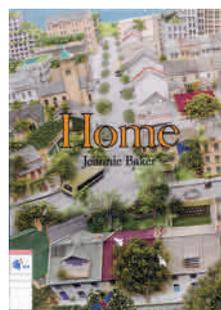
The forest animals investigate disappearing tree branches and mysteriously appearing paper planes, finally discovering that the bear is the culprit. When the bear plants tree seeds in penance, the forest animals rally to his cause, and help him to achieve his dreams.



Home/Belonging

Author: Jeannie Baker
(2004). USA: Greenwillow Books, an Imprint of HarperCollins Publishers
Call No.: JP English BAK

Beginning with a modern progressive landscape dotted with fast food chains and walls littered with graffiti, and ending with the urban landscape merging beautifully with the trees and plant life, this book engenders discussion on the meaning of home, community, and sustainable development.



In the Forest

Authors: Anouck Boisrobert, Louis Rigaud and Sophie Strady
Illustrator: Jill Milroy
(2012). USA: Tate Publishing
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-1849760713

Deep in the Amazonian rainforest, everything is so green and full of life until the 'metal monsters' intrude in. This creative pop-up book tells the dramatic story of one sloth who hangs on in the forest because of its laziness, as a result, witnesses the whole process of the forest being destroyed and then reborn. This book effectively presents to the readers the horrible results of wanton deforestation and conveys a clear message for environmental protection.



Let's Plant Trees

Author: Vinod Lal Heera Eshwe
(2013). India: Tulika Publishers
Call No.: JP English 582.16 ESH

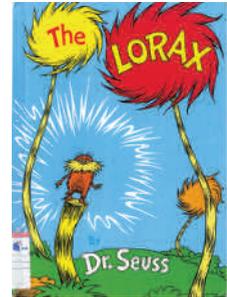
By celebrating the tree in its different roles through cute cartoon drawings and crisp text, this imaginative picture book offers readers plenty of reasons for planting trees.



The Lorax

Author: Dr. Seuss
(1998). USA: Random House Books for Young Readers
Call No.: JP English SEU

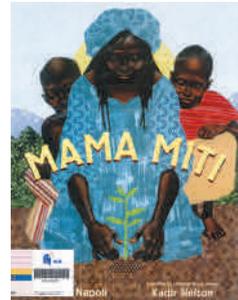
In this classic book, a reclusive creature tells the sorry tale of how greed and the unsustainable use of natural resources results in the destruction of the environment. While the book paints a bleak picture, there is a sliver of hope at the end.



Mama Miti: Wangari Maathai and the Trees of Kenya

Author: Donna Jo Napoli
Illustrator: Kadir Nelson
(2010). Kenya: A Paula Wiseman book: Simon & Schuster Books
for Young Readers
Call No.: JP English 333.72092 NAP

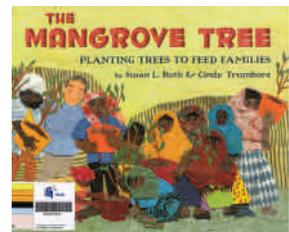
Mama Miti seems to know exactly what seed to give each person who comes to her for help. Rather than provide them with a quick-fix that is merely palliative in nature, she helps them out by giving them plants to grow – the exact one that is needed to feed not just the entire family but their animals as well. Gradually, with patience, perseverance and unwavering faith in her people, Mama Miti rallies the village women to plant thirty million trees in Kenya and other countries of Africa.



The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families

Author: Susan L. Roth & Cindy Trumbore
(2011). African country of Eritrea: Lee & Low Books
Call No.: Unavailable

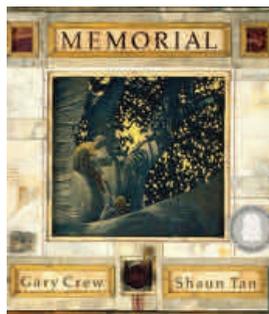
This book demonstrates how one man's simple vision: planting mango trees by the shore of the salty Red Sea – can transform a dry, arid land, such as Hargigo, to a leafy green forest. Where there was darkness and deprivation, Dr. Gordon Sato plants seedlings, bringing light, air, and sustenance.



Memorial

Author: Gary Crew
Illustrator: Shaun Tan
(1999). Australia: Lothian Books
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-0734405456

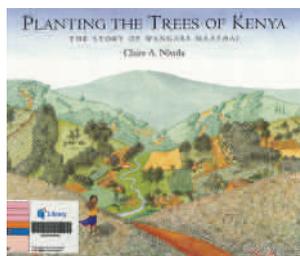
“My great-grandpa says they planted the tree on the day he came home from the war.” And so the story begins. The tree has withstood several wars, witnessed the evolution of entire families, and watched the entire city grow from its vantage point. It is also home to entire animal families who find its branches sturdy and its leaves a sanctuary from the elements. While initially a story of a soldier coming home from the war, the narrative unfurls into something else altogether – the fragmented quality of memory and the collected bits and pieces that make up one’s life.



Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai

Author: Claire A. Nivola
(2008). Kenya: Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Call No.: J English 333.72092 NIV

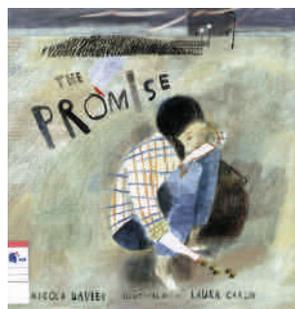
This is an inspiring life story of Wangari Maathai, the first woman from Africa to receive the Nobel Peace Prize and founder of the Green Belt Movement who, through her lifelong efforts, change the fate of her native land of Kenya by teaching her countrymen to work in rhythm with their environment.



The Promise

Author: Nicola Davies
Illustrator: Laura Carlin
(2013). UK: Walker Books
Call No.: JP English DAV

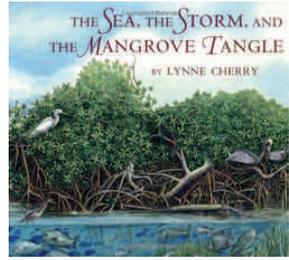
Featuring a young girl who lives in a broken city where nothing ever grows, this powerful story demonstrates that it is never too late to transform one’s life. It celebrates redemption found in cracked streets, patience gathered from parched pavements, and bright greens and yellows amidst dead-eyed greys and dust-covered hearts.



The Sea, The Storm and the Mangrove Tangle

Author: Lynne Cherry
Illustrator: Lynne Cherry
(2013). USA: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR)
Call No.: JP English CHE

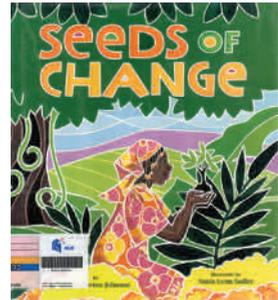
This informative picture book presents a unique look on the endangered ecosystem of the mangroves in the Caribbean Sea.



Seeds of Change: Planting a Path to Peace

Author: Jen Cullerton Johnson
Illustrator: Sonia Lynn Sadler
(2010). USA: Lee & Low Books. New York
Call No.: JP English 333.72092 JOH

This is another fantastic picture book about the amazing life story of Wangari, an African woman and environmentalist who is committed to changing her beloved country Kenya through tree-planting, sparking a civil rights movement. This book touches upon several important issues such as nature, environmental protection and women's right.



The Tree Lady: The Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever

Author: H. Joseph Hopkins
Illustrator: Jill McElmurry
(2013). US: Beach Lane Books
Call No.: JP English 635 HOP

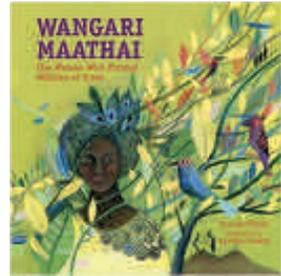
A fascinating and inspiring biography of Katherine Sessions, a tree-loving woman who is also honored as the Mother of Balboa Park because of her ground-breaking accomplishments in transforming the dry desert San Diego city into the green and leafy city that it is today.



Wangari Maathai: The Woman Who Planted Millions of Trees

Author: Franck Praevot
Illustrator: Aurelia Fronty
(2015). Kenya: Charlesbridge
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN-13: 978-1580896269

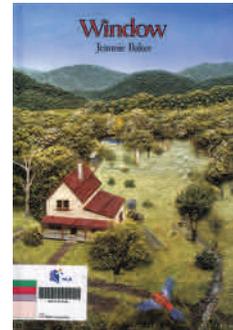
This beautiful picture book tells an inspiring life story of an amazing woman Wangari Maathai who leads her countrywomen in a nonviolent struggle to bring peace and democracy to Africa through her reforestation project.



Window

Author: Jeannie Baker
(1991). USA: Random House Children's Books
Call No.: JP English BAK

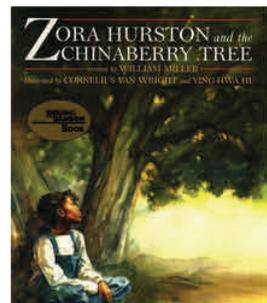
This wordless narrative shows the reader the developmental milestones of an infant every two years until old age, set against the ever changing background where we also see the effects of urbanisation on the environment, with the loss of trees and vegetation in the name of progress.



Zora Hurston and the Chinaberry Tree

Author: William Miller
Illustrators: Cornelius Van Wright, Ying-Hwa Hu
(1994). US: Lee & Low Books
Call No.: Unavailable / ISBN 978-1880000144

This beautifully illustrated picture book presents an uplifting life story of Zora Hurston, the famous African-American author, one of the most important figures of the Harlem Renaissance. It tells the readers a touching story of how Zora was encouraged by her dying mother to pursue her dreams with confidence.





My
Tree House
World's **1**st
Green Library
for Kids

Central Public Library is home to My Tree House – World's 1st Green Library for Kids. This pioneering library is steered by green principles in all facets from design and infrastructure to collection and programming. Created in partnership with Asia's leading eco-developer City Developments Limited (CDL), this unique eco space facilitates environmental literacy in children. Opened on 31 May 2013 by Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Communications and Information, My Tree House was awarded the top-tier Green Mark Platinum Award by the Building and Construction Authority of Singapore for its extensive use of environmentally-sustainable materials and energy-efficient fittings.

FEATURE HIGHLIGHTS

1. Tree House and Eco Attributes

Forming the centrepiece of the eco library, the striking tree house canopy features the creative use of over 3,000 recycled plastic bottles while the tree trunk is largely fabricated with aluminium, mild steel and plywood, which are recyclable, and fibre glass. Other green features in the library include the refurbished book shelves, carpet made with high amounts of recycled content and energy-efficient LED lighting.

2. The Knowledge Tree

This interactive installation is set in an enchanted forest where a magical tree grows and prompts questions on environmental awareness. Using shadow movement, one can uncover the questions and select answers to the quiz. The right answers will nourish the tree and delight the forest creatures; the wrong answers will make the tree wither – allowing its young users to understand how their actions can impact the environment.



3. The Weather Stump

The visual projection on the stump marks the temperature, wind speed and rainfall recorded at Marina Barrage over a 24-hour period, with an update every five minutes. The colour of the ring shows the temperature, the number in km/h on the white line indicates the wind speed and irregular outlines on the ring represent rainfall.

4. Green Collection and Programmes

30% of the 45,000 books in My Tree House are focused on green themes like nature, environment and conservation, while fiction books including fairytales, fantasy and folklores related to the theme of the enchanted forest make up the rest of the collection. There are also green themed eBooks and educational games available through interactive and child-friendly eReading kiosks. The library also hosts an array of eco craft programmes for young readers.

Jointly presented by:



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DEVELOP

skills for creating stories with Asian content for children.

PROMOTE

the publication and production of Asian content for children.

PROVIDE

the world with access to Asian content for children.

for more information, please visit www.afcc.com.sg





FOREST OF STORIES is an annotated bibliography showcasing a selection of more than 100 tree-themed picture books from around the world, both fiction and non-fiction, which can be used as a teaching resource or to help parents and book lovers find interesting books to read.



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