

Recommended Reading Ponds and Lakes

To children, lakes and ponds are intriguing (and fun) places to explore. They are places often filled with mystery and surprise. The sounds of frogs and toads are often heard, the sight of cattails and cool plants is seen. What a wonderful topic to read about!

Beaver at Long Pond / By William T. George. New York: Greenwillow Books: 1998. WWL call number 281300 Kids Beaver is just waking up as most of the rest of the animals around the pond are going to bed and he has a busy night of house construction and eating ahead of him. The illustrations are beautifully realistic. For children in grades K-3.

Bird Lake moon / By Kevin Henkes. New York: Greenwillow Books, HarperCollins: 2008. WWL call number 071197 Kids

Twelve-year-old Mitch and his mother are spending the summer with his grandparents at Bird Lake after his parents separate, and ten-year-old Spencer and his family have returned to the lake where Spencer's little brother drowned long ago, and as the boys become friends and spend time together, each of them begins to heal.

Fresh Water / By Peter Ampt. Broomall, Pa.: Chelsea House Publishers: 2002. WWL call number 281273 Kids Readers can explore different kinds of fresh water environments, from mountain streams to backyard ponds, and see examples of their effects on humans and other life forms. For children in grades 2-4.

The Hidden Life of the Pond / By Dwight Kuhn and David M. Schwartz. New York: Crown Publishers: 1988. WWL call number 071130 Kids

Follow life in the pond from a warm spring rain to the start of a cold winter. Beautiful nature photography accompanies descriptions of each species. Children will witness the complex life that even a very small pond can support. For children in grades 3-6.

In the Small, Small Pond / By Denise Fleming. New York: Harry Holt and Company: 1993. WWL call number 281290 Kids

The rhyming text and vibrant illustrations will have the very young enraptured by the exciting life in and around a pond. For children in grades Preschool-1.

Lakes / By Catherine Chambers and Nicholas Lapthorn. Chicago, Ill.: Heinemann: 2008. WWL call number 071193 Kids

Lakes is part of 'The Mapping Earthforms' series and explains how the physical features that make up our natural environment were/are formed and shaped, and how plants, animals and people have adapted to living in these sometimes very challenging environments. Lakes includes examples from around the world and case studies the Great Lakes of North America and Lake Victoria in east Africa. It also includes a table of the largest lakes in the world. For ages 9 through 12. Revised and updated edition.

Lakes: Timeless Reservoirs / By Randy Frahm. Mankato, Minn.: Creative Education: 2003. WWL call number 071102 Kids

Well-written, informative essays provide an overview of lakes, including their formation, life span, inhabitants, uses, and ecology. The book also includes experiments to help readers visualize important lake-related concepts. For children in grades 3-5.

The magic goggles: discovering the secrets of the lake / By Lynn Markham. Stevens Point, WI: Center for Land Use Education, College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point: 2009. WWL call number 071202 Kids

Maggie and her little brother Tate are visiting their grandparents' lake cabin when they discover two pairs of really weird, old goggles with leather straps in a dusty old trunk in the attic. Down at the lake with their goggles, the kids discover the magic goggles make them as light as a damselfly and let them see right through lily pads to the underwater forest below. Based on their experiences, Maggie and Tate discover what creates the magic of the lake. Ages 4-8.

Measuring at the pond / By Linda Bussell. Pleasantville, NY: Weekly Reader Books: 2009. WWL call number 281519 Kids

Ms. Tosh's class is taking a field trip to a local pond. Tag along with the students as they observe and measure the interesting plants and animals they find.

Oceans, lakes, and rivers / By Melanie Ostopowich. New York, NY: Weigl Publishers: 2006. WWL call number 071214 Kids

'Oceans, lakes, and rivers,' a book for children aged 4-10, is part of the Science Matters series and guides young readers through the many forms of water, and how they impact life on Earth. This volume describes Earth's bodies of water, explains how the water cycle works, presents a brief biography of Jacques Cousteau, and includes a hands-on experiment.

Pond circle / By Betsy Franco. New York: Margaret K. McElderry Books: 2009. WWL call number 071225 Kids In the pond by Anna's house, a food chain begins with algae, which is eaten by a mayfly nymph, which is eaten by a beetle, which is eaten by a bullfrog.... Illustrated by Stefano Vitale. For children ages four through eight.

Pond Life: A Guide to Common Plants and Animals of North America's Ponds and Lakes / By George Kell Reid. New York: St. Martin's Press: 2001. WWL call number 071096 Kids

This "Golden Guide" is filled with identification tools, including illustrations, to help identify members of the plant and animal kingdoms that can be found in North American freshwater ponds. Introduction also contains information on food webs, habitats, and observing techniques for young naturalists. For children in grades 3-7.

Pond: One Small Square / By Donald M. Silver. New York: Learning Triangle Press: 1994. WWL call number 071122 Kids

The misconception that ponds are uninteresting or even uneventful places will be dispelled with this look at the life that thrives at the various levels and throughout the changing seasons in a small pond. Comprehensive, illustrated index assists readers who might be interested in a specific topic or species. For children in grades 2-7.

Pond walk / By Nancy Elizabeth Wallace. New York: Marshall Cavendish Children: 2011. WWL call number 071217 Kids

One summer day, Buddy and his mother take a walk around a pond and observe the animals and insects that live there.

Rivers, lakes, streams, and ponds / By Richard Beatty. Chicago, Ill.: Raintree: 2011. WWL call number 071211 Kids

Earth's fresh water--lakes, rivers, streams, and ponds--are teeming with plant and animal life. Find out about this delicately balanced ecosystem.

Song of the water boatman: & other pond poems / By Joyce Sidman. Boston: Houghton Mifflin: 2005. WWL call number 071167 Kids

A collection of poems that provide a look at some of the animals, insects, and plants that are found in ponds, with accompanying information about each. For children in grades K - 5.

Splash! / By Ann Jonas. New York: Greenwillow Books: 1995. WWL call number 271249 Kids The vivid illustrations will delight kids learning to count as fish, frogs, turtles, pets and even a little girl climb in and out of a pond. How many are in my pond? Find out in this fun book! For preschool through grade 2.