

Time, Seasons and Holidays

The following book list coordinates with the calendar year. I've tried to arrange them with some thought to where holidays will land in a typical fall-to-spring school year, but this will not be perfect. Please rearrange as needed. Also, some months will have more suggestions in them (5 pairs of books instead of 4) to allow for those months when 5 weeks are available rather than 4 weeks.

I've also included and loosely coordinated books which allow students to dig a little deeper into topics presented by the picture books. These are the books labeled as NH (Natural History). Read one picture book and one NH (accompaniment) book per week on Day One according to the suggested Preparatory Weekly Schedule. The first book suggested will be read during the time allotted for Calendar Work and the NH accompaniment book will be read at the end of the day during the time allotted for Natural History; both books will be read on Day One. Alternatively, you could read the NH accompaniment book on Day Three during the time allotted for Natural History, either omitting Natural History on Day One or substituting other activities relating to Natural History.

This curriculum, especially for this level, is meant to be very flexible. Always do what is best for your young students, so substitute or add books of interest or similar topic as needed. These books are included as options and by no means are required reading. You could certainly omit all of the Natural History suggestions or just pick and choose what is available to you at the library or what is of interest to you and your students. Ultimately, the main source of study for Natural History occurs during the daily nature experiences, which are not scheduled but are assumed to be happening whenever possible. The Preparatory Level is designed to be a short day of listening to stories, having conversations and working on fine motor skills, allowing the remainder of the day to be free for children to discover and observe the natural world and free to play within the realm of imagination.

August

Summer Days and Nights by Wong Herbert Yee

NH- *What's Alive?* by Kathleen Weidner

The Seashore Book by Charlotte Zolotow

NH-*Next Time You See a Seashell* by Emily Morgan (Alternative: *On the Way to the Beach* by Henry Cole)

The Year at Maple Hill Farm by A. and M. Provensen

NH- *Farming* by Gail Gibbons

Around the Year by Tasha Tudor

NH-*From Seed to Plant* by Gail Gibbons

September

Labor Day by Carmen Bredeson

NH-*A Seed is Sleepy* by Dianna Aston

Good-Night, Owl! by Pat Hutchins

NH-*How Do Apples Grow?* by Betsy Masetro

Apple Farmer Annie by Monica Wellington

NH-*The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree* by Gail Gibbons

Ox-Cart Man by Donald Hall

NH-*Johnny Appleseed* by Steven Kellogg

October

Twilight Comes Twice by Ralph Fletcher

NH-*From Seed to Pumpkin* by Wendy Pfeffer

When the Wind Stops by Charlotte Zolotow

NH- *Full of Fall* by April Pulley Sayre

Fall Leaves by Loretta Holland

NH- *In the Barn* by Bobbie Kalman

~Read the first 3 sections/chapters (one per week)

Scarecrow by Cynthia Rylant

NH-*In the Barn*

Fall Walk by Virginia Brimhall Snow

NH-*In the Barn*

November

In November by Cynthia Rylant

NH-*In The Barn* ~ Read the next 3 sections/chapters (one per week)

On the Mayflower by Kate Waters

NH-*In the Barn*

The Thanksgiving Story by Alice Dalgliesh

NH-*In the Barn*

Over the River and Through the Wood by Lydia Maria Child

NH-*A House is a House for Me* by Mary Ann Hoberman

Cranberry Thanksgiving by Wende Devlin

NH-*Winter is Coming* by Tony Johnston

December

Winter Dance by Marion Dane Bauer

NH-*Animals in Winter* by Henrietta Bancroft

The Big Snow by Berta and Elmer Hader

NH-*In the Barn* ~ Read the remaining sections/chapters (one/two per week until complete)

Night Tree by Eve Bunting

NH-*In the Barn*

The Little Fir Tree by Margaret Wise Brown

NH-*In the Barn*

In December, please choose 2 or more books on the holiday or the season which best fit with your family's beliefs, either adding or substituting them for the suggested books for December.

January

Snow by Cynthia Rylant

NH- *Over and Under the Snow* by Kate Messner

Owl Moon by Jane Yolen

NH-*Owls* by Gail Gibbons

Katy and the Big Snow by Virginia Lee Burton

NH-*Step Gently Out* by Helen Frost

Mice Skating by Annie Silvestro

NH-*Sleep Tight Farm: A Farm Prepares for Winter* by Eugenie Doyle

February

Gregory's Shadow by Don Freeman

NH-*The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers

The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats

NH-*What Makes Day and Night?* by
Franklyn M. Branley

Valentine's Day by Gail Gibbons

NH- *Over and Over* by Charlotte
Zolotow

The Valentine Bears by Eve Bunting

NH-*Jack's Garden* by Henry Cole

President's Day by Anne Rockwell

NH-*Flowers are Calling* by Rita Gray

March

In Like a Lion, Out Like a Lamb by
Marion Dane Bauer

NH-*Weather Words and What They Mean*
by Gail Gibbons

St. Patrick's Day by Gail Gibbons

NH-*Down Comes the Rain* by Franklyn
M. Branley

And Then It's Spring by Julie Fogliano

NH-*On the Same Day in March: A Tour of
the World's Weather* by Marilyn Singer

Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt by
Kate Messner

NH-*Seed, Soil, Sun: Earth's Recipe for Food*
by Cris Peterson

April

My Spring Robin by Anne Rockwell
(Alternative: *Two Blue Jays* by A. Rockwell)

NH-*A Nest Full of Eggs* by Priscilla Belz
Jenkins

The Birdwatchers by Simon James

NH-*An Egg is Quiet* by Dianna Aston

Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney

NH- *A Nest is Noisy* by Dianna Aston

*The Country Bunny and the Little Gold
Shoes* by Du Bose Heyward

NH-*Rabbits, Rabbits and More Rabbits* by
Gail Gibbons

Miss Maple's Seeds by Eliza Wheeler

NH- *Planting the Wild Garden* by
Kathryn O. Galbraith

May

The Bumblebee Queen by April Pulley Sayre

NH-*Where Butterflies Grow* by Joanne Ryder

The Little Island by Golden MacDonald

NH-*An Island Grows* by Lola M. Schaefer

This Beautiful Day by Richard Jackson

NH-*Butterfly House* by Eve Bunting

The Wall by Eve Bunting

NH- *The Reason for a Flower* by Ruth Heller

June

Sunflower House by Eve Bunting

NH-*A Tree is Nice* by Janice May Udry

F is for Flag by Wendy Cheyette Lewison

NH-*Frogs* by Gail Gibbons

Pond Year by Kathryn Lasky

NH-*Over and Under the Pond* by Kate Messner

The Raft by Jim LaMarche

NH-*Ducks* by Gail Gibbons

July

The 4th of July Story by Alice Dalgliesh

NH-*The Story of the Statue of Liberty* by Betsy and Giulio Maestro

My Awesome Summer by Paul Meisel

NH-*Come On, Rain!* by Karen Hesse

Fireflies by Julie Brinckloe

NH-*Next Time You See a Firefly* by Emily Morgan

Storm in the Night by Mary Stolz

NH-*The Storm Book* by Charlotte Zolotow

Native Americans

OPTION 1: Read *The Book of Indians* by Holling C. Hollings

If accessible; See Resources: Prep. for a Link to Borrow from Archive

Read the Hollings book over the course of Term 1: Weeks 1-11 read one chapter per week, Week 12 read two chapters. This will be read on Day Two. Feel free to read the chapters over the course of more than one day, if needed. You can also extend this book into Term Two and read only half of the books allotted for Reading Around the World.

Additionally, read *Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back: A Native American Year of Moons* by Joseph Bruchac

Read this collection of poetry over the course of Term 1: Weeks 1-10 read one poem per week, Week 11 read two poems and Week 12 read one poem.

~OR~

OPTION 2: Read *Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back* + choose books from the assorted list below:

Choose 7-9

Corn is Maize: The Gift of the Indians by Alik

North American Indians by Douglas Gorsline

Squanto's Journey: The Story of the First Thanksgiving by Joseph Bruchac

The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush by Tomie dePaola

Rainbow Crow by Nancy Van Laan

The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses by Paul Goble

Turquoise Boy: A Navajo Legend by Terri Cohlene

The First Strawberries by Joseph Bruchac

When Clay Sings by Byrd Baylor

Raven by Gerald McDermott

The Legend of Bluebonnet by Tomie DePaola

Crazy Horse's Vision by Joseph Bruchac

When the Shadbush Blooms by Carla Messinger

Wild Berries by Julie Flett

Reading Around the World

There are 24 books listed below: Read 1 book per week for Terms 2-3. Have a children's atlas, world and US maps, or a globe on hand for locating places as you read each book; use any maps included in the books as well. These too will be read on Day Two. Alternatively, read only 12 books at a pace of one book per two weeks.

Adelita: A Mexican Cinderella Story by
Tomie dePaola

*Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African
Tale* by John Steptoe

The Empty Pot by Demi

The Little House by Virginia Burton

The Story About Ping by Marjorie Flack

Stone Soup by Marcia Brown

The Three Questions by John J. Muth

The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf

Anatole by Eve Titus

Fritz and the Beautiful Horses by Jan Brett

The Tale of the Mandarin Ducks
by Katherine Paterson

Song of the Swallows by Leo Politi

This is London by Miroslav Sasek

This is Greece by Miroslav Sasek

Rechenka's Eggs by Patricia Polacco

Boxes for Katje by Candace Fleming

The Umbrella Queen by Shirin Bridges

Mama Panya's Pancakes by Mary
Chamberlin

Monsoon by Uma Krishnaswami

Abuela's Weave by Omar S. Castaneda

Gabriella's Song by Candace Fleming

The Tale of the Firebird by Gennady
Spirin

*How to Make an Apple Pie and See the
World* by Marjorie Priceman

*How to Make a Cherry Pie and See the
USA* by Marjorie Priceman