



STORY TIME

FOREST RESOURCES

Story Time Description

Did you know that a forest appears to be asleep in winter? Guess what, it's not. In spring it bursts with life with buds opening and ferns spreading out to soak up sunlight. A forest is the land of the plenty that provide food and habitat for many wildlife. Today I will read *Over in the Forest: Come and Take a Peek* by Marianne Berkes. Learning becomes fun with this book about the ecosystem of a forest and the animals who live in it. The author provides tons of ideas for activities and curriculum extensions about forest animals, literature, art, and writing at the end of the story. Be sure to look for a hidden animal on each page!

Children's Picture Books and Other Non-Fiction Books

- *Over in the Jungle: A Rainforest Rhyme* by Marianne Berkes
- *Over in the Grasslands: On an African Safari* by Marianne Berkes
- *Over in Australia: Amazing Animals Down Under* by Marianne Berkes
- *The Busy Tree* by Jennifer Ward
- *One Small Place in a Tree* by Barbara Brenner
- *In the Quiet, Noisy Woods* by Michael Rosen
- *Little Fox in the Forest* by Stephanie Graegin
- *What Forest Knows* by George Ella Lyon
- *Night, Night Forest Friends* by Annie Bach
- *Forest Bright, Forest Night* by Jennifer Ward
- *Who Lives Here? Forest Animals* by Deborah Hodge
- *Smithsonian Kids: A Walk in the Forest* by Jaye Garnett
- *A Day in the Woods* by Ronald M. Fisher
- *Lost in the Woods: A Photographic Fantasy*
- *Forest Life and Woodland Creatures* by DK Publishing
- *Woodland and Forest: Explore Nature with Fun Facts and Activities* by DK Publishing
- *First Nature Encyclopedia* by DK Publishing
- *National Geographic Kids: In the Forest* by Shira Evans
- *A Forest Habitat* by Bobbie Kalman
- *Animal Tracks and Signs* by Jinny Johnson
- *Wild Tracks* by Jim Arnosky

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Other Useful Resources

- <http://www.kidwings.com/owlpellets/flash> Great owl information for kids
- <http://www.nwf.org/wildlifewatch>
- <http://www.folkmanis.com> Folkmanis Puppets
- <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov>
- <http://www.bear-tracker.com/mammals> A great site to identify different animal tracks

National Geographic Little Kids Magazine

<https://www.kidsnationalgeographic.com>

Ranger Rick Jr. Magazine

<http://shopnwf.org/product/ranger-rick-junior>

Ranger Rick Jr.™ is packed with 36 pages of eye-popping animal photos, easy-to-follow text, fun animal facts, games and activities that inspire outdoor play.

My First Book About Backyard Nature by Donald M. Silver and Patricia J. Wayne

This coloring book has 46 pages of illustrations — each accompanied by fact-filled captions — kids can combine the fun of coloring with the fascination of discovering how all kinds of living creatures are linked together.

Lakeside Nature Challenge

Part of our new approach is the [Lakeside Nature Challenge](#). The Lakeside Nature Challenge is a daily video that infuses education, experiments, and experiences to urge kids to go outside and interact with their surroundings. We initially thought of this idea at the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, as schools closed, and parents began to wonder how they could continue their children's education. We wanted something that would give parents something to teach or do with their kids, while simultaneously giving kids a reason to go outside and do something that wasn't on a screen.

Children & Nature Network

www.childrenandnature.org

This website will keep you updated on ways to stay connected to the natural world during COVID-19. Each week new resources from incredible partners, tips, tools, blogs and webinars, along with the best and brightest ideas from the field will be posted.

Nature Play at Home

www.naturalearning.org (download the guide)

Developed by the Natural Learning Initiative and the National Wildlife Federation, this guide shows easy, affordable ways you can turn your backyard or other types of domestic outdoor spaces into vibrant Nature Play Spaces™ for children so they can reap the physical and mental benefits of playing outside. Creating natural play opportunities can be part of the solution to increasing the amount of time kids spend in the great outdoors for the health of their minds, bodies, and spirits.

Exploration – Take a Walk in Your Backyard and Neighborhood

As you walk around your neighborhood or in your backyard listen to sounds and try to find out who is making them—a woodpecker tapping, a bird chirping, squirrels chattering, animals rustling leaves and digging. Look for animal clues such as:

- Animal droppings (scat)
- Find animal tracks in mud
- Look up into trees for nests and find other animal homes
- Take a closer look at rocks, moss, and leaves

Thing to do at Home to Reinforce a Positive Connection between Children and Nature

- Use old calendars and magazines (for real images)
- Provide non-fiction books and concrete materials
- Take daily walks (have binoculars and magnify lens handy)
- Have plants in your yard that will attract pollinators
- Utilize the resources from this blog post