Optional Read-Alouds

Many of the lessons include a list of optional read-aloud story books that may be read to the children at any point during the lessons. The lessons include all the information necessary for the children to learn and understand the unit concepts. The optional read-aloud books are suggested as additional information to complement the unit, if you choose. The books listed can typically be purchased online or found at your local library.

F=Fiction, NF=Nonfiction, B=Biography
K—6=indicates interest level of the book from kindergarten through sixth grade

Lesson 1 - What is Botany?

- *The Big Promise* by Sonja Kalter Glassman [F, K–6]
- *Linnea in Monet's Garden* by Cristina Bjork and Lena Anderson [F, K-6]

Lesson 2 - Plant Life Cycle

- *From Seed to Plant* by Gail Gibbons [NF, K–4]
- *National Geographic Readers: Seed to Plant* by Kristin Baird Rattini [NF, K–2]
- *What Makes a Plant?* by Christina Hill for Teacher Created Materials [NF, K–2]

Lesson 4 - Seeds

- *A Seed is Sleepy* by Dianna Hutts Aston and Sylvia Long [NF, K–6]
- *In a Nutshell* by Joseph Anthony [NF, K–4]
- *Green Bean! Green Bean!* by Patricia Thomas [NF, K–2]
- *Plants Can’t Sit Still* by Rebecca E. Hirsch [NF, K–5]
- *Plant Secrets* by Emily Goodman [NF, K–3]
- *The Dandelion Seed* by Joseph Anthony [NF, K–4]
- *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle [F, K–4]
- *Sunflower House* by Eve Bunting [NF, K–3]
Lesson 5 - Flowers: Part 1

- *A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds* by Jean Richards [NF, K–2]
- *From Seed to Plant* by Gail Gibbons [NF, K–4]
- *How Do Apples Grow?* by Betsy Maestro [NF, K–6]
- *Pick, Pull, Snap! Where Once a Flower Bloomed* by Lola M. Schaefer [NF, K–5]
- *The Fruits We Eat* by Gail Gibbons [NF, K–5]
- *The Vegetables We Eat* by Gail Gibbons [NF, K–5]
- *What is Pollination?* by Bobbie Kalman [NF, 2–6]
- *Tiger on the Mountain* by Shirley L. Arora [F, 5-8] Published by The Good and the Beautiful Library

Lesson 6 - Flowers: Part 2

- *Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney [B, K–6]
- *The Flower Alphabet Book* by Jerry Pallotta [NF, K–6]

Lesson 8 - Photosynthesis

- *Botany: Plants, Cells, and Photosynthesis* by April Chloe Terrazas [NF, K–6]
- *Living Sunlight: How Plants Bring the Earth to Life* by Molly Bang and Penny Chisholm [NF, K–5]
- *Photosynthesis* by Torrey Maloof with Teacher Created Materials [NF, 3–6]
- *The World of Plants* by Michael L. MacCeeca with Teacher Created Materials [NF, 2–6]

Lesson 11 - Growing Plants

- *And the Good Brown Earth* by Kathy Henderson [NF, K–3]
- *The Curious Garden* by Peter Brown [F, K–6]
- *Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt* by Kate Messner [NF, K–4]
- *Linnea's Almanac* by Cristina Bjork and Lena Anderson [F, 2-5]

Lesson 12 - Trees

- *A Tree for All Seasons* by Robin Bernard [NF, K–2]
- *A Tree Is A Plant* by Clyde Robert Bulla [NF, K–3]
- *Be a Friend to Trees* by Patricia Lauber [NF, K–4]
• Cactuses by Allan Fowler [NF, K–4]
• Desert Giant: The World of the Saguaro Cactus by Barbara Bash [NF, K–6]
• The Busy Tree by Jennifer Ward [NF, K–2]
• The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein [F, K–5]
• Trees, Leaves & Bark (Take-Along Guides) by Diane L. Burns [NF, K–6]
• Wangari’s Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa by Jeanette Winter [B, K–4]
• We Planted a Tree by Diane Muldrow [F, K–4]

Lesson 13- Poisonous and Carnivorous Plants
• Eaten Alive by Kathleen Honda and Makoto Honda [NF, 2–6]
• Plants Bite Back! by Richard Platt [NF, 2–6]
• Poisonous, Smelly, and Amazing Plants (I Can Read!/Made by God) by Zondervan [NF, K–3]
• Scary Plants! by Janet Lawler [NF, K–6]