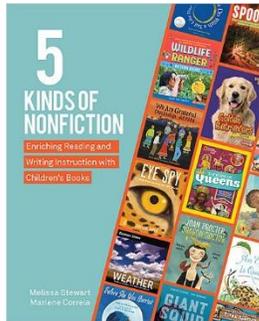


5 Kinds of Nonfiction Book Lists

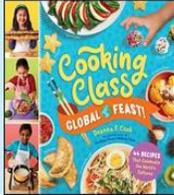
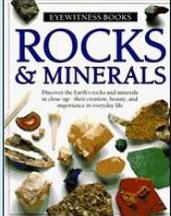
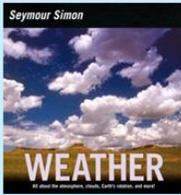
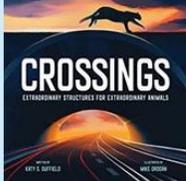
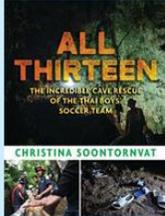


In [*5 Kinds of Nonfiction: Enriching Reading and Writing Instruction with Children's Books*](#), Marlene Correia and I provided six sample texts in each of the five categories—active, browseable, traditional, expository literature, and narrative.

We also include nine sample blended books that appeal to a broad range of readers because they have a roughly 50-50 mix of narrative and expository writing styles.

During presentations, educators have let us know that they'd like us to suggest additional sample texts for grades K-8. To honor these requests, we've provided more titles below.

5 Kinds of Nonfiction

Active	Browseable	Traditional	Expository Literature	Narrative
				
Commercial Nonfiction			Literary Nonfiction	

While we're excited to see a recent uptick in narrative nonfiction by and about Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), there are currently very few children's books in the other categories by authors and illustrators from traditionally underrepresented and marginalized groups. As more diverse books become available, we will be updating these lists to feature a more inclusive mix of titles.

Sample **Traditional Nonfiction** Titles

Cherry-Paul, Sonja, Jason Reynolds, and Ibram X. Kendi. *Stamped (for Kids): Racism, Antiracism, and You*. New York: Little, Brown, 2021.

Crull, Kelly. *Making Art of Ocean Plastic*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2022.

Derr, Aaron. *Sports of the Paralympic Games*. South Egremont, MA: Red Chair Press, 2020.

Dionne, Evette. *Lifting as We Climb: Black Women's Battle for the Ballot Box*. New York: Viking, 2020.

Doeden, Matt. *It's Outta Here! The Might and Majesty of the Home Run*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2021.

Eszterhas, Suzi. *Operation Pangolin: Saving the World's Only Scaled Mammal*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2022.

Markle, Sandra. *On the Hunt with Great White Sharks*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2022.

Lawrence, Blythe. *Behind the Scenes Gymnastics*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2019.

Montgomery, Sy. *The Book of Turtles*. New York: Carion, 2023.

Schutten, Jan Paul. *Inside In: X-Rays of Nature's Hidden World*. Berkeley CA: Greystone Kids, 2021.

Seifert, Christine. *Whoppers: History's Most Outrageous Lies and Liars*. San Francisco: Zest Books, 2015.

Simon, Seymour. *Exoplanets*. New York: HarperCollins, 2018.

Treuer, Anton. *Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians But Were Afraid to Ask Young Readers Edition*. New York: Levine Querido, 2021.

Tyner, Artika R. *Black Lives Matter: From Hashtag to the Streets*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2021.

Young, Karen Romano. *Shark Quest: Protecting the Oceans Top Predators*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2022.

Sample **Browsable Nonfiction** Titles

Albee, Sarah. *North America: A Fold-Out Graphic History*. London: What on Earth Books, 2019.

Bellows, Melrina Gerosa. *Totally Random Facts: 3,128 Wild, Wacky, and Wondrous Things About the World*. Random House, 2022.

Drimmer, Stephanie Warren. *The Book of Queens: Legendary Leaders, Fierce Females, and Wonder Women Who Ruled the World*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic, 2019.

Duprat, Guillaume. *Eye Spy: Wild Ways Animals See the World*. London: What on Earth Books, 2018.

Grossman, Emily. *What Breathes Through Its Butt? Mind-Blowing Science Questions Answered*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2020.

Guinness World Records. *Guinness World Records 2024*. New York: Guinness World Records, 2023.

Harrison, Vashti. *Little Dreamers Visionary Women Around the World*. New York: Little, Brown, 2018.

Henderson, Leah. *Together We March: 25 Protest Movements that March into History*. New York: Atheneum, 2021.

Ignotofsky, Rachel. *Women in Art: 50 Fearless Creatives Who Inspired the World*. Berkeley, CA: Ten Speed, 2019.

Jenkins, Steve. *The Animal Book: A Collection of the Fastest, Fiercest, Toughest, Cleverest, Shyest—and Most Surprising—Animals on Earth*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013.

Leigh, Lindsey. *The Deep: Wild Life at the Ocean's Darkest Depths*. New York: Penguin workshop, 2023.

Rocco, John. *How We Got to the Moon: The People, Technology, and Daring Feats of Science Behind Humanity's Greatest Adventure*. New York: Crown, 2020.

Roy, Katherine. *Making More: How Life Begins*. New York: Norton, 2023.

McCann, Jackie. *If the World Were 100 People a Visual Guide to Our Global Village*. New York: Crown, 2021.

Socha, Piotr. *Trees: A Rooted History*. New York: Abrams, 2019.

Sample Narrative Nonfiction Titles

Balouch, Kristen. *One Million Trees: A True Story*. New York: Holiday House, 2022

Denise, Anika Aldamuy. *Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré*. New York: HarperCollins, 2019.

Fleming, Candace. *Honeybee: They Busy Life of Apis mellifera*. New York: Neal Porter Books, 2020.

Jarrow, Gail. *Spooked! How a Radio Broadcast and The War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America*. Honesdale, PA: Calkins Creek, 2018.

Larson, Kirsten. *The Fire of Stars: The Life and Brilliance of the woman Who Discovered What Stars Are Made Of*. San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 2023.

Levinson, Cynthia. *The People's Painter: How Ben Shahn Fought for Justice with Art*. New York: Abrams, 2021.

Markle, Sandra. *Secrets of the Lost City: A Scientific Adventure in the Honduran Rain Forest*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2022.

Montgomery, Heather L. *Something Rotten: A Fresh Look at Roadkill*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2019.

Parrott-Ryan, Maria. *Mysterious Glowing Mammals: An Unexpected Discovery Sparks a Scientific Investigation*. Minneapolis: Millbrook, 2023.

Sheinkin, Steve, *Impossible Escape: A True Story of Survival and Heroism in Nazi Europe*. New York: Macmillan, 2023.

Slater, Dashka. *Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account and the Teenagers Whose Lives It Changed*. New York: Farar, Straus, and Giroux, 2023.

Soontornvat, Christina. *All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2020.

Valdez, Patricia. *Joan Proctor, Dragon Doctor: The Woman Who Loved Reptiles*. New York: Knopf, 2018.

Wallmark, Laurie. *Hedy Lamarr's Double Life: Hollywood Legend and Brilliant Inventor*. New York: Sterling, 2019.

Weatherford, Carole Boston. *How Do You Spell Unfair? MacNolia Cox and the National Spelling Bee*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2023.

Sample Expository Literature Titles*

Atkins, Marcie Flinchum. *Wait, Rest, Pause: Dormancy in Nature*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2019.

Beckerman, Nell Cross. *Caves*. New York: Orchard/Scholastic, 2022.

Brew-Hammond, Nana Ekua. *Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky*. New York: Knopf, 2023.

Chin, Jason. *The Universe in You: A Microscopic Journey*. New York: Holiday House, 2022.

Duffield, Katy S. *Crossings: Extraordinary Structures for Extraordinary Animals*. San Diego: Beach Lane, 2020

Fishman, Seth. *A Hundred Billion Trillion Stars*. New York: Greenwillow, 2017.

Johnson, Dinah. *H Is for Harlem*. Christy Ottaviano Books/Little, Brown, 2022.

Kinser, Heather Ferranti. *Nature Is a Sculptor: Weathering and Erosion*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2023.

Lanan, Jessica. *Jumper: A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider*. New York: Roaring Brook, 2023.

Lavelle, Kari. *Butt or Face? A Hilarious Animal Guessing Game Book for Kids*. New York: Sourcebooks, 2023.

Lilley, Matt. *Good Eating: The Short Life of Krill*. Thomaston, ME: Tilbury House, 2022.

Markle, Sandra. *What If You Had T. rex Teeth? And Other Dinosaur Parts*. New York: Scholastic, 2019.

Messner, Kate. *The Next President: The Unexpected Beginnings and Unwritten Future of America's Presidents*. San Francisco, CA: Chronicle, 2021.

Montgomery, Heather L. *What's in Your Pocket?: Collecting Nature's Treasures*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2021.

Page, Robin. *The Beak Book*. San Diego: Beach Lane, 2021.

Roth, Susan L. *Birds of a Feather: Bowerbirds and Me*. New York, Neal Porter Books, 2019.

Salyer, Hannah. *Ancestry: The Mystery and Majesty of Ancient Cave Art*. New York, Clarion, 2003.

Sanchez, Anita. *Rotten: Vultures, Beetles, Slime and Nature's Other Decomposers*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019.

Sorell, Traci. *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2018.

Swanson, Jennifer. *Footprints Across the Planet*. New York: Reycraft, 2022.

*2023 was a banner year for this category, so I'm including 20 titles.

Sample **Active Nonfiction** Titles

Alderfer, Jonathan. *National Geographic Kids Bird Guide of North America: Second Edition*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic, 2018.

Bondy, Halley. *Don't Sit on the Baby: The Ultimate Guide to Sane, Skilled, and Safe Babysitting*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2022.

Butterworth, Chris. *Where Did My Clothes Come From?* Somerville, MA: Candlewick,

Bauer, Joy. *Yummy Yoga: Playful Poses and Tasty Treats*. New York, Abrams, 2019.

Carson, Mary Kay. *Wildlife Ranger Action Guide: Track, Spot & Provide Healthy Habitat for Creatures Close to Home*. North Adams, MA: Storey, 2020.

Choi, Betty, MD. *Human Body Learning Lab: Take an Inside Tour of How Your Anatomy Works*. North Adams, MA: Storey, 2022.

Cook, Deanna F. *Cooking Class Global Feast! 44 Recipes that Celebrate the World's Cultures*. North Adams, MA: Storey, 2019.

Dewar, Andrew. *Ultimate Paper Airplanes for Kids*. North Clarendon, VT, 2015.

Eason, Sarah and Ruth Bennett. *How Do I Manage My Social Media?* Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2022.

Lisle, Andria. *Sewing School: 21 Sewing Projects Kids Will Love to Make*. North Adams, MA: Storey, 2010.

Masiello, Ralph. *Ralph Masiello's Alien Drawing Book*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2019.

Moore, Arden. *A Kids' Guide to Dogs: How to Train, Care for, Play and Communicate with Your Amazing Pet*. North Adams, MA: Storey, 2020.

Rissman, Rebecca. *Hair-Raising Hairstyles that Make a Statement*. Mankato, MN: Compass Point Books, 2018.

Sepetys, Ruta. *You, the Story: A Writer's Guide to Craft Through Memory*. New York: Viking, 2023.

Szymanski, Jennifer *Code This! Puzzles, Games, Challenges, and Computer Coding Concepts for the Problem Solver in You*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic, 2019.

Sample **Blended Nonfiction** Titles

Buhrmann-Deever, Susannah. *If You Take Away the Otter*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2020.

Castaldo, Nancy F. *Sniffer Dogs: How Dogs (and their Noses) Save the World*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014.

Fleming Candace *Giant Squid*. New York: Roaring Brook, 2016.

Johnson, Rebecca L. *Masters of Disguise: Amazing Animal Tricksters*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2016.

Johnson, Rebecca L. *When Lunch Fights Back: Wickedly Clever Animal Defenses*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2014.

Johnson, Rebecca L. *Zombie Makers: True Stories of Nature's Undead*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2012.

Li, Amanda. *Rise Up: Ordinary Kids with Extraordinary Stories*. Kansas City, MO: Andrews McMeel, 2020.

Markle, Sandra. *Animals to the Rescue! Amazing True Stories from Around the World*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2021.

Markle, Sandra. *The Great Monkey Rescue: Saving the Golden Lion*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2015.

Markle, Sandra. *Snowy Owl Invasion: Tracking an Unusual Migration*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2017.

Roy, Katherine. *How to Be an Elephant*. New York: David Macaulay Studio, 2017

Roy, Katherine. *Neighborhood Sharks: Hunting with the Great Whites of California's Farallon Islands*. New York: David Macaulay Studio, 2012.

Stewart, Melissa and Steve Brusatte. *Pinocchio Rex and Other Tyrannosaurs*. New York: HarperCollins, 2017.

Stewart, Melissa. *Hurricane Watch*. New York: HarperCollins, 2015.

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