GRADE LEVEL

3

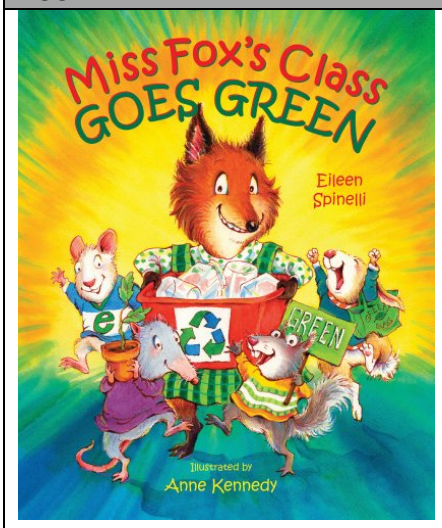
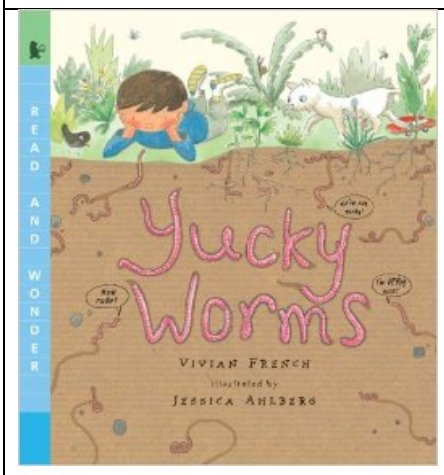
Green Wish's

Green Book List for 3rd Grade

Earth-friendly reading for all

Green Wish's Green Book List for Third Grade

There are many "green" books that appeal to third graders! This list supplements Green Wish's *My Green Book Report: Reading Activities for Primary Students,* and can be used by teachers in the classroom or by parents at home to bring a little green knowledge and fun into the lives of young children! Please continue to visit www.GreenWish.com for other sources of earth-friendly education.

Book	Description
	**Title:** *Miss Fox's Class Goes Green* **Author:** Eileen Spinelli **Illustrator:** Anne Kennedy **Publisher:** Albert Whitman & Co. **Age Range:** 6-8 **Description:** When Miss Fox shows up at school riding her bicycle, Mouse asks, "Do you have a flat tire?" "No," Miss Fox tells her students. "I am going green!" Soon, everyone in the class is working to keep the earth healthy. Mouse takes shorter showers (and does her singing after!); Bunny brings a cloth bag to the supermarket; and Possum turns the lights off when he goes out. And Miss Fox's simple act has ripples even beyond her own students ... soon, the whole school starts riding their bikes—including the principal.
	**Title:** *Yucky Worms: Read and Wonder* **Author:** Vivian French **Illustrator:** Jessica Ahlberg **Publisher:** Candlewick **Age Range:** 4-8 **Description:** Who would want to be friends with a wiggly, slimy worm? You can't even tell which end is which! But there's more to these lowly creatures than meets the eye. Kids are invited to find out where worms live, see how they move, and understand why gardeners consider them friends with the help of this humorous and informative look at an unappreciated—and fascinating—creature.

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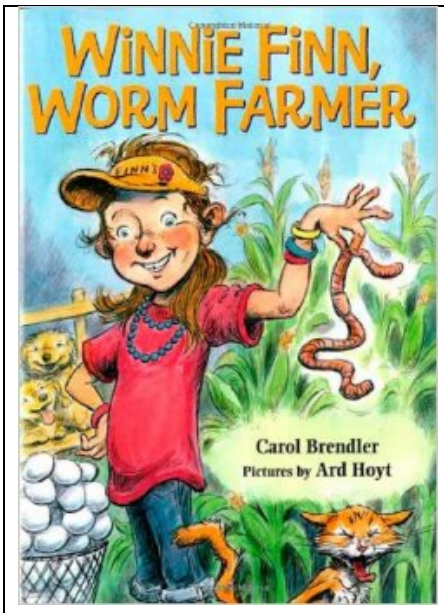	**Title:** *Winnie Finn, Worm Farmer* **Author:** Carol Brendler **Illustrator:** Ard Hoyt **Publisher:** Farrar, Straus and Giroux **Age Range:** 4-8 **Description:** Winnie Finn is crazy about earthworms and knows everything about them. When spring arrives in Quincy County, all she can think about is the county fair coming up. This year, she would like nothing more than to win a prize for her worms so that she might buy a shiny new wagon for transporting them around. Trouble is, there's no prize at the fair for worms. Bright, energetic illustrations accompany this jaunty tale about a young girl's creativity that will inspire readers of all interests—but especially those with a love for something wiggly.
	Title: *Olivia's Birds: Saving the Gulf* **Author:** Olivia Bouler **Publisher:** Sterling **Age Range:** 3-9 **Description:** One 11 year-old girl can make a difference—as budding ornithologist and artist Olivia Bouler has proven, single-handedly raising more than $175,000 for the Gulf Coast oil spill recovery. Devastated by the disaster and eager to do her part, Olivia wrote a letter to Audubon. Declaring herself "11 years old and willing to help" she offered her own bird paintings to raise contributions for Gulf recovery efforts. The idea took flight, and Olivia proceeded to send more than 500 paintings—many of which are captured in this lavish picture book that recaps her valiant campaign to save birds affected by the spill. A 2012 Parents' Choice Gold Awards winner!

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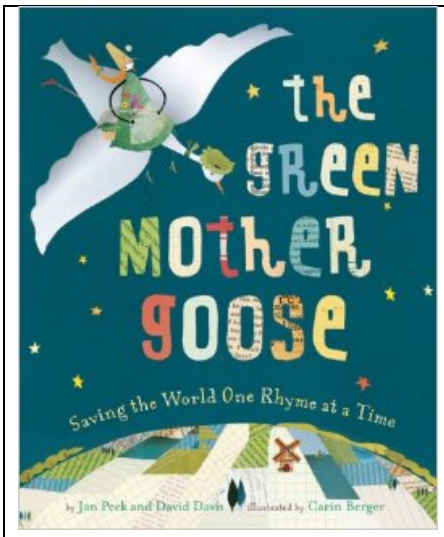
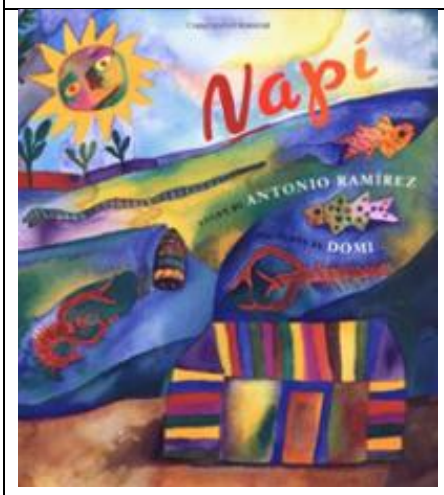
	**Title:** *The Green Mother Goose: Saving the World One Rhyme at a Time* **Author:** David Davis and Jan Peck **Illustrator:** Carin Berger **Publisher:** Sterling **Age Range:** 4-8 **Description:** Mother Goose has gone green—and this playful picture book invites kids to join the fun. In these delightful "recycled" rhymes, Old Mother Hubbard shops with cloth grocery bags; Old King Coal is a better old soul, working to keep our skies smoke-free; and Hickety, Pickety is now a cage-free hen! Carin Berger's eco-friendly collages are created from ticket stubs, newspapers, and other reused items.
	**Title:** *Napí* **Author:** Antonio Ramírez **Illustrator:** Domi **Publisher:** Groundwood Books **Age Range:** 5-8 **Description:** Napí is a young Mazateca girl who lives with her family in a little village on the bank of a river in the state of Oaxaca in Mexico. Each afternoon, the family sits beneath the shade of a huge ceiba tree and listens to the grandfather's stories. As Napí listens, dreamily, the afternoons take on different colors in her imagination—orange, purple, violet, and green. She finds nighttime along the river just as beautiful, as the trees fill with white herons settling on their branches. The ceiba tree sends Napí dreams every night, and in her favorite one, she becomes a heron, gliding freely along the river. Domi's vibrant palette and magical illustrations are a perfect complement to this imaginative story.

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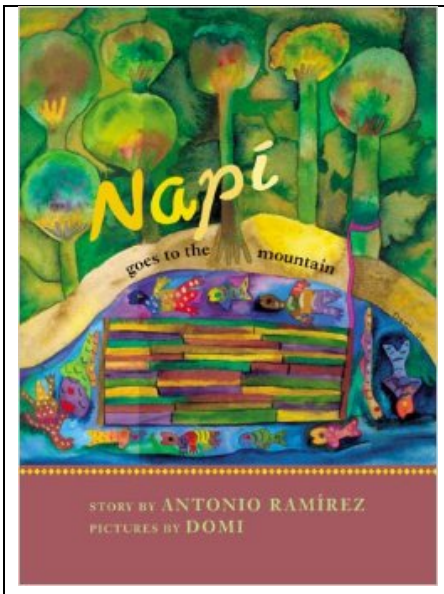
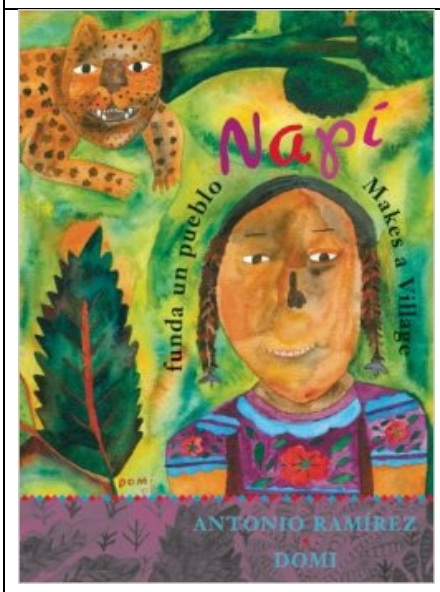


Title: *Napí Goes to the Mountain*
Author: Antonio Ramírez
Illustrator: Domi
Publisher: Groundwood Books
Age Range: 5-8
Description:
When their father disappears one day, Napí and her little brother, Niclé, decide to leave their village to find him. They set off upriver on a raft. As they go, their search assumes a magical quality and becomes a journey of self-discovery. Turtles carry the raft on their backs; the children are transformed into deer; and other animals offer help and advice. Finally, an armadillo tells them that if they return home, they will find a big surprise awaiting them. Featuring richly evocative art by the award-winning illustrator Domi, *Napí Goes to the Mountain* has the imaginative interest and timeless appeal of the Mexican folk culture that inspired it.



Title: *Napí funda un pueblo/Napí Makes a Village* (English and Spanish Edition)
Author: Antonio Ramírez
Illustrator: Domi
Publisher: Groundwood Books
Age Range: 5-8
Description:
In this third book about Napí, the government is building a dam, forcing the Mazateca people to make a new village for themselves on inhospitable land. Napí recounts what she remembers of this time—traveling upriver to the place where they will resettle, the frighteningly beautiful jaguar she sees by the spring, the fierce fires that clear the land for farming, how her father has to walk all day to a far-off town so that he can buy food for the family. But what stands out in her mind very strongly is the misfortune that occurs when her father is kicked by a horse, which she first envisions in a vivid dream. It is Napí who hastens back to the village to fetch her mother and uncles, her rapidity ensuring her father's survival.

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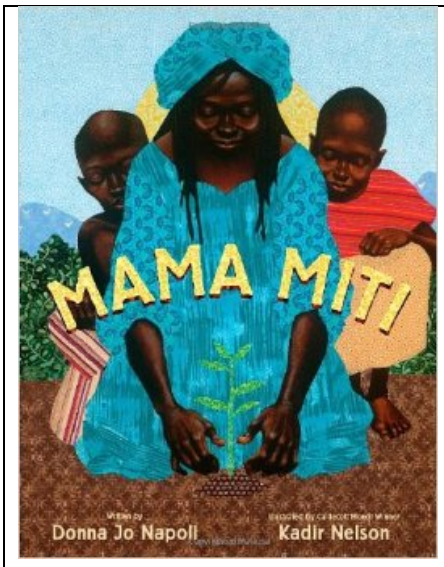
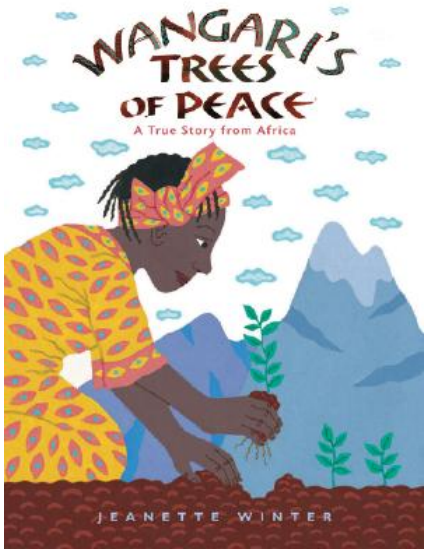


Title: *Mama Miti: Wangari Maathai and the Trees of Kenya*
Author: Donna Jo Napoli
Illustrator: Kadir Nelson
Publisher: Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books
Age Range: 4-8
Description:
Through artful prose and beautiful illustrations, Donna Jo Napoli and Kadir Nelson tell the true story of Wangari Muta Maathai, known as "Mama Miti," who in 1977 founded the Green Belt Movement, an African grassroots organization that has empowered many people to mobilize and combat deforestation, soil erosion, and environmental degradation.

Today, more than 30 million trees have been planted throughout Mama Miti's native Kenya, and in 2004 she became the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. Wangari Muta Maathai has changed Kenya tree by tree—and with each page turned, children will realize their own ability to positively impact the future.



Title: *Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa*
Author: Jeanette Winter
Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers
Age Range: 5-8
Description:
As a young girl growing up in Kenya, Wangari was surrounded by trees. But when she returns home years later, she is shocked to see whole forests being cut down—and she knows that soon all the trees will be destroyed. So Wangari decides to do something—and starts by planting nine seedlings in her own backyard. As they grow, so do her plans.

This true story of Wangari Maathai, environmentalist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is a shining example of how one woman's passion, vision, and determination inspired great change.

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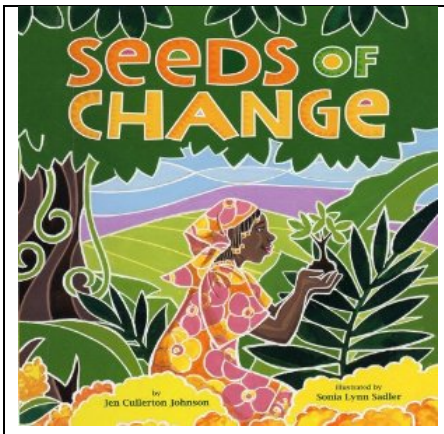
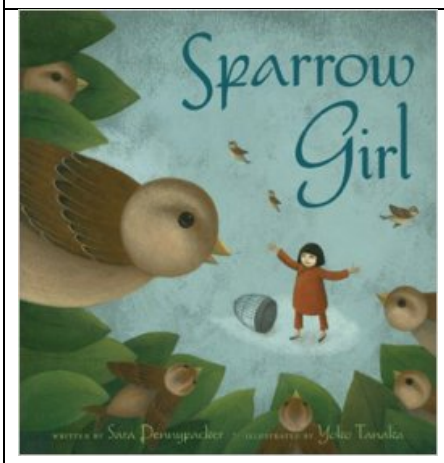
	**Title:** *Seeds of Change: Wangari's Gift to the World* **Author:** Jen Cullerton Johnson **Illustrator:** Sonia Lynn Sadler **Publisher:** Lee & Low Books **Age Range:** 5-9 **Description:** As a young girl in Kenya, Wangari was taught to respect nature. She grew up loving the land, plants, and animals that surrounded her—from the giant mugumo trees that her people, the Kikuyu, revered, to the tiny tadpoles that swam in the river. Although most Kenyan girls were not educated, Wangari, curious and hard-working, was allowed to go to school. There, her mind sprouted like a seed. She excelled at science and went on to study in the United States. After returning home, Wangari blazed a trail across Kenya, using her knowledge and compassion to promote the rights of her countrywomen and to help save the land, one tree at a time.
	**Title:** *Sparrow Girl* **Author:** Sara Pennypacker **Illustrator:** Yoko Tanaka **Publisher:** Disney-Hyperion **Age Range:** 5-8 **Description:** Ming-Li looked up and tried to imagine the sky silent, empty of birds. It was a terrible thought. Her country's leader had called sparrows the enemy of the farmers—they were eating too much grain, he said. He announced a great "Sparrow War" to banish them from China, but Ming-Li did not want to chase the birds away. As the people of her village gathered with firecrackers and gongs to scatter the sparrows, Ming-Li held her ears and watched in dismay. The birds were falling from the trees, frightened to death! Ming-Li knew she had to do something—even if she couldn't stop the noise. Quietly, she vowed to save as many sparrows as she could, one by one...

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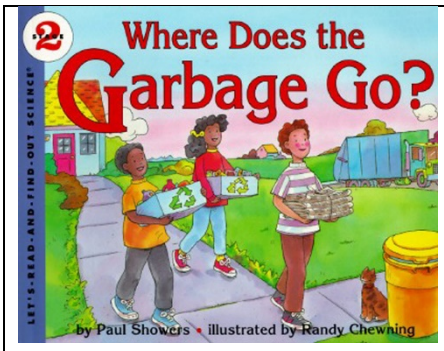
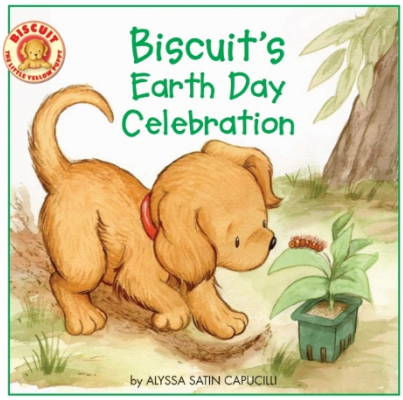
	**Title:** *Where Does the Garbage Go?* **Author:** Paul Showers **Illustrator:** Randy Chewning **Publisher:** HarperCollins **Age Range:** 4-8 **Description:** Follow that garbage truck: • To the landfill, to see how trash keeps piling up; • To the incinerator, to see how trash can be turned into energy; • To the recycling center, to see how a soda bottle can be turned into a flowerpot. Filled with graphs, charts, and diagrams, *Where Does the Garbage Go?* explains how we deal with the problem of too much trash and provides ideas for easy ways to be a part of the solution.
	Title: *It's Earth Day!* (Little Critter series) **Author:** Mercer Mayer **Publisher:** HarperFestival **Age Range:** 4-8 **Description:** Little Critter is on a mission! After watching a film about climate change at school, Little Critter decides to do his part to slow down global warming. With the help of his family and friends, Little Critter begins to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Together, they learn about the importance of not wasting water or energy. Join Little Critter as he plants a tree, makes a climate control machine, and helps the polar bears.
	**Title:** *Biscuit's Earth Day Celebration* **Author:** Alyssa Satin Capucilli **Illustrator:** Pat Schories **Publisher:** HarperFestival **Age Range:** 4-8 **Description:** It's Earth Day! Join Biscuit as he helps take care of our green world. From planting seeds to cleaning up, Biscuit's celebration is an exciting adventure for Earth Day and for every day.

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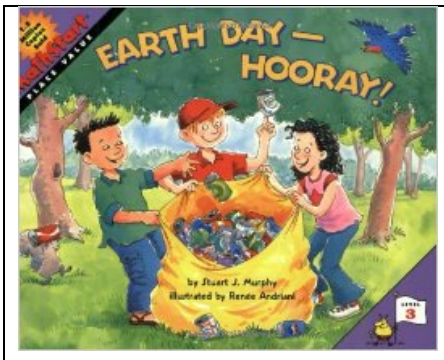
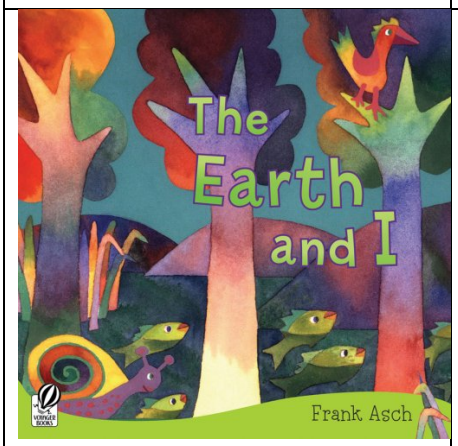
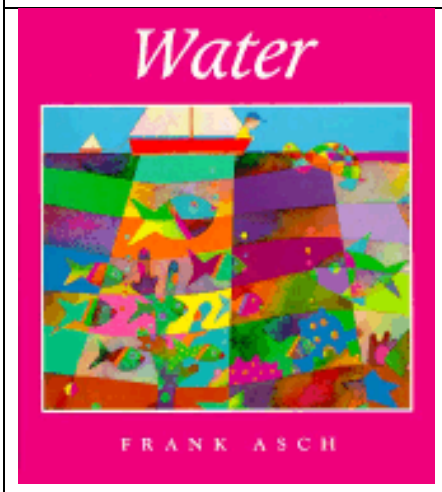
	**Title:** *Earth Day—Hooray!* **Author:** Stuart J. Murphy **Illustrator:** Renee Andriani **Publisher:** HarperCollins **Age Range:** 6-10 **Description:** Earth Day is on the way, and Ryan, Luke, and Carly have a plan: If they manage to collect and recycle 5,000 aluminum cans, they can make enough money to buy some beautiful flowers for nearby Gilroy Park. Can they do it? Counting the cans gives Ryan, Luke, and Carly—along with readers—a lesson in place value. And facts about recycling throughout the story will help readers understand how important it is to take care of the earth.
	**Title:** *The Earth and I* **Author:** Frank Asch **Publisher:** HMH Books for Young Readers **Age Range:** 4-8 **Description:** This story celebrates the friendship that one child has with the Earth. They play together, listen to each other, and nourish each other. But when the Earth is sad, the child is sad--so he finds a way to make his friend, the Earth, happy.
	**Title:** *Water* **Author:** Frank Asch **Publisher:** HMH Books for Young Readers **Age Range:** 4-8 **Description:** Water is beautiful, useful, and, in its many forms, vital to life. In this companion to *The Earth and I*, Frank Asch encourages young readers to appreciate anew one of our most precious resources.

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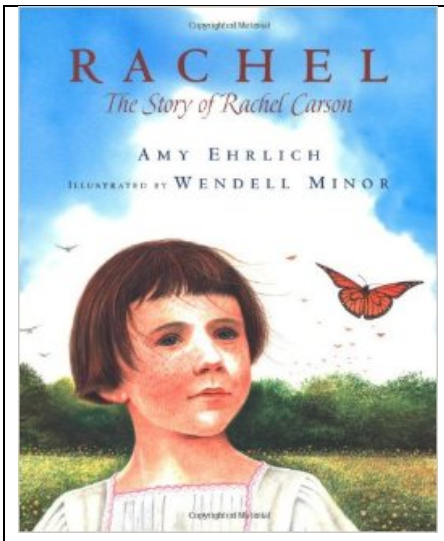
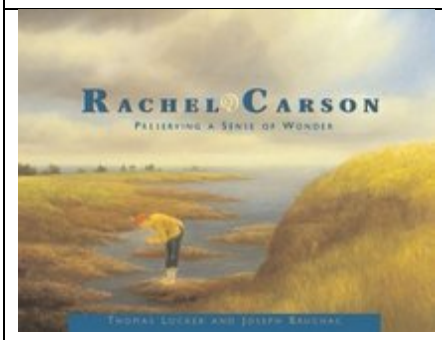
	**Title:** *Rachel: The Story of Rachel Carson* **Author:** Amy Ehrlich **Illustrator:** Wendell Minor **Publisher:** HMH Books for Young Readers **Age Range:** 5-8 **Description:** Rachel Carson was always curious about the world around her. As a girl, she loved being outside, exploring and learning more about the universe. As an adult, Rachel wrote books, including *Silent Spring*, considered to be the start of today's environmental movement.
	**Title:** *Rachel Carson: Preserving a Sense of Wonder* **Author:** Joseph Bruchac **Illustrator:** Thomas Locker **Publisher:** Fulcrum Publishing **Age Range:** 4-10 **Description:** From a small town in Pennsylvania came a little girl who saw the magic in spring fog and heard the ocean's song in her heart. This was the girl who one day would become the groundbreaking author of *Silent Spring*. In this engaging biography, now updated, young readers will experience the enchantment of nature as seen through the eyes of the budding naturalist, while learning about her childhood, her accomplishments, and her passion for nature. Combining Thomas Locker's majestic artwork with Joseph Bruchac's poetic text, Rachel Carson offers an educational and inspiring account of her life. Includes excerpts from Carson's work and a timeline of major events.

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