Keeping Lakes in the Family: Books Help Us Share the Magic of Lakes

Because of the positive feedback we received, we are again offering reviews of lake books for many ages. Whether you are looking for a holiday gift, some new reading material for the cottage, or another reason to cuddle up and share some stories with the grandkids, we have reviewed some great options here (in addition to the Fall 2008 and 2009 issues of Lake Tides). Giving a gift of a book to your local library or school allows many folks to enjoy the magic of lakes.

Looking for Loons
Author: Jennifer Lloyd
Illustrator: Kirsti Anne Wakeland

This fictional story is about a family’s experience watching and listening for loons on the porch of a lakeside cabin. The pencil-and-watercolor illustrations illuminate the plants and animals of the lake, creating a visually-appealing and appropriate setting for loon-watching.

Why Frogs Are WET
Author: Judy Hawes
Illustrator: Mary Ann Fraser

Why Frogs are Wet is a nonfiction picture book that presents information about the physical characteristics, evolution, and behavior of frogs. The colorful acrylic pictures and interesting fun-facts makes this book ideal for children in grade-school.

Beavers
Author: Helen H. Moore
Illustrator: Terri Talas

How do beavers build dams? How long can they swim underwater without coming up for air? How do they say hello to each other? Do they ever take vacation? Find the answers to these and other questions with your young reader as you enjoy this nonfiction book.

How Do Frogs Swallow With Their Eyes?
Authors: Melvin and Gilda Berger
Illustrator: Karen Carr

This book is a children’s educational picture book that provides an introduction to amphibians, their habitat, and their biological processes, such as molting and metamorphosis. With 48 pages of brightly-colored illustrations and information, this book is ideal for children in upper primary-school.

Lily Pad Pond
Author/Photographer: Bianca Lavies

Lily Pad Pond is a nonfiction picture book written about pond ecology. Author Bianca Lavies, an award-winning photographer, accompanies the text with beautiful and unique photography.

Aquatic Plants of Wisconsin:
A photographic field guide to submerged and floating-leaf aquatic plants
Author/Photographer: Paul M. Skawinski

This is a full-color, photographic guide to Wisconsin’s true aquatic plants, highlighting 120 species. This guide is designed to be comprehensive and user-friendly for professionals and casual users alike. Species accounts include detailed descriptions, sharp photos, and many magnified inset photos, with special attention to important characteristics that simplify identification. For more information: www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/publications

Birds of Lake Sinissippi
Author/Photographer: Eileen Worman

Allow your senses to take flight as you peruse the stunning photographs in this beautiful coffee table book. Eileen does a superb job of capturing the essence of her backyard feathered friends on Lake Sinissippi in Dodge County, giving special attention to the American Bald Eagle. For more information: www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/1622738