

## RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

*We Planted a Tree* by Diane Muldrow, illustrated by Bob Staake  
Longwood Gardens Community Read, March-May 2022

***Can You Hear the Trees Talking?: Discovering the Hidden Life of the Forest*** by Peter Wohlleben (Greystone Books, 2019. ISBN 9781771644341. Recommended for ages 8-10) “Discover the secret life of trees with this nature and science book for kids.... Shares the mysteries and magic of the forest with young readers, revealing what trees feel, how they communicate, and the ways trees take care of their families. The author of *The Hidden Life of Trees*, Peter Wohlleben, tells kids about the forest internet, aphids who keep ants as pets, nature’s water filters, and more fascinating things that happen under the canopy.” ([greystonebooks.com](http://greystonebooks.com))

***The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rainforest*** by Lynne Cherry (HMH Books, 1998. ISBN 9780152018184. Recommended for ages 4-7) “A picture book for young readers about a man who exhausts himself trying to chop down a giant kapok tree. While he sleeps, the forest’s residents, including a child from the Yanomamo tribe, whisper in his ear about the importance of trees and how ‘all living things depend on one another’ . . . and it works” ([hmhbooks.com](http://hmhbooks.com)). *The Great Kapok Tree* was our 2015 children’s Community Read title. Here are some activities for *The Great Kapok Tree*: [longwoodgardens.org/education/library-archives/community-read/community-read-toolkit-2015](http://longwoodgardens.org/education/library-archives/community-read/community-read-toolkit-2015)

***The Magic and Mystery of Trees*** by Jen Green, illustrated by Claire McElfatrick (DK Children, 2019. ISBN 9781465479365. Recommended for ages 7-9) “Learn about the amazing natural science of trees in this nature and science children's book. From the highest branches, all the down to the complex "wood wide web" of roots, every part of a tree plays an important role. Not only in its own growth but that of the whole ecosystem of the forest or woodland. Did you know that trees take care of each other and that a whole forest is connected?” ([dk.com](http://dk.com))



***Our Tree Named Steve*** by Alan Zweibel, illustrated by David Catrow (Penguin Random House, 2007. ISBN 9780142407431. Recommended for ages 2-5 years) “*Dear Kids, A long time ago, when you were little, Mom and I took you to where we wanted to build a house...I remember there was one tree, however, that the three of you couldn’t stop staring at...*’ After the family spares him from the builders, Steve the tree quickly works his way into their lives. He holds their underwear when the dryer breaks down, he’s there when Adam and Lindsay get their first crushes, and he’s the centerpiece at their outdoor family parties.” ([penguinrandomhouse.com](http://penguinrandomhouse.com))

***Redwoods*** by Jason Chin (Macmillan Publishers, 2017. ISBN 9781250186256. Recommended for ages 4-8) “A subway trip is transformed when a young boy happens upon a book about redwood forests. As he reads the information unfolds, and with each new bit of knowledge, he travels--all the way to California to climb into the Redwood canopy.” ([macmillan.com](http://macmillan.com))

***Tell Me, Tree: All About Trees for Kids*** by Gail Gibbons (Little, Brown and Company, 2002. ISBN 9780316309035. Recommended for ages 4-8) “Trees shelter and surround us. Their leaves offer shade from the hot summer sun. In autumn, they dazzle us with color. In winter, they stand tall against a cold and snowy background. Trees may look solitary, but each one is teeming with life. *Tell Me, Tree* is a child's guide to the wide variety of trees that surround us, including how to identify them the structure of trees, with cut-away illustrations and labels. The book also includes an explanation of photosynthesis and a special section on how to make a tree identification book of your own.” ([lbyr.com](http://lbyr.com))

***The Tree Book: For Kids and Their Grown-ups*** written and illustrated by Gina Ingoglia (Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2013. ISBN 9781889538860. Recommended for ages 8-12) “*The Tree Book's* beautiful illustrations show buds, leaf, flower, fruit, and seed of 33 trees that grow in North America. Histories of each tree bring to life its character and significance to us, while introductory chapters explore the science and magic of these gentle green giants.” ([bbg.org](http://bbg.org))



***The Tree Lady: The True Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever*** by H. Joseph Hopkins, illustrated Jill McElmurry (Simon & Schuster, 2013.

ISBN 9781442414020. Recommended for ages 5-10) “Unearth the true story of green-thumbed pioneer and activist Kate Sessions, who helped San Diego grow from a dry desert town into a lush, leafy city known for its gorgeous parks and gardens”

([simonandschuster.com](http://simonandschuster.com)) *The Tree Lady* was our children’s 2018 Community Read title. Here are some activities for *The Tree Lady*. [longwoodgardens.org/education/library-archives/community-read/community-read-toolkit-2018](http://longwoodgardens.org/education/library-archives/community-read/community-read-toolkit-2018)

***Why Would Anyone Cut a Tree Down?*** by Roberta Burzynski; illustrations by Juliette Watts (Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, U.S.D.A. Forest Service, 2013.

ISBN 9781782665885. Recommended for ages 6-9) “This delightful book shows children the life cycle of trees, showing that trees are a renewable resource as their seeds can be planted to make new trees grow. It also discusses the need to remove sick, flammable and other dangerous trees as well as the various uses for wood from cut trees. All of it is so beautifully illustrated in full color that the lessons come alive for adults and children alike.” ([U.S. Government Printing Office](http://U.S. Government Printing Office))

***The Wisdom of Trees: How Trees Work Together to Form a Natural Kingdom*** by Lita Judge (Roaring Brook Press, 2021. ISBN 9781250237071. Recommended for ages

7-12) “The story of a tree is a story of community, communication, and cooperation. Although trees may seem like silent, independent organisms, they form a network buzzing with life: they talk, share food, raise their young, and offer protection. Trees thrive on diversity, learn from their ancestors, and give back to their communities. Trees not only sustain life on our planet—they can also teach us important lessons about patience, survival, and teamwork.” ([us.macmillan.com](http://us.macmillan.com))

