

Longwood Gardens Community Read 2019 • Additional Readings (middle grades)

We encourage you to continue reading about seeds and the natural world. You will find these titles at public libraries and local bookstores in your community.

Chocolate: Sweet Science and Dark Secrets of the World's Favorite Treat / by Kay Frydenborg. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015)

Chocolate starts with the Cacao seed! "*Chocolate* hits all the right sweet--and bitter--notes: cutting-edge genetic science whisked in with a strong social conscience, history, and culture yield one thought-provoking look into one of the world's most popular foods." (www.hmhco.com) Ages 12+

The Secret Lives of Plants! / by Janet Slingerland ; illustrated by Oksana Kemarskaya. (Capstone Press, 2012)

Part of a fun, science graphic book series. "Plants may look innocent, but they're sneaky, tricky, secretive little buggers. You could watch them all day and they would never move an inch. But hidden from your eyes, their roots, leaves, and blossoms are always working. From photosynthesis to reproduction, get ready to uncover the science of plants and the secrets that they keep." (www.capstonepub.com) Ages 9-12

Seed Bank Heist / by J.E. Bright ; illustrated by Ethen Beavers. (Stone Arch Books, 2015)

Just for fun! A "you choose" story. "Poison Ivy takes over a seed bank at the Giordano Botanical Gardens where her powers are greatest, and it is up to the reader to choose Batman's path as he tries to prevent her from stealing the historical and priceless plant seeds." (www.capstonepub.com) Ages 7-12

The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World / by Nancy F. Castaldo. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016)

"From Iraq to India to an impenetrable seed vault in a Norwegian mountainside, this book speaks to the current ways we think about our food, the more thoughtful and philosophical questions about regulating which crops farmers are allowed to grow, and what consumers are able to eat. Readers will discover just how important seeds are to the functioning of our global economy—and how much power we as a world-wide community have to keep seeds around, because once a seed disappears, it's gone forever." (www.hmhco.com) Ages 10-14

