



Skaneateles Lake Association 2023 Youth Reading List

Water by Frank Asch, ages 3-6

This book has very simple text and is for preschoolers and early readers. It has large beautiful illustrations and presents the different forms of water.

All Night Near the Water by Jim Arnosky ages 2-5

Twelve newborn ducklings follow mother duck to the lake. They then explore the lake environment and its surrounding wildlife.

Baby Animals of Lakes and Ponds by Bredeson ages 5-8

Visit lakes and ponds and meet baby hippos, baby mallard ducks, baby herons, and more. The easy-to-read text and stunning photographs will keep young readers engaged and informed. Learn about growing up in the wild with the baby animals of lakes and ponds.

Rocket Says, Clean Up by Nathan Bryon ages 5-8

Rocket finds a baby turtle entangled in plastic at the beach. He/she learns the importance of cleaning up the beach and recycling plastic. He/she encourages others to do the same. This book is multicultural with childlike illustrations.

Not a Drop to Drink: Water for a Thirsty World by Michael Burgan ages 7-10

Not a Drop to Drink conveys a clear message to young readers about this precious commodity and our urgent need to conserve it. It is a National Geographic book.

You Wouldn't Want to Live Without Clean Water by Roger Canavan ages 6-10

This series takes readers (Ages 8-12) on a historical journey, examining how people coped in the past and how they developed ingenious ways to make life safer and less unpleasant. Each book features full-color cartoon-style illustrations and hilarious speech bubbles to heighten interest, making the series attractive even to reluctant readers.

Pond Circle by Betsy Franco ages 6-8

This is a picture book that tells the story of a food chain in a pond and backyard. It is written in a "House the Jack Built" type of pattern.

Pond Wildlife by Claire Hibbert (Adventures in Nature series) ages 6-10

This non-fiction book discusses the pond as a microhabitat which is home to many different wildlife. Franco writes of the importance of fresh water. In 13 short chapters, this book informs the reader of the creatures which depend upon the pond for life.

We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom ages 5-8

This Caldecott medal winner was inspired by Native Americans. One brave water protector takes on the black snake to protect Earth's waters.

Lakes and Ponds by Johanna Haney and Tom Casteal ages 7-10

This non-fiction book invites kids 7-10 to investigate bodies of water which might look calm from the shore, but are teeming with life and activity. It includes 25 science projects for kids to explore pond and lake activity.

All the Water in the World by George Lyon and Katherine Tillotson ages 3-7

This book plays with font and text. It answers the question, “Where does that water come from” and continues to beautifully portray the water cycle. It ends with the importance of keeping the water clean.

Over and Under the Pond by Kate Messner ages 3-7

This book beautifully shows and conveys a pond’s ecosystem---how ponds and wetlands provide homes for plants and animals around the world.

Water is Water by Miranda Paul ages 2-6

This book is a beautiful depiction of the various forms of water and the water cycle.

Hey, Water! By Antoinette Portis ages 3-7

Using playful language and large simple text, this book presents the sources and forms of water through a girl playing hide and seek. There are non-fiction pieces at the end about the states of water, the water cycle, and ways to conserve water.

Lakes by Erika Shores ages 4-8

This book uses simple text and good photographs to define what a lake is and how lakes are made. It has additional resources and a glossary and index at the end.

The Water Princess by Susan Verde ages 4-8

Gigi tries to command the water to run closer and cleaner to her home as she and her mom have to journey every morning to bring water from a faraway well. They boil it for drinking water. A discussion after this book can help children to realize the importance of clean water and that not everyone in the world has it.

A Day at the Lake by Stephanie Wallingford and Dawn Rynders ages 2-6

As children jump, run, swim and paddle, they notice many insects, birds, and animals which live around the lake. This book has playfully delightful sound words which young children love.

On Duck Pond by Jane Yolen ages 3-6

This book has simple rhyming text. The raucous ducks frighten away the other animals around the pond. When the ducks settle, the other animals return. This is a good book for young children to spot and name animals they see around the pond.

The Skaneateles Lake Association Youth Reading list is an outreach & education effort supported by volunteers and part of a lake protection stewardship initiative funded by the SLA Legacy Fund.

