



Inquiring Minds Want to Know

Science Activities for Young Minds

Recommended Reading

Youth can enhance their knowledge about science and the world around them in many ways. Reading for pleasure is one of those ways. It encourages young people to continue to explore their personal interests.

The books suggested here are both fiction and nonfiction titles focused on science inquiry. Each book provides an opportunity for children to read and increase their science literacy and offers opportunities to incorporate science concepts into other activities.

The books can be used to start discussions on topics currently being explored or simply for personal enjoyment. Either way, they enhance learning.

Activity Title	General topics
Bean Hunters	Animal and plant adaptation
Bouncing Bubbles	States of matter: mixtures sink and float, things that don't mix
Build a Farm	Farm design and environments
Chromatography Butterflies	States of matter: mixtures sink and float, things that don't mix
Cleaning and Shining Pennies	Acid/soap
Cleaning Teeth	Human body
Create A Critter	Animal and plant adaptation
Dancing Kernels	States of matter: mixtures sink and float, things that don't mix
Growing Plastic Beads	Water, hydration, weather, water cycle, hot and cold
Incredible Inflating Balloon	Acid/base
Launching Cotton Balls	Energy of motion/engineering/simple machines
Lava Lamp	States of matter: mixtures sink and float, things that don't mix
Make It Rain	Water, hydration, weather, water cycle, hot and cold
Oobleck	States of matter: mixtures sink and float, things that don't mix
Ramp and Roll	Energy of motion/engineering/simple machines
Soil Tubes	Water hydration, weather, water cycle, hot and cold

Problem solving and science exploration:

- ▶ **Wild Ideas** by Elin Kelsey, Owlkids Books Inc.
- ▶ **One Small Square: Backyard** by Donald M. Silver, Learning Triangle Press
- ▶ **Usborne First Illustrated Science Dictionary** by Sarah Khan, EDC Publishing

- ▶ **Usborne Illustrated Elementary Science Dictionary** by Sarah Khan and Dr. Lisa Jane Gillespie, EDC Publishing
- ▶ **Smithsonian Science: A Visual Encyclopedia**, DK Publishing



Animal and plant adaptation:

- ▶ **Just Kids: Pictures, Poems and Other Silly Animal Stuff Just for Kids** compiled by Bonnie Louise Kuchler, Willow Creek Press
- ▶ **In the Forest**, by Gillimard-Jeusesse, illustrations by Pierre de Hugo, Cartwheel Publishing
- ▶ **A Rainbow of Animals** by Melissa Stewart, Enslow Publishers, Inc.
- ▶ **Rainbow**, by Marion Dane Bauer, Simon Spotlight Publishing
- ▶ **Unbeatable Beaks** by Stephen R. Swinburne, Scholastic, Inc.
- ▶ **Green** by Laura Vaccaro Seeger, Roaring Book Press
- ▶ **Butterfly, Butterfly: A Book of Colors** by Petr Horáček, Candlewick Press

Farm design and environments:

- ▶ **The Secret Pool** by Kimberly Ridley, Tilbury House Publishers
- ▶ **Old MacDonald** by Amy Schwartz, Scholastic, Inc.
- ▶ **True or False: Farm Animals** by Melvin and Gilda Berger, Scholastic, Inc.
- ▶ **Trees** by Lisa Jane Gillespie, EDC Publishing
- ▶ **How Flowers Grow** by Emma Helbrough, EDC Publishing
- ▶ **The Tiny Seed** by Eric Carle, Scholastic, Inc.

States of matter: Mixtures, sink and float, things that don't mix:

- ▶ **Pop! A Book about Bubbles** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, Margaret Miller (photographer), Harper Collins Publishing
- ▶ **Perimeter, Area, and Volume: A Monster Book of Dimensions** by David A. Adler, Holiday House
- ▶ **Solids** by Jim Mezzanotte, Weekly Reader Early Learning Library
- ▶ **Liquids** by Jim Mezzanotte, Weekly Reader Early Learning Library
- ▶ **Gravity** by Jason Chin, Roaring Brook Press
- ▶ **Hot and Cold** by Gini Holland, Weekly Reader Early Learning Library
- ▶ **Blue Chicken** by Deborah Freedman, Penguin Group, Inc.

- ▶ **Bartholomew and the Oobleck** by Dr. Seuss, Random House
- ▶ **One Duck Stuck** by Phyllis Root, Scholastic, Inc.

Energy of motion/engineering/simple machines:

- ▶ **Stop that Ball!** by Mike McClintock, Random House
- ▶ **Drummer Hoff** adapted by Barbara Emberley, Prentice-Hall; 5th Printing edition (1967)
- ▶ **What Happened?** By Rozanne Lanczak Williams, Gwen Connelly (illustrator), Creative Teaching Press
- ▶ **Smithsonian Science: A Visual Encyclopedia**, DK Publishing
- ▶ **A House for Hermit Crab** by Eric Carle, Scholastic, Inc.
- ▶ **Roll, Slope, and Slide: A Book about Ramps** by Michael Dahl, Picture Window Books
- ▶ **Forces Make Things Move (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science 2)** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, Paul Meisel (illustrator), Harper Collins Publishing
- ▶ **Motion: Push and Pull, Fast and Slow** by Darlene Stille, Sheree Boyd (illustrator), Picture Window Books (January 1, 2004)
- ▶ **The Road Builders** by B. G. Hennessy, Simms Taback (illustrator), Puffin Publishers

Water hydration, weather, water cycle, hot and cold:

- ▶ **Hello Ocean, Hola Mar** by Pam Muñoz Ryan, Scholastic, Inc.
- ▶ **Little Cloud** by Eric Carle, Scholastic, Inc.
- ▶ **Raindrops Roll** by April Pulley Sayre, Beach Lane Books
- ▶ **Water is Water** by Miranda Paul, Roaring Brook Press
- ▶ **Hot Dog, Cold Dog** by Frann Preston-Gannon, POW! Publishing

Human body:

- ▶ **Andrew's Loose Tooth** by Robert Munsch, Scholastic, Inc.
- ▶ **My Amazing Body: A First Look at Health and Fitness** by Pat Thomas, Barron's Educational Series, Inc.
- ▶ **Brush, Brush, Brush** by Alicia Padron, Children's Press Publishing
- ▶ **Melvin the Magnificent Molar!** by Julia Cook & Laura Jana, Melvin Publisher
- ▶ **Brush Your Teeth, Please** by Leslie McGuire, Reader's Digest

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