

## Book list by Kate Brandes

### Books:

- **Adult**
  - **Bringing Nature Home**, Written by Doug Tallamy, Timber Press; Exp Upd edition (April 1, 2009), nonfiction, Themes/Topics: link between healthy local ecosystems, native plants, and human well-being.
  - **The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden**, Written by Rick Darke and Douglas W. Tallamy, Timber Press; First Edition (July 1, 2014), nonfiction, Themes/Topics: strategies for making and maintaining a diverse, layered landscape
  - **Great Natives for Tough Places** (Brooklyn Botanic Garden All-Region Guide), Edited by [Niall Dunne](#), Brooklyn Botanic Garden (November 3, 2009), nonfiction, Themes/Topics: handbook that introduces gardeners to the many beautiful native plants that thrive in tough growing conditions
  - **Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes**, Written by [Thomas Rainer](#) and [Claudia West](#), Timber Press (October 7, 2015), nonfiction, Themes/Topics: guide that describes how to incorporate and layer plants into plant communities to create an environment that is reflective of natural systems and thrives within our built world
  - **The Hidden Life of Trees**, Written by [Peter Wohlleben](#), Greystone Books; First English Edition (September 13, 2016), nonfiction, Themes/Topics: Wohlleben also shares his deep love of woods and forests, explaining the amazing processes of life, death, and regeneration he has observed in his woodland.
  
- **Young Adult/Teen**
  - **John and William Bartram: Travelers in Early America** (Pineapple Press Young Reader Biographies), Written by [Sandra Wallus Sammons](#), Pineapple Press; 2 edition (June 9, 2015), nonfiction, Suitable For Ages: 12-17; Themes/Topics: biography of father and son, John and William Bartram, naturalists who lived in the late 18th and early 19th centuries in America
  - **The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World**, Written by: [Nancy Castaldo](#), HMH Books for Young Readers (February 23, 2016), nonfiction, Suitable For Ages: 12-17; Themes/Topics: a chronicle of where our food comes from, and the importance of seeds in our world
  - **Seed Folks** by [Paul Fleishman](#) Suitable For Ages: 12-17, fiction  
Kim begins the garden, planting a few lima beans to connect with her father who died when she was a baby in Vietnam. Then Tío Juan, a farmer from Guatemala, gains purpose when he teaches the neighborhood children how to plant. Soon curious neighbors join in and together they grow a beautiful garden. With each bean sprout and cucumber blossom the residents of Gibs Street find hope and meaning in their little green paradise. SEEDFOLKS

uses 13 narrators to tell the story of the founding and first year of a community garden in an immigrant neighborhood of Cleveland, Ohio. *Newberry Medal* <http://www.paulfleischman.net/newsletter.htm>

- **Children**

- **Green Green: A Community Gardening Story**, Written By: Marie Lamba & Baldev Lamba, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, May 9, 2017, fiction, Suitable For Ages: 2-5. Themes/Topics: community, environmental preservation, gardening, city, nature
- **The Puddle Garden**, Written by by Jared Rosenbaum and illustrated by Laura Rosenbaum, Wild Ridge Press; 1st edition (2015), fiction, Suitable For Ages: 2-5, Themes/Topics: native plants and wildlife
- **The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate**, Written by: Jacqueline Kelly, fiction, Square Fish; Reprint edition (January 4, 2011), fiction, Suitable for Ages: 9-12; Themes/Topics: Debut author Jacqueline Kelly deftly brings Callie and her family to life, capturing a year of growing up with unique sensitivity and a wry wit. *Themes/Topics: The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* is a 2010 Newbery Honor Book and the winner of the 2010 Bank Street - Josette Frank Award. This title has Common Core connections.
- **Because of an Acorn, Written by Lola M. Schaefer** (Picture Book) Because of an acorn, a tree grows, a bird nests, a seed becomes a flower. Enchanting die-cuts illustrate the vital connections between the layers of an ecosystem in this magical book. Wander down the forest path to learn how every tree, flower, plant, and animal connect to one another in spiraling circles of life. An acorn is just the beginning.
- **The Busy Tree by Jennifer Ward** (Author), Lisa Falkenstern (Illustrator) (Picture Book) Spectacular illustrations rendered in oil paint, and a rhyming text that describes a tree's activities from its roots to its branches, introduce young readers to the amazing activities that go on in a tree. Acorns nibbled by chipmunks, ants scurrying across a trunk, a spider spinning a web, leaves "breathing out air for all to breathe in"—everything adds up to a "busy tree" for all to "come and see." Ages 4-12
- **Miss Rumphius by Barbar Clooney** As a child Great-aunt Alice Rumphius resolved that when she grew up she would go to faraway places, live by the sea in her old age, and do something to make the world more beautiful — and she does all those things, the last being the most difficult of all. Inspired by a true-life story, Miss Rumphius shows us how we can all make the world a more beautiful place. (Planting lupines)
- **The Gardener by Sara Stewart** [In Bibliography List] Lydia Grace Finch brings a suitcase full of seeds to the big gray city, where she goes to stay with her Uncle Jim, a cantankerous baker. There she initiates

a gradual transformation, bit by bit brightening the shop and bringing smiles to customers' faces with the flowers she grows. But it is in a secret place that Lydia Grace works on her masterpiece -- an ambitious rooftop garden -- which she hopes will make even Uncle Jim smile. 1997 New York Times Book Review Notable Children's Book of the Year and a 1998 Caldecott Honor Book.

<https://us.macmillan.com/thegardener/sarahstewart/9780312367497/>

- **Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers by Kathi Appelt and Joy Fisher Hein.**  
A biography of former first lady Lady Bird Johnson. This book describes how wildflowers comforted Lady Bird when her mother died and how Lady Bird worked to ensure that all children could experience the beauty of wildflowers. Broadmoore children's choice award Ages 5+  
<http://www.kathiappelt.com/book/miss-lady-birds-wildflowers/>
- **A Place for Butterflies by Melissa Stewart and Higgins Bond**  
This fact-filled, colorful book looks at the amazing world of butterflies. Melissa Stewart shares with young readers the basic facts about butterflies and some pointers on how youngsters can help butterflies in their own neighborhood. Bond's realistically detailed illustrations highlight the diversity of the species, from the Schaus swallowtail butterflies in southern Florida to the endangered Mitchell's satyrs. *A Place for Butterflies* reminds children of the interconnectedness of our world and shows how the actions of one species can inadvertently harm another.