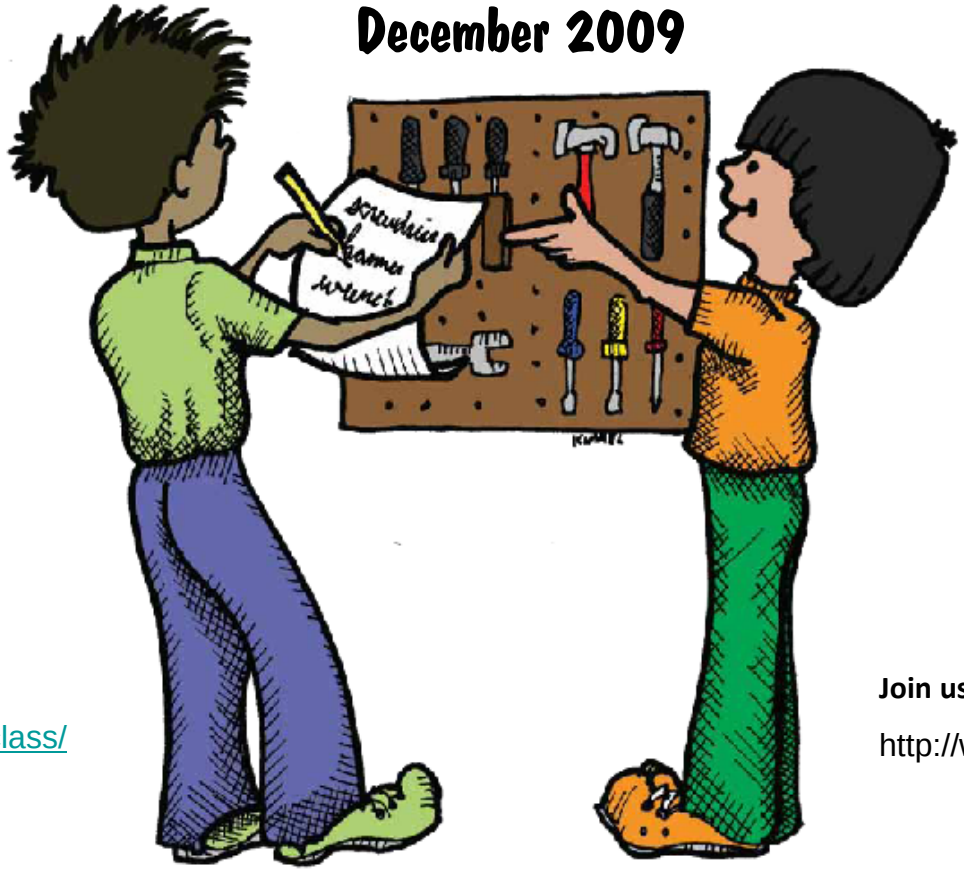
C.L.A.S.S.

E-TOOLS

December 2009



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C.L.A.S.S.

Equipped with his five senses, man explores the universe around him and calls the adventure Science.

-- Edwin Powell Hubble, *The Nature of Science*, 1954

DECEMBER TOPIC: Science Resources

Welcome to the December 2009 E-Tools.

In this issue, we're focusing on science resources including information text; picture books; and online resources. These tools are invaluable in introducing and teaching students various science content. Look for ways you can use these resources as welcome messages, hallway greetings, agenda boards, emotional hooks, and many of the other C.L.A.S.S. strategies. We each see different opportunities and potential as we use books and online tools, so the ideas in this document are just the beginning of the possibilities.

Remember that science is one of the main subjects that drives the theme in our classrooms. As we help students learn to read and write, we look to science, in part, for text and content to help engage students into the learning process. Students can be drawn in by the interesting topics found in science, so take advantage of that hook to reel them into not only learning science, but becoming readers and writers.

Make sure to watch for our January 2010 issue where we'll share our list of the best books of 2009.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

For more information or to register for workshops & events go to:
http://joyofclass.pbwiki.com or C.L.A.S.S. Phone: 317-572-1576

Special Events

Support Team Days

Pack up your group of teacher leaders from your school and come join us for a day of strategies, fun and engagement.

SPRING SUPPORT TEAM DAY
March 12, 2010
New Augusta North Middle School
Indianapolis, IN

Related Arts Days

Educators in PE, Art, Music, Music and Counselors are all welcome to the Related Arts Day. These days are a great way to gain new instructional strategies, network with your peers and share brain compatible tactics in your specific area.

SPRING RELATED ARTS DAY
February 19, 2010
Noblesville Intermediate School
Noblesville, IN

Model Teaching Days

Seeing is Believing! Experience a C.L.A.S.S. classroom in action, facilitated by a C.L.A.S.S. coach. A great day to see best practices in action.

Upcoming dates:
April 15 Noblesville, IN North Elementary

Summer Institute

2010
C.L.A.S.S.
Summer Institute

You won't believe what is planned for Summer 2010! Save the dates and register early. We'll see you there!

June 22 – 25, 2010
Pike Freshman Center
Indianapolis, IN

See the *C.L.A.S.S. Service Brochure* for workshop descriptions at:
http://joyofclass.pbwiki.com

Download Registration Forms:
http://joyofclass.pbwiki.com

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Registration Forms & Info: http//:joyofclass.pbwiki.com

Workshops

BEHAVIOR

Tier 2: Small Group Behavior Interventions
January 12 Noblesville

Tier 3: One-on-One Behavior Interventions & Bullying
January 20 Noblesville

LITERACY

Writers Workshop the C.L.A.S.S. Way!
February 3 (Kg-2) Noblesville
February 4 (3-8) Noblesville

Literacy: Meaningful, Energetic & Engaging
February 8 (Kg-2) Indianapolis
February 9 (3-8) Indianapolis

BEST PRACTICES

Collaboration Rules! (Cooperative Learning Strategies)
January 13 Noblesville

Test Preparation & Study Tips Every Student Should Know
February 2 Noblesville

Turning Your Students into Amazing Scientists
January 27 Noblesville

Can You Differentiate Instruction? Yes I Can!
January 26 Noblesville

Fun and Innovative Teaching with Wikis, Blogs & Internet Resources
February 9 Noblesville

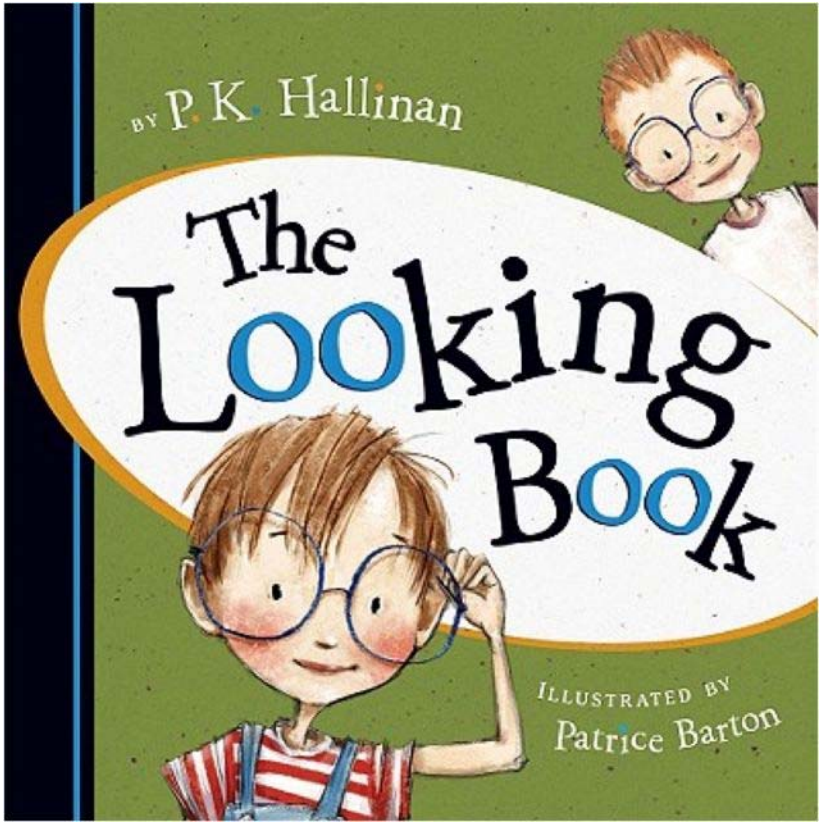
Science is about observing!

This book is perfect for introducing a unit about observation. What do we see when we open our eyes and look? What happens when we stop, slow down, and really look?

Consider finding old sunglasses and popping out the lenses, or using pipe cleaners to make students their own set of looking books.

What Lifelines would a scientist need to have to be successful? Brainstorm a list with your students and use those when writing science procedures in the classroom.

The Looking Book by P.K. Hallinan



Science is about asking questions!

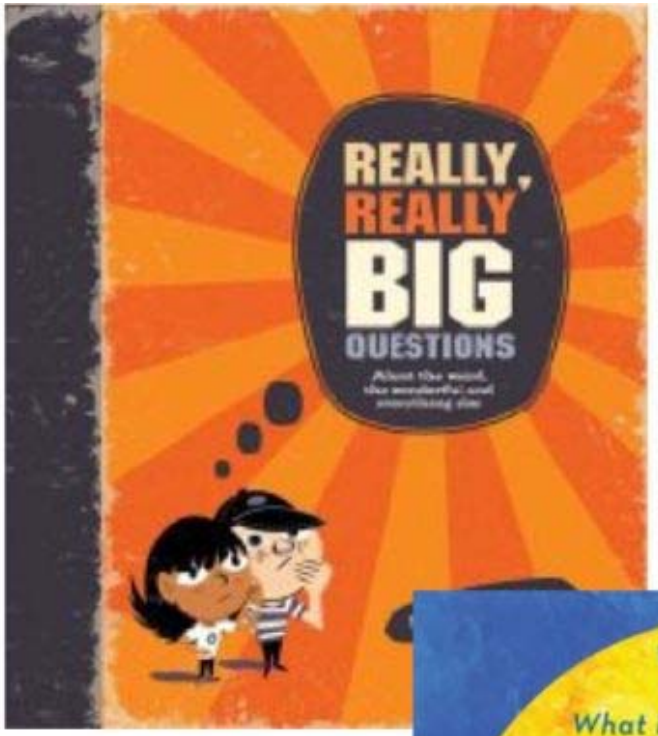
Science is all about asking questions. These two books are perfect as they demonstrate a variety of questions as well as providing a few answers, too.

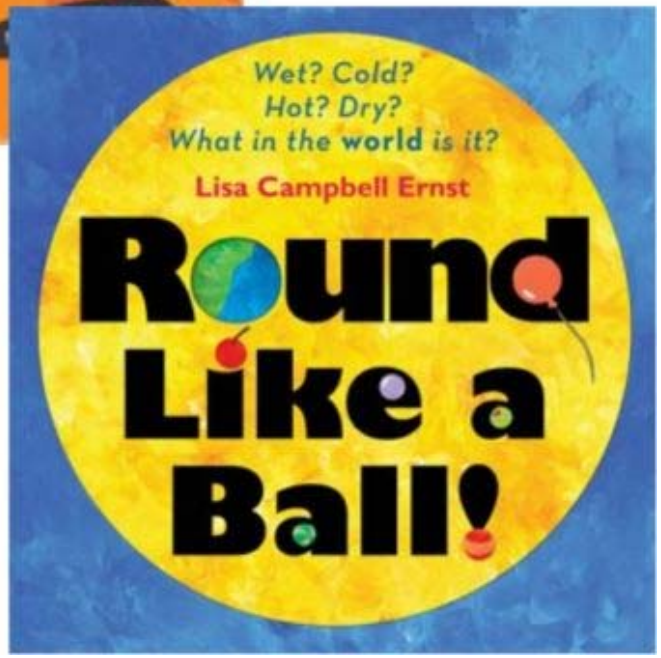
We use science to help answer (or try to answer) some of the biggest (and smallest) questions in our world. These questions become your emotional hook. What do students want to learn about? How can science help answer their curiosity?

Some of these questions would make great hallway greetings or welcome messages.

Round Like a Ball! by Lisa Campbell Ernst

Really, Really Big Questions by Dr. Stephen Law





Science is learning more about ordinary everyday things.

There are several new series and books that will appeal to students about ordinary things. Gareth Stevens publishing has “The Science of…” series where they look at ordinary things and the science behind. Vicki Cobb is a wiz at ideas for science experiments. Check out her website for more ideas including videos of some of the experiments – www.vickicobb.com/vickisvideos.html. Lastly, Capstone has some great bizarre topics that will appeal to the “gross” scientist including the Sanitation Investigation series.

We Dare You by Vicki Cobb and Kathy Darling

The Science of a Loaf of Bread

The Science of a Glass of Water

The Science of a Pair of Glasses

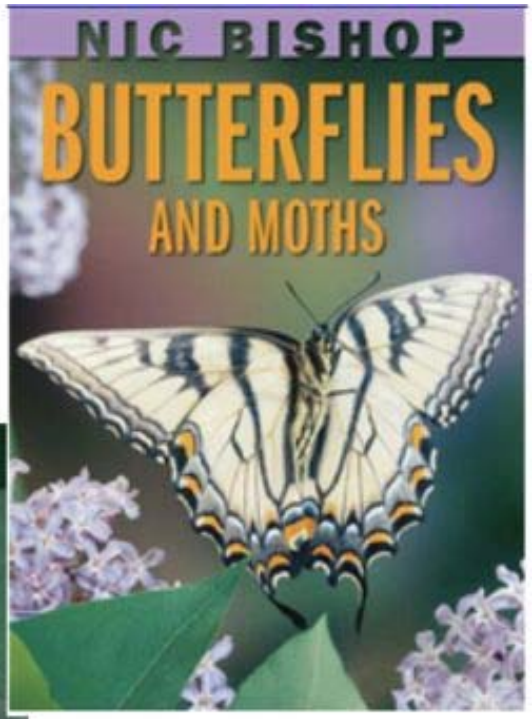
Science is beautiful.

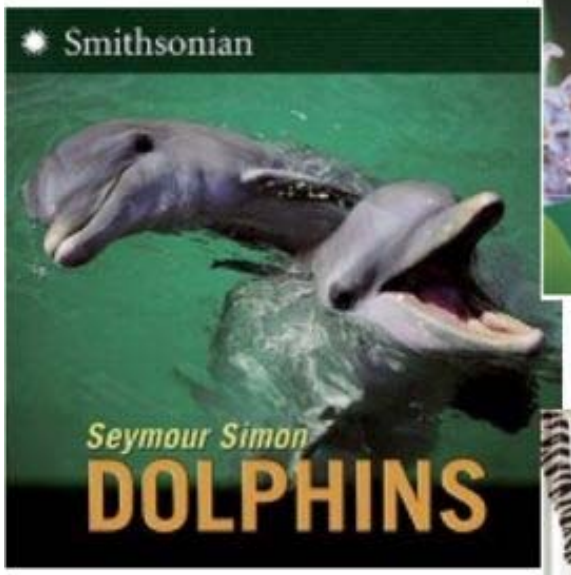
The visual element of science books is key. Kids need to be able to see science, so color photographs are the best. Photographer Nic Bishop has created some amazing science books in recent years. Seymour Simon has long been at the lead in science book for kids and his recent series with Smithsonian have some great images. The one illustrator who breaks the rule about photos in science books – and does it beautifully – is Steve Jenkins. Whether it is working on his own books or illustrating for another author, he does an amazing job of bringing animals to life for students. Not only can you talk about science, but there is an obvious connect to art when using his books.

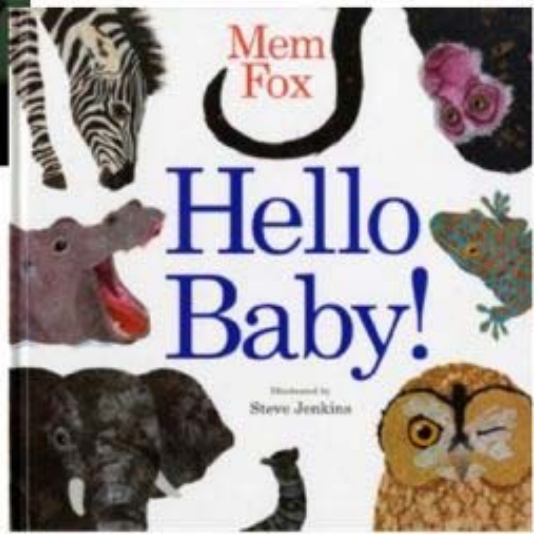
Books by Steven Jenkins

Books by Nic Bishop

Books by Seymour Simon







Science is exploring the animal world.

There are plenty of animal books published each year. Looking for those that stand out because of there accuracy and meeting the needs of the students is key. Life-Size Zoo helps students get an idea of just how big some of these animals are in the world. Pebble Plus's Animal series are perfect for young readers with beautiful full color spreads. Gareth Steven's Animals that Live…provide books for animals in each biome. Christian the Lion is based on the YouTube video sensation about the guys from London who raised a lion cub only to release him to the wild. Last is a new series on dogs which is always popular with students. This series is written about non-fiction queen Elaine Landau and is full of information. Elaine dedicated each book to a librarian, too, for their work in connecting kids with books.

Life-Size Zoo by Teruyuki Komiya

Animals that Live Series

Pebble Plus Animal Series

Christian the Lion by Anthony Bourke and John Rendall

The Best Dog Ever Series by Elaine Landau

Science is about saving the planet.

With the popularity of the green movement, there has been a push to publish material for children on how to save the earth. From picture books, to non-fiction text, to recommendations for children's book authors. Below are just some of the titles available from a variety of publishers.

An Environmental Guide from A to Z by Tim Magner

Help the Environment series by Heinemann Raintree

Our Earth series by Scholastic Library Publishing

What's So Bad About Gasoline? By Anne Rockwell

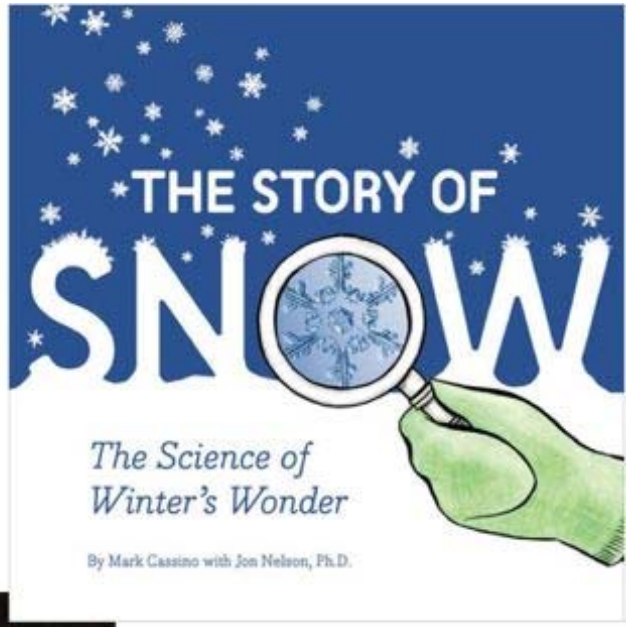
Recycle this Book edited by Dan Gutman

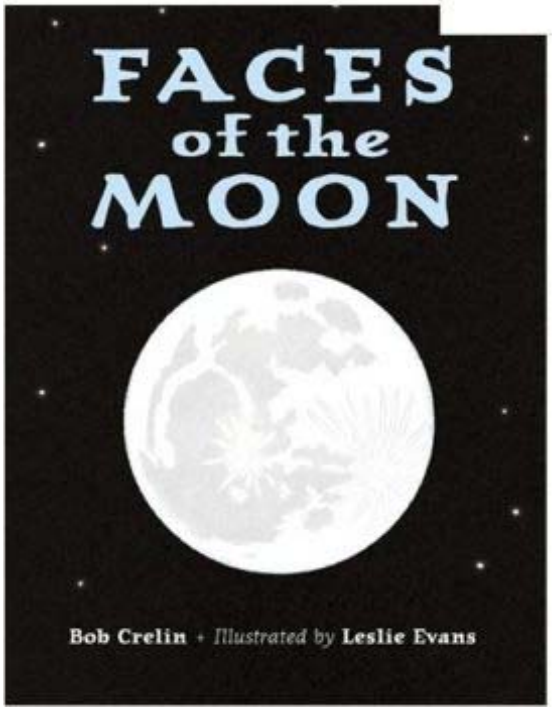
Science is about the weather.

Weather and seasons are science topics covered in schools across the country. These two new titles take a specific element and bring it into terms students can understand.

With amazing images, *The Story of Snow* by Mark Cassino with John Nelson, Ph.D., goes in depth to talk about how snow is formed. Students will marvel at the magnified images.

Faces of the Moon by Bob Crelin show students the cycle of the moon and why we see different parts of it at different times. The tabs along the edge allow users to quickly see the phases and then read more about each one.





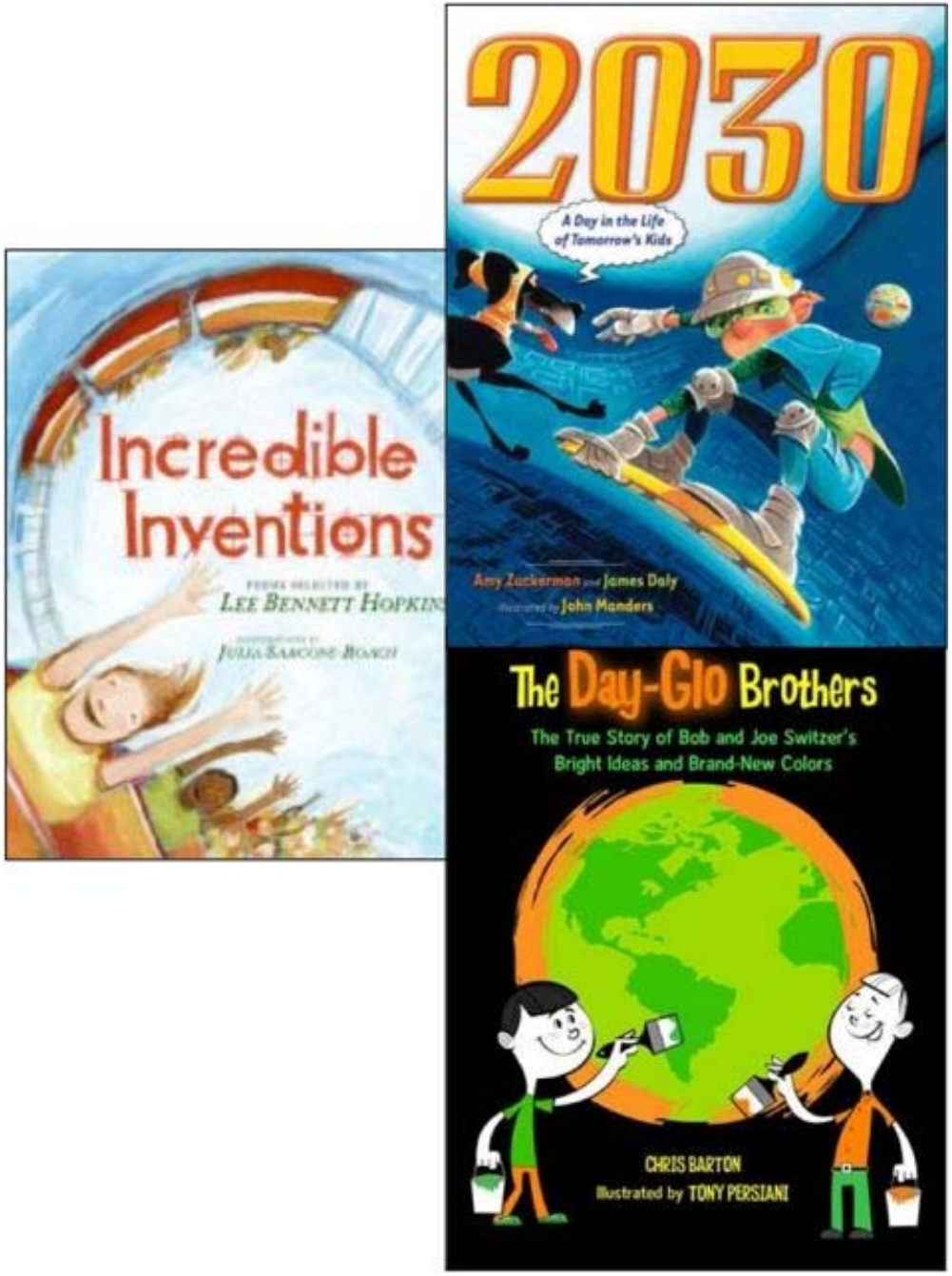
Science is about invention and innovation.

Invention and innovation are a critical part of science. They are how we move forward. They are how we take what we know or learn from science and apply it to make our lives better. The books on this page (as well as many others in this E-tools) are not only about science, they make connections to poetry, biographies, prediction, and much more. How can we connect science to literacy? Math? Think about the possibilities.

2030 is a prediction of what our world might look like 21 years from now. Based on actual research, the authors try to give us a glimpse of the possibilities.

The Day Glo Brothers is the biography of the two brothers who brought us glowing colors. Did you ever wonder where those colors came from?

Incredible Inventions is a compilations of poems selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins.

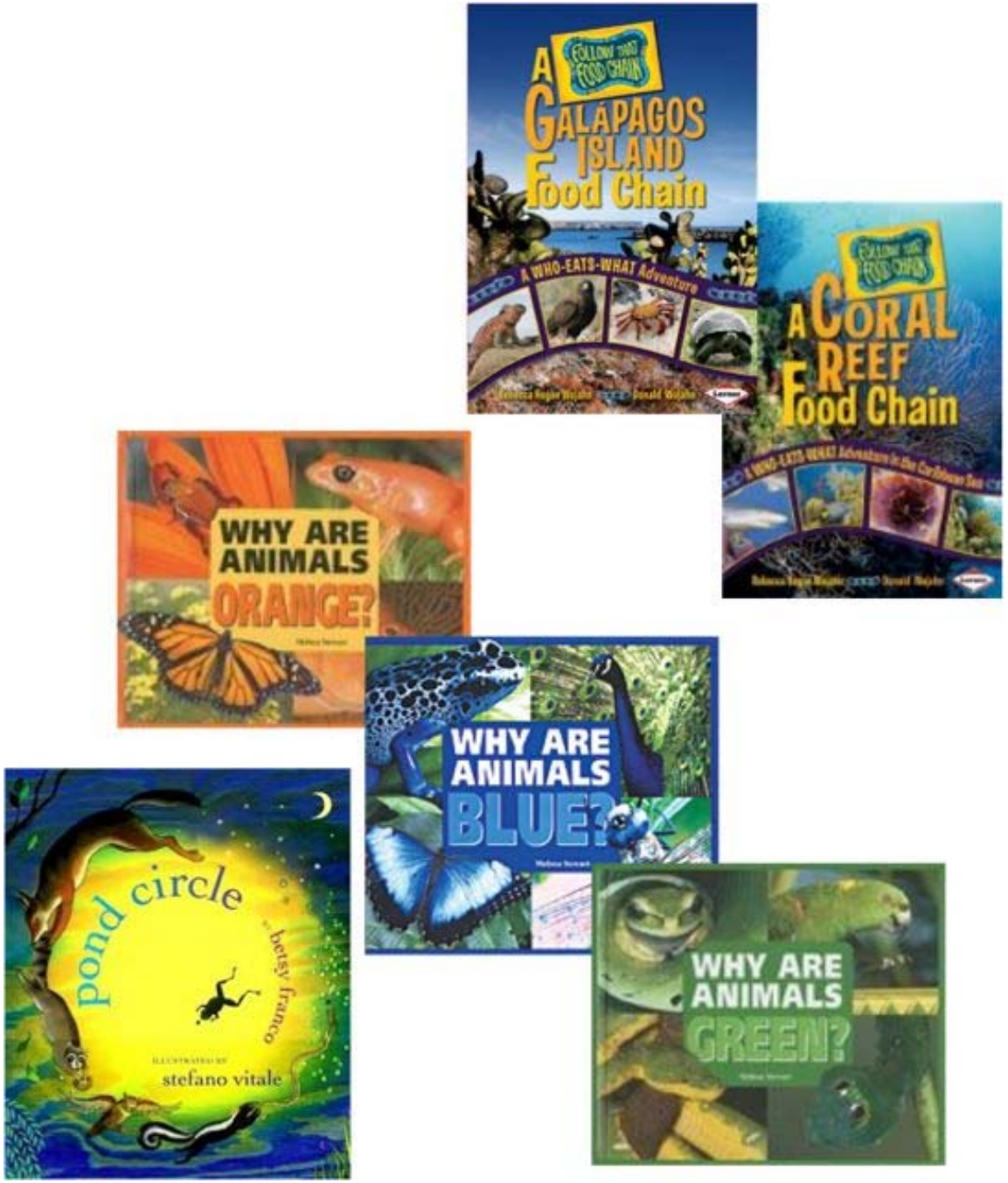


Science is about organizing and classifying.

We seek out patterns with science. *Why are Animals Color* series by Enslow Publishing is a perfect example of taking something students know (colors) and building on it. Why are animals orange? green? blue?

Lerner publishing's *Follow the Food Chain* walks students through food chains in each of the major biomes. How can we connect these books together? Are there animals that overlap? What happens if an animal is taken out of the chain?

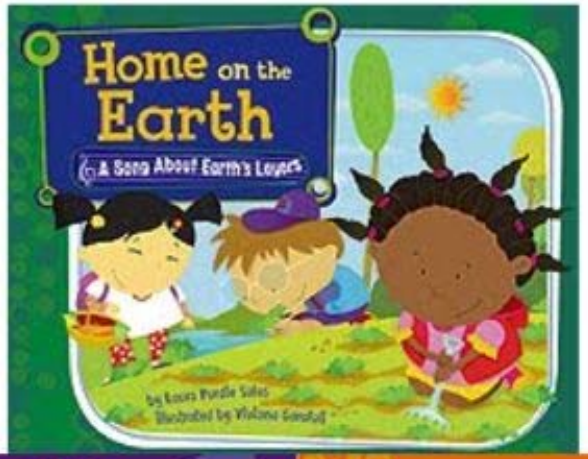
Pond Circle by Betsy Franco is also a food web story, but written in the style of The House that Jack Built. Could you take information from another biome and have students write their own version?

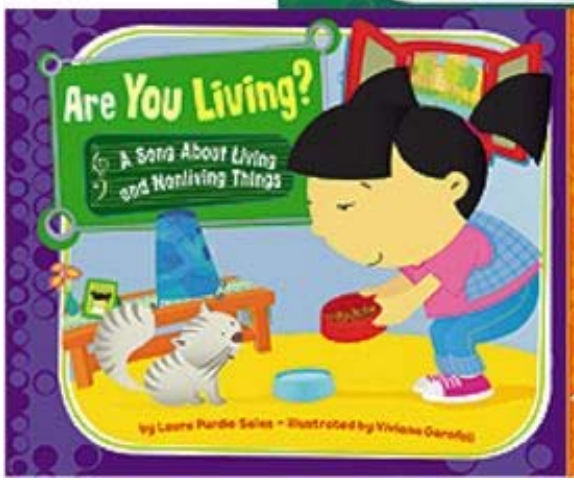


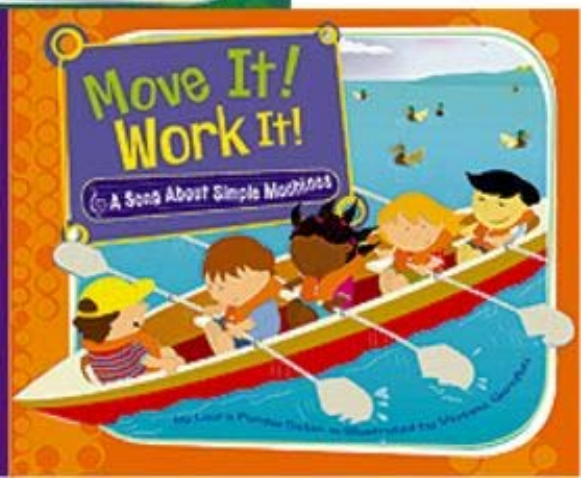
Science is musical.

We can connect science to music as well. There are many CDs such as Science Tune-Ups that are available with songs that teach science concepts. Students could also add movement. This helps students when remembering what they have learned.

Picture Window Press has a new series *Sing a Song of Science*. These wonderful books take science concepts and connect them to a familiar song. Music is in the back of the book as well as a link to download the audio. Could students write their own songs with other science concepts?







Science is online.

There are several resources online for science. The important thing when looking up information (and working with students as they look online) is that you make sure the sources and facts are reliable and accurate. Here are just a few places worth checking out.

- http://www.nasaimages.org/
  - Images from NASA and space.
- http://www.sbfonline.com/SubaruAward/aboutSubaruAward.htm
  - This annual award recognizes the best books – including for students. Check out some of their past winners.
- http://nsdl.org/
  - A wealth of information on a variety of science topics. Check out the possibilities.

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