STEM and Storybooks
Using fiction picture books and high-interest nonfiction to promote STEM learning in the preschool and early elementary years

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www.libguides.uwstout.edu/kidsbooks

Why use storybooks?

- More appeal - engage students emotionally and intellectually
- Increase student’s interest in the subject matter, to promote learning the concepts later
- Scaffolding of important skills – cause and effect, predicting, sequencing, inquiry, etc.

Books discussed today

- **WILD Alphabet: An A to Zoo Pop-Up Book** Written by Mike Haines, Illustrated by Julia Frohlich. Ages 2-6
- **Green** Written and illustrated by Laura Vaccaro Seeger. Ages 2-6
- **The Beetle Book** Written and illustrated by Steve Jenkins. Ages 4-8
- **Tap the Magic Tree** Written and illustrated by Christie Matheson. Ages 1-6
- **Whose Egg?** Written and illustrated by Guy Troughton. Ages 3-6
- **One Foot, Two Feet** Written by Peter Maloney, Illustrated by Felicia Zekauskas. Ages 1-5
- **Just A Second** Written and Illustrated by Steve Jenkins. Ages 4-8
- **A Second is a Hiccup** Written by Hazel Hutchins, Illustrated by Kady Denton. Ages 3-6
- **That’s A Possibility! A Book About What Might Happen** Written by Bruce Goldstone. Ages 5-10
- **Tools** Written and Illustrated by Taro Miura. Ages 1-4
- **What Do Wheels Do All Day?** Written by April Jones Prince, Illustrated by Giles Laroche. Ages 1-5
- **On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein** Written by Jennifer Berne, Illustrated by Vladimir Radunski. Ages 4-10
Resources for Choosing Great Books

- **Children’s Literature Booklists (UW-Stout Library)**
  www.libguides.uwstout.edu/kidsbooks
  Categories include animals, nature, space, counting math, technology, and more

- **Cooperative Children’s Book Center (CCBC)**
  http://ccbc.education.wisc.edu
  Book lists, reviews, and resources for choosing great books

- **Literacy in the Sciences**
  www.readingrockets.org/extras/stem_series#STEM_tipsheets
  Tipsheets about literacy in the sciences, book lists, and science-themed resources

  Contains 15 science units centered around children’s books

- **Start with a Book**
  www.startwithabook.org
  24 themes with book lists and classroom activities. Many categories for science, nature, and math.

- **Book Awards:**
  - **NSTA Best Science Trade Books**
    http://www.nsta.org/publications/ostb/
    Best trade books in science, as determined by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and the Children’s Book Council (CBC)
  - **Orbus Pictus Award**
    http://www.ncte.org/awards/orbispictus
    Award for outstanding nonfiction for children, as determined by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
  - **Robert F. Siebert International Book Medal**
    http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/sibertmedal
    Most distinguished informational book published in the United States