



Plants and Their Habitats Lessons

Websites

Stewardship Project

[The Nature Conservancy- Adopt An Acre](http://adopt.nature.org/)

This web site outlines information about the Nature Conservancy's Adopt an Acre program and gives background information on the two or three critical sights they focus on each year.
(<http://adopt.nature.org/>)

[The Nature Conservancy- Coral Reefs of the Tropics](http://adopt.nature.org/coralreef/)

Use this web site to find information about the Nature Conservancy's Rescue the Reef program. The site offers background information on the specific area they are targeting and how successful their preservation attempts have been.
(<http://adopt.nature.org/coralreef/>)

[National Association of Conservation Districts-Stewardship](http://www.nacdnet.org/stewardship)

This web site offered by the National Association of Conservation Districts provides information about how children can incorporate conservation in their schoolyards, community gardens, public places, or their own backyard.
(<http://www.nacdnet.org/stewardship>)

[The Center for Ecosystem Survival](http://www.savenature.org/)

This web site offers a list of projects children can participate in to help preserve their habitats. The nice thing about this site is that it includes a wide range of projects.
(<http://www.savenature.org/>)

[eNature](http://www.enature.com/home/)

Use this web site to gather information about how to create a backyard habitat and/or establish bird feeders and nesting boxes to attract local birds.
(<http://www.enature.com/home/>)

[National Wildlife Federation- Garden for Wildlife](http://www.nwf.org/Home/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife.aspx)

This web site lists a variety of habitat projects that children can do to help the environment.
(<http://www.nwf.org/Home/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife.aspx>)



[Georgia Endangered Plant Stewardship Network](#)

The Georgia Endangered Plant Stewardship Network started a school site endangered plant propagation project 1996. The information gathered on this web site can be used to generate class ideas of possible stewardship activities in other geographic locations.

(<http://botgarden.uga.edu/consERVE/details.php?program=GPCA#Gallerygepsn.html>)

[Environmental Protection Agency- Adopt Your Watershed](#)

Use this web site to locate local watershed organizations. The links provide contact information for watershed organizations that conduct activities such as monitoring, cleanup and restoration projects.

(<http://water.epa.gov/action/adopt/network.cfm>)

Plants

[Arizona Sonora Desert Museum](#)

The Arizona Sonora Desert Museum is a zoo, natural history museum, and botanical garden. The web site includes information about desert animals and plants, including a “Kids Connection” section written especially for children.

(<http://www.desertmuseum.org/index.php>)

[Extension Master Gardener](#)

Use this web site to find volunteer Master Gardeners who serve as educators in their communities. The site lists the state partners of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service through which Master Gardeners are trained.

(<http://www.extension.org/mastergardener>)

[National Audubon Society](#)

Use this website to find contact information on chapters of the Audubon Society both inside and outside of the United States.

(<http://www.audubon.org/locations>)

[American Public Gardens Association](#)

This web site can be used to locate Botanical Gardens, Arboreta, Nature centers, Zoos and youth programs in the United States.

(<http://www.publicgardens.org/>)



National Garden Clubs

The National Garden Clubs web site includes a variety of links including one link geared specifically towards youths and how they can be involved in gardening and learning about horticulture.

(<http://ngcdev.org/>)



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Books

Cactus Hotel

By Brenda Z. Guiberson; illustrated by Megan Lloyd. (1993, Henry Holt and Company)

This “biography” tells the story of a giant saguaro cactus that grows to a height of fifty feet and a weight of eight tons. Over its lifetime of 200 years, it houses a rotating population of insects, mammals, reptiles, and birds. Even after it falls, it shelters a new set of living things. The book’s simple text and vivid pictures portray a desert full of colorful and active life.

Desert Giant

By Barbara Bash. (2002, Gibbs Smith Publishing)

This account of the life cycle of a saguaro cactus teaches children about the animals that are sheltered and fed by the cactus, and tells how humans use the cactus.

Microhabitats series: Life in a Tide Pool; Life in a Pond; Life in a Flowerbed; Life in a Cave; Life in a Tree

By Clare Oliver. (2002, Raintree Publishers)

A series of books with full-color photographs and large type, written at an upper-elementary reading level. A brief introduction to the “microhabitat” of each title is followed by a description of its physical conditions, its inhabitants, and its ecological importance.

My Favorite Tree: Terrific Trees of North America

By Diane Iverson. (1999, Dawn Publications)

This is a terrific, age appropriate reference book that not only describes 26 native trees of North America, but also identifies organisms that depend on each tree for survival. Listed next to each beautiful tree illustration is a description of the tree’s traits, such as habitat, height, bark, leaves, flowers and seeds, as well as interesting facts about historical uses of the tree. Although this book is no longer in print, you might look for it at your local library.



Seeds, Stems, and Stamens: The Ways Plants Fit into Their World

By Susan E. Goodman; photographs by Michael J. Doolittle. (2001, Millbrook Press)

This excellent book about plants is a companion to *Claws, Coats, and Camouflage* about animals. It discusses how plants fit into their environments, use sunlight, get water and nutrients, stay safe, make new plants, and protect themselves. Each right-hand page gives a brief statement (such as “All living things need water to survive. In some regions, however, water is very scarce”), a color photo (such as a cactus), and the question “What’s this plant’s adaptation?” The following page answers the question with careful descriptions and more photos.

Small Worlds series: A Coral Reef, A Dead Log, A Freshwater Pond, A Rainforest Tree, A Saguaro Cactus, A Tidal Pool, In a Backyard, On the Tundra, Under a Stone.

By Jen Green, Adam Hibbert, or Philip Steele. (1999 or 2002, Crabtree Publishing)

This series of books provide facts and photographs about how plants and animals live together in a small environment and share their habitats. These books can be used as references for the children’s biomes research.