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The Secret Lives Of Backyard Bugs: Discover Amazing Butterflies, Moths, Spiders, Dragonflies, And Other Insects!



Synopsis

With this book in hand, readers of any age will discover -- just outside their own doors, no matter where they live--a world they never knew existed. Hundreds of stunning photos combined with expert information create an up-close-and-personal tour of the hidden lives of spiders, beetles, butterflies, moths, crickets, dragonflies, damselflies, grasshoppers, aphids, and many other backyard residents. You won't believe your eyes! Each creature is in its natural setting, and many are shown progressing through all of the various stages of their life cycles. This is a one-of-a-kind look at some of life's most fascinating mysteries -- surprising, captivating, and perfect for nature lovers of all ages. "The Secret Lives of Backyard Bugs" has earned two national awards --(1) NOBA - National Outdoor Book Award (2) Teacher's Choice Award for "Product of Excellence for the Family".

Book Information

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Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

The first thing I noticed about The Secret Lives of Backyard Bugs is the vivid and very detailed pictures. You can see amazing details like the individual hairs on the back of a caterpillar or the pupil of the leaf hopper's eye! The colors really stand out!The introduction of this book will come in handy to new gardeners: sections on the seasons, composting, plant life cycles, and helpful

pollinators. This is a short introduction, though. Most of the book is about the bugs! The pests are grouped by type: moths, spiders, beetles, etc. The table of contents has a detailed list of almost 90 different bugs that are detailed in this book. Each bug is given one to 2 pages of information...things like type of habitat they like, life cycle, and predominant characteristics. There are beneficial insects like the ladybug as well as the pests you want to exterminate. Each bug page has a list of 'host plants' where you might find the culprit hiding. My kids are huge fans of bugs and the amazing photography really caught their eye. My favorite part of this book is the handy comparison guide in the back for each stage of the life cycle. Go out, find a bug, open it to those comparison guides and find your critter. What a great way to keep your kids busy outside!

My 6 year old son expressed an interest in learning more about bugs and requested that we find a book to achieve this. That same week, we were visiting our library and stumbled across this book. It was exactly what we were looking for! After checking it out from the library and renewing it, we knew that buying a copy for ourselves would be a smart purchase. As an echo to the other reviewers, the photographs are outstanding. Another thing I love about the book is that it really is a book about backyard bugs. My little yard explorer has found in our yard what he sees in this book. It is one thing to read about something and another to experience it. This book allows both to happen- which in my opinion, is one of the best ways for my son to learn. This summer, I found a tobacco horn worm on my tomato plants that was being attacked by parasitic wasps. I brought it in for my son to see and he immediately recognized it as something he had seen in this book. We looked it up and sure enough, the photo looked exactly like what it was we were experiencing in that moment. This led to a further search in another book of ours to learn about parasitic wasps. This is just one example of a great learning opportunity that has resulted from owning this book and really there have been many already. As a side note, if you do decide to purchase this book, I would definitely also invest in a bug viewer and/or bug "house" for observation.

This book has been quite useful as I pick assorted bugs off my garden plants. Since I have no real desire to use pesticides and kill all of the bugs, I prefer to pick bugs off and then decide which ones get a 'pass' and which ones get mushed. Just today this book helped me to decide that the 'foul little creature' that was eating the leaves of my peach sapling was likely a butterfly caterpillar; so I moved it to a different location instead of giving it a death sentence. True, the book is not exhaustive, but it is quite thorough and a good companion for me and my garden..

The Secret Life of Backyard Bugs Judy Burris & Wayne Richards Storey Publishing Stunning photography! Every living thing progresses through life cycles, often with bugs we only see the adult stage. In awe filled photography we are able to see complete life cycles of insects and spiders from eggs to larvae, pupa to adult. There is a description of each insect, order it belongs to, and trivia facts for each insect displayed. This is by far one of the most interesting bug books I have ever read. It also includes a top host and nectar plant guide, comparison guides for each stage of the life cycle, and briefly touches on plant and soil life. Again, Amazing photography, simple yet very informative for all ages! Detailed descriptions and photographs make this book interesting even for those who aren't overly fond of insects. I received a copy of this book from Storey in exchange for an honest review.

Outstanding book; bought for my 10 year old granddaughter who has a keen interest in bugs. Especially useful were color photos of each bug's life cycle stages, providing more of what to look for in the back yard. Her interests were heightened and she is now using the book as she explores and discovers.

This is a splendid little book. Great for kids and adults alike. The authors have captured and recorded a number of backyard insects not commonly noticed and recorded in photos all the different phases of their lives. Eggs, larvae and adults are shown. Most field guides just show the adults. This book is different and strongly emphasizes the complete life cycle of insects. The numerous pictures are almost all macro-photos taken under challenging conditions. Highly recommended.

This book gave me names to go with the many photos of incredible creatures that I have taken. Not a long book but chock full of beautiful photos and useful information. Great for all ages. Would totally recommend this wonderful book.

A fabulous book for the curious child. It has fantastic pictures and very useful information. We anticipate learning fascinating details about our backyard friends at home, at grandma's in the city and down at the beach.

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The Secret Lives of Backyard Bugs: Discover Amazing Butterflies, Moths, Spiders, Dragonflies, and Other Insects! Bugs: A Stunning Pop-up Look at Insects, Spiders, and Other Creepy-Crawlies

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