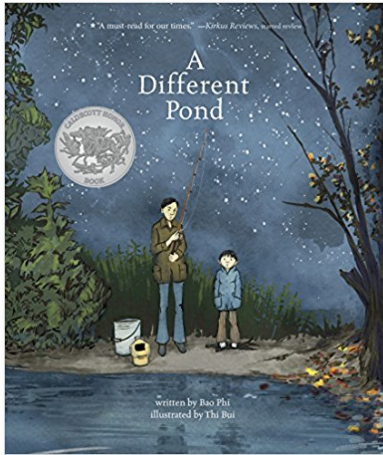


Books to Explore



A Different Pond

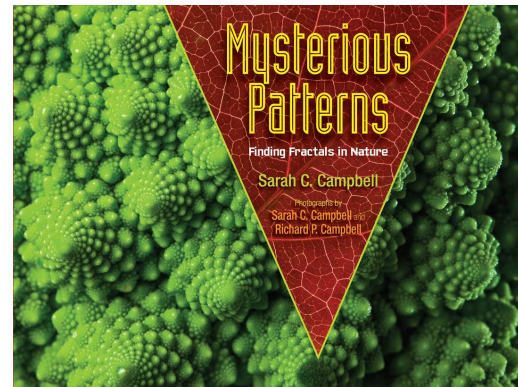
Written by Bao Phi Illustrated by Thi Bui

*As a young boy, Bao Phi awoke early, hours before his father's long workday began, to fish on the shores of a small pond in Minneapolis. Unlike many other anglers, Bao and his father fished for food, not recreation. Between hope-filled casts, Bao's father told him **about a different pond in their homeland of Vietnam.***

Mysterious Patterns: Finding fractals in nature

By Sarah C. Campbell

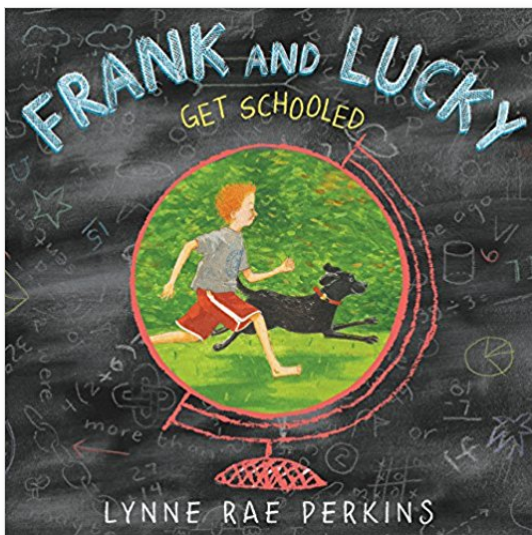
*Nature's repeating patterns, better known as fractals, are beautiful, universal, and explain much about how things grow. Fractals can also be quantified mathematically. Here is an elegant introduction to fractals through examples that can be seen in parks, rivers, and our very own backyards. Leads to heading outside and place-based exploration with a camera or sketch pad. **Seeing nature in our place.***



Frank and Lucky Get Schooled

By Lynne Rae Perkins

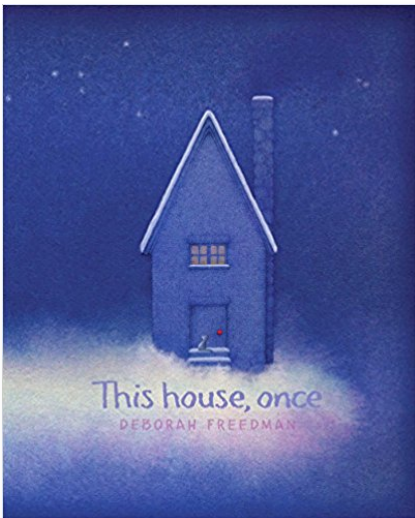
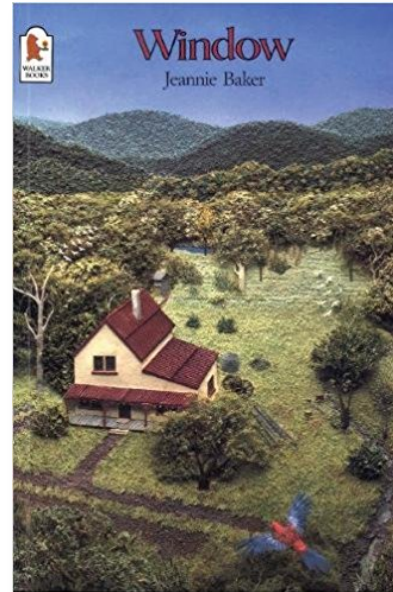
*On a rainy day, Frank's parents take him to the shelter to get a new dog. That's how Frank finds Lucky, and from that moment on, they're inseparable. As Frank and Lucky venture out into the world around them, they discover they both have a lot to learn. **Exploring their neighborhood** teaches them about biology: Lucky learns all about squirrels, deer, and—unfortunately for Frank—skunks. Sharing a bed teaches them about fractions—what happens when one dog takes up three-quarters of the bed, or even the whole thing? They even learn different languages: Frank makes a friend who speaks Spanish and Lucky tries to learn Duck!*



Window

By Jennie Baker

Window is a simple book with deep resonances. (While it has no text, it does not lack words; what words there are, are incorporated into the visual images; some of the scenes are 'immersed' in print.) The central image is a window. Each of the thirteen double-page spreads shows the window frame and the view outside the window – the reader is always standing inside, looking out.



This house, once

By Deborah Freedman

Before there was this house there were stones and mud and a colossal oak tree – three hugs around and as high as the blue.

What was your home, once?

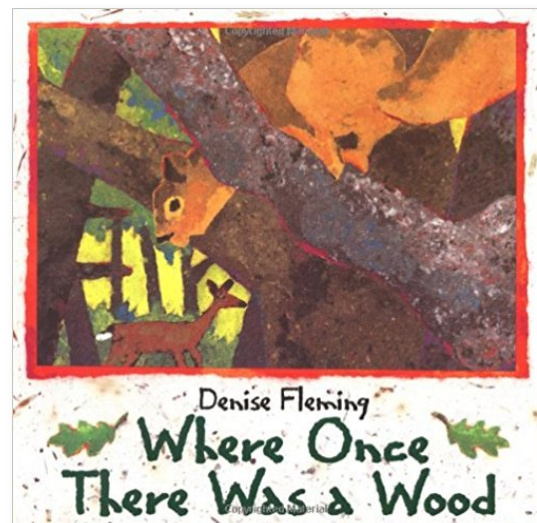
Where Once There was a Wood

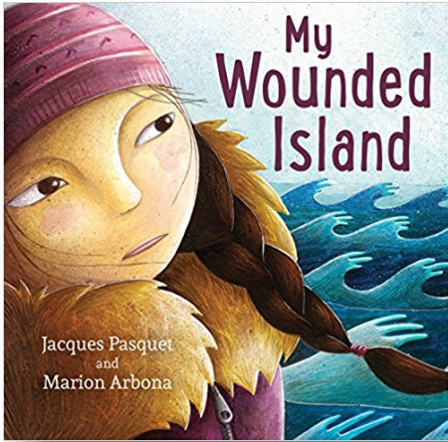
By Denise Fleming

A powerful poem and stunning, handmade-paper art encourage children to protect nature.

*"Where once there was a wood,
A meadow and a creek . . ."*

Inspired by events in her own backyard, award-winning author and illustrator Denise Fleming creates a poignant yet hopeful portrait of our disappearing natural environment. The last pages of the book teach children how to make a more "creature friendly" backyard, including information about what types of food, trees and flowers attract different kinds of animals.





My Wounded Island

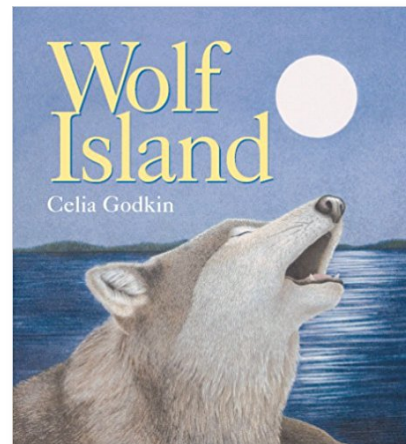
By Jacques Pasquet and Marion Arbona

There's an invisible creature in the waves around Sarichef. It is altering the lives of the Iñupiat people who call the island home. A young girl and her family are forced to move to the center of the island for refuge from the rising sea level. Soon the entire village will have to relocate to the mainland. Heartbroken, the young girl and her grandfather worry: what else will be lost when they are forced to abandon their homes and their community?

Wolf Island

By Celia Godkin

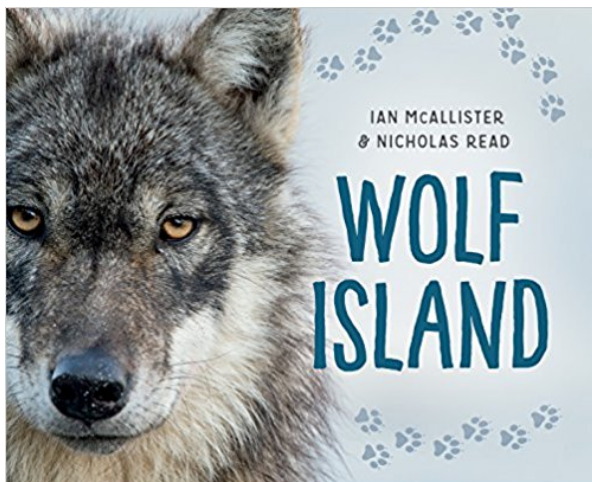
Set on an island in Northern Ontario, the Wolf Island story based on an actual event, is a moving chronicle of what happens when the highest link in a food chain is removed. Although, at first, their absence is unnoticed, nature's delicately balanced ecosystem comes undone over a period of months, and the mice, rabbits, squirrels, and even owls fight for survival. Finally, the accidental return of the wolf family to their home restores the island habitat to health.



Wolf Island

By Ian McAllister & Nicholas Read

The Great Bear Rainforest is a majestic place full of tall trees, huge bears and endless schools of salmon. Award-winning photographer and author Ian McAllister's luminous photographs illustrate the story of a lone wolf who swims to one of the small islands that dot the rainforest's coast. The island provides him with everything he needs—deer, salmon, fresh water—everything, that is, but a mate. When a female wolf arrives on the island's rocky shores, she and he start a family and introduce their pups to the island's bounty.



Sparrow Girl

By Sara Pennypacker

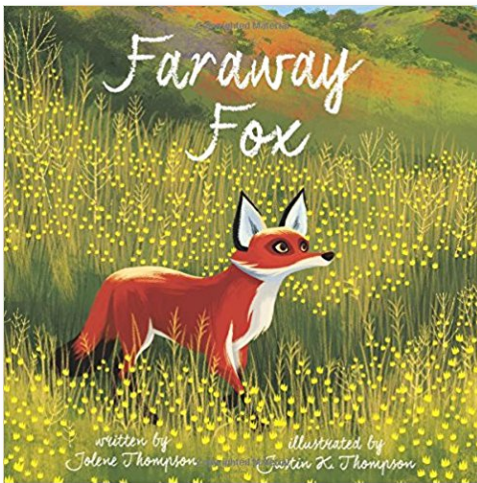
Ming-Li looked up and tried to imagine the sky silent, empty of birds. It was a terrible thought. Her country's leader had called sparrows the enemy of the farmers--they were eating too much grain, he said. He announced a great "Sparrow War" to banish them from China, but Ming-Li did not want to chase the birds away. Quietly, she vowed to save as many sparrow as she could, one by one....



Pax

By Sara Pennypacker

A beautifully wrought, utterly compelling novel about the powerful relationship between a boy and his fox.



Faraway Fox

By Jolene and Justin Thompson

As Fox wanders through a strange landscape, he cannot help but be reminded-at every corner-of the streams, the trees, and the family he once knew. Fox would like nothing more than to return to his home, but it seems the cityscape has built up around him. Follow Fox as he looks for a way back home to the wild green land where every fox belongs. Back matter shows readers the creative ways humans are helping to mitigate habitat encroachment in our towns and cities.

Creeking: A true story

By Jacqueline Briggs Martin

Once upon a time a creek burbled up and tumbled across a prairie valley. It was filled with insects and brook trout that ate them, frogs that chirruped and birds watching for bugs and fish. This is a true story about a man named Mike who went looking for that creek long after it was buried under fields of corn. It is the story of how a creek can be brought back to life, and with it a whole world of nature.

