

Great Outdoors Booklist

Selected by Erin Nguyen, Knox County Public Library

Picture Books:

The Camping Trip by Jennifer K. Mann

Ernestine is beyond excited to go on her first camping trip, but will she be able to enjoy the wilderness, or will it prove to be a bit too far out of her comfort zone?

Charlie & Mouse Outdoors by Laurel Snyder

Charlie and Mouse and their parents are going on a camping trip, and there will be hiking, storytelling, marshmallows, and campfires, and the joy that comes from sharing it all.

Hike by Pete Oswald

A father and child head out on a hike, keeping a cherished family tradition alive.

Into the Outdoors by Susan Gal

A child describes the wonders observed during a family camping trip to the mountains in a story that introduces the reader to prepositions.

My Friend Earth by Patricia MacLachlan

Die-cut pages invite the reader to explore how Earth is a friend to all creatures, watching over us as the year cycles through the seasons.

Easy Readers:

Katie Woo, Super Scout by Fran Manushking

On a hike with the Super Scouts, Katie is paired up with a girl she does not know who seems much better at scouting than Katie is, but eventually Katie finds that she has discovered a new friend.

Pete the Cat Goes Camping by James Dean

Excited about his camping trip, Pete can't wait to go hiking, fishing, and eat s'mores by the campfire, until he hears about the mysterious creature named Bigfoot.

Juvenile Chapter Books:

The End of the Wild by Nicole Helget

Eleven-year-old Fern helps to take care of her impoverished family by foraging for food in the forest, but when a fracking company rolls into town, she realizes that her peaceful woods and her family's livelihood could be threatened.

Nature Girl by Jane Kelley

Forced to spend the summer with her family in rural Vermont, eleven-year-old Megan, a rebellious, immature urbanite gains self-confidence and maturity as she and her dog survive being lost on the Appalachian Trail.

The Terrible Two Go Wild by Mac Barnett and Jory John

School's out, and Miles and Niles are running wild in the woods outside town: climbing trees, exploring caves, and, yes, pranking.

Juvenile Graphic Novel:

Lumberjanes: Unicorn Power! by Mariko Tamaki

The five scouts of Roanoke cabin--Jo, April, Molly, Mal, and Ripley--love their summers at camp, where the woods contain endless mysteries and supernatural adventures.

Juvenile Nonfiction:

Backpacking Hacks: Camping Tips for Outdoor Adventures by Raymond Bean

Don't just survive, thrive in the great outdoors with this handy guidebook that provides unique tips and tricks to transform any camping trip into a glamping vacay, including defense against weather extremes, hygiene hacks, and unplugged entertainment options.

Cool Parks & Trails: Great Things to Do in the Great Outdoors by Katherine Hengel

This book makes the great outdoors fun and exciting through fun projects like making a magnificent walking stick or playing a game of hiking bingo with easy-to-follow steps and bright photography for every activity.

Forest Talk: How Trees Communicate by Melissa Koch

Recently, researchers and citizen scientists made the surprising revelation that trees communicate with each other through complex social networks that help them survive and thrive by transferring resources to each other, sending defense signals, and more.

Let's Play Outdoors!: Exploring Nature for Children by Cath Ard

A book that encourages children to go and play outside and discover what nature has to offer with activities suggested to inspire independent learning about animals, plants, and the weather, as well as how to look after the world.

Maker Lab Outdoors: 25 Super Cool Projects: Build, Invent, Create, Discover by Jack Challoner

Twenty-five science projects and experiments to be done outside will spark kids' creativity and help them develop science skills through hands-on learning.