Here is a selected list of children’s books for Grades PreK-3 that can be used to teach topics in the life science, earth science and physical science. References in brackets [Ansberry 2007] identify a teaching aid with suggested teaching activities. (Not all entries identify a teaching aid.) Teaching aids are listed on the last page.

**Life Science – The study of living things.**

**Animals**

Fun facts about frogs, where they live, how and what they eat, along with vivid photographs help children learn about amphibians.
**Call Number: j597.8 Bis**

After falling head first into a bird’s nest, a baby bat is raised like a bird until she finds her mother. [Butzow, 1998].
**Call Number: [Big Book] P J Can**

A grouchy lady bug challenges every insect she meets regardless of their size or strength. [Brainard, 1993; Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number: P J Car**

The farm animals try to divert a busy spider from spinning her web. She persists and produces a web of beauty and usefulness. [Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number: P J Car**

An underwater explorer takes a tour of the ocean and introduces such fish as the damselfish, red lipped batfish, and brown goby.
**Call Number: j597 Ear**

After digging holes and munching on crawly bugs, a chubby mole settles in her cozy burrow for winter.
**Call Number: P J Ehl**

Explores the life cycle of butterflies by following a monarch butterfly’s growth process.
**Call Number: j595.78 Her**
The tiger is one of thousands of endangered species. Why do we need to prevent them and others from extinction?
**Call Number: j591.68 Jen**

A little black fish in a school of red fish figures out a way to protect them from natural enemies. [Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number: P J Lio**

Follow the family of mallard ducks as they make their home near a city pond. [Brainard, 1993; Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number: P J McC 1976**

Hermit Crab seeks a new home when his house gets too small. [Brainard, 1993].
**Call Number: j595.384 McD**

Describes the physical characteristics, behavior, and reproduction of many different species of earthworms.
**Call Number: j595.146 Pri**

Describes the appearance and behavior of such baby animals as a kitten, duckling and piglet.
**Call Number: j599.039 Roy**

Follow this chipmunk in late summer as he gathers food, prepares for winter, and hibernates until spring. [Brainard, 1993 & Butzow, 2000]
**Call Number: P J Ryd**

A child is transformed into a tiny lizard for a day and discovers what it is like to change colors in a sunny, leafy world.
**Call Number: P J Ryd 1990**

Transformed into a humpback whale, a child experiences life in the ocean among other whales. [Butzow, 1998].
**Call Number: P J Ryd**
Introduces the world of birds from eggs to flight and songs to nests.
**Call Number:** j598.2 Sil

### Habitats

A cumulative rhyme reading how Ki-pat brought rain to the drought stricken Kapiti Plain.
**Call Number:** [Big Book] P J Aar

On a camping trip in an Australian rain forest a young boy thinks about the history of the plant and animal life around him.
**Call Number:** P J Bak

Learn about caves their formation and physical features along with the animals who live there.
**Call Number:** j551.4 Gib

Frogs, fish, a turtle and other creatures who live in or around a river state their need for the river, making a plea for protecting this natural resource.
**Call Number:** [Big Book] P J Hal

Explores what deserts are and the different types while detailing specific deserts around the world.
**Call Number:** j551.41 Kal

Focusing on the mass-spawning event follow the life cycle of the horseshoe crab at Delaware Bay.
**Call Number:** j595.4 Sch

The history of the meadowlands from its pristine state to the pollution caused by industrialization.
**Call Number:** j577.69 Yez
Plants

Understand the energy we share with all living things in nature and how plant life effects the earth.
**Call Number:** j572.46 Ban

Explains in simple terms the function and importance of roots and root hairs on a plant.
**Call Number:** j582 Bra

Trace the life cycle of a flowering plant from seed to blossom observing its changes throughout the seasons. [Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number:** P J Car

In the rainforest, animals living in a kapok tree convince a man why it is important not to cut down the trees. [Butzow, 1998].
**Call Number:** P J Che

Shadow the growth of a maple tree from seed to sapling observing the changes that happen in each season. [Brainard, 1993 & Butzow, 1998].
**Call Number:** [Big Book] P J Ehl

Desert animals scamper about looking for food until they get tired and return to their home, a giant saguaro cactus. [Butzow, 1998].
**Call Number:** j574.526 Gui

Traces the life cycle of an oak tree and describes the animals that depend on it for shelter and food. [Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number:** j574.526 Tre

Explore the many benefits a tree provides as it is planted and grows. [Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number:** P J Udr

A family makes their garden preparing the soil, planting seeds, watering the garden and watching for a harvest of vegetables.
**Call Number:** P J Zoe
Earth & Space Science – The study of the earth and its forces.

As a boy Buzz Aldrin collected rocks on earth. When he grew up he collected rocks on the moon. [Fredericks, 2008].
Call Number: jB Ald

When the tide recedes, an Eskimo girl journeys under the ice walking on the sea bed floor to gather mussels. [Butzow, 2000].
Call Number: P J And

Describes the qualities to consider in selecting the perfect rock for play and pleasure. [Butzow, 2000].
Call Number: j552 Bay

A fossil hunter looking for signs of an ancient sea in the rocks of a western Texas mountain describes how the area must have looked millions of years ago.
Call Number: J Bay

Life in the town of Chewsandswallow is delicious, it rains soup and juices, snows mashed potatoes, and blows storms of hamburgers, until that day when the weather changed and things got worse. [Butzow, 1998].
Call Number: P J Bar & [Big Book] P J Bar

Discusses the nature and importance of soil and the many forms of life it supports. [Royce, 2012].
Call Number: j577.57 Bia

Learn why earthquakes happen, where they are most likely to occur, and what to do if one happens near you.
Call Number: j551.2 Bra

Introduces how the sun’s relationship to the earth is responsible for seasonal changes.
Call Number: j508.2 Bra

The biography of the Galapagos Island from birth, through adolescence, to adulthood, and beyond.
Call Number: j508.866 Chi
Mrs. Frizzle takes her class on a trip to learn about earth layers and how rocks are formed. [Brainard, 1993].
**Call Number:** j551 Col

Mrs. Frizzle’s class explores outer space and gravity. [Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number:** j523.32 Col

Gilberto discovers that the wind can sometimes be a good playmate. [Brainard, 1993].
**Call Number:** P J Ets

Describes forecasters at work in a weather station and the equipment they use to track the changes in weather. [Royce, 2012].
**Call Number:** j551.6 Gib

Describes the water, air, soil, sky, sun and more shared by all living creatures on Earth.
**Call Number:** P J Gla

The animals are busy preparing for winter when snow comes early and they are surprised by a banquet. [Butzow, 2000].
**Call Number:** P J Had

Natural resources, environment, coal and rock formations, life cycles, seasonal changes, mining, air and water pollution. [Butzow, 1998].
**Call Number:** P J Hen

The true story of Waterhouse Hawkins, who built life-sized models of dinosaurs to educate the world about these ancient animals. [Fredericks, 2008].
**Call Number:** j567.9 Ker

Dinosaurs have been studied for many years. Read about the changes in discovering how these large animals evolved and became extinct. [Royce, 2012].
**Call Number:** j567.9 Kud
Introduces young children to the water cycle with simple text and illustrations.
**Call Number:** j551.48 Lyo

**Physical Science – The study of energy and matter.**

Different sources of light and its physical qualities are identified in this simple introduction.
**Call Number:** [Big Book] j535 Ber

Simple text and illustrations explain the force of gravity and what we know about it.
**Call Number:** j531 Bra

Siamese cat Henry stows away on a hot-air balloon and sails off into the sky alone. [Brainard, 1993].
**Call Number:** P J Cal

Introduces the concept of matter with examples such as solids, liquids, and gases.
**Call Number:** j530 Han

Understand the concept of temperature and how it is measured.
**Call Number:** j536.5 Joh

Learn why we need clean air, how trees clean air, how air moves, and the shapes of air.
**Call Number:** j533.10 Kal

The king wants to surprise the queen with a bed. No one in the kingdom knows how to make one or how big it should be. Learn together with the townspeople as they learn the different units of measurement. [Butzow, 2000; Ansberry, 2007].
**Call Number:** P J Myl

Rabbit loves playing with his shadow. Groundhog makes a bet that Rabbit can’t get rid of his shadow. [Brainard, 1993]
**Call Number:** P J Tom
Describes the origins, characteristics, and uses of water. [Royce, 2012]
Call Number: j546.22 Wic

**Teaching Aids**


Call Number: Curr.Mats. LB1585 .B73 1993


Call Number: LB1585.3 .F72 1998eb [online]


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