

Science Story Adventures



Women Scientists & Naturalists

Learning outcomes

» Students understand the importance of individual action and character and explain how heroes from long ago and the recent past have made a difference in others' lives. (Grade 2)

» Students know the sequential stages of life cycles are different for different animals, such as butterflies, frogs, and mice. (Grade 2 - Life Sciences)

From: California's History-Social Science & Science Content Standards

Books we read

Summer Birds: The Butterflies of Maria Merian by Margarita Engle

Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai by Claire A. Nivola

Wangari's Trees of Peace by Jeanette Winter

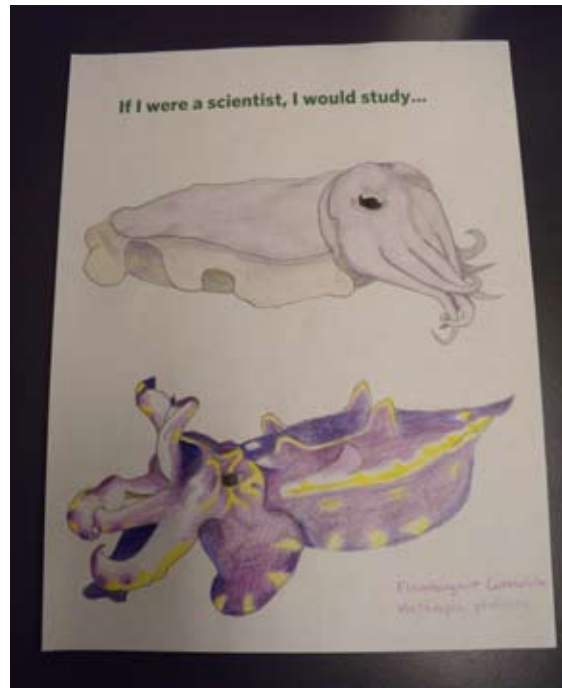
Activities we did

» We talked about the work of Maria Merian and Wangari Maathai.

» We looked at illustrations done by Maria Merian in the late 17th and early 18th centuries.

» We examined moth and butterfly specimens and talked about their similarities and differences.

Today's craft: If I Were a Scientist



You will need:

- » "if I were a scientist" sheets (included)
- » Crayons or colored pencils

Directions:

1. Print out the "If I were a scientist" sheets.
2. Draw what you would study if you were a scientist. It's up to you if you want to include just the things you would study or yourself studying them.

Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

Books

Exceptional Women Environmentalists by Frances Rooney.

Nat. Ctr Juv. GE55 .R66 2008

The stories of ten women, from various times and places, and their work to protect our Earth. One of a series entitled Women's Hall of Fame.

Flower Watching with Alice Eastwood by Michael Elsohn

Ross. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QK31.E27 R67 1997

Eastwood was hired by the Academy in 1892 and worked here for more than 50 years!

Forecast Earth: The Story of Climate Scientist Inez Fung by

Renee Skelton. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QC858.F86 S54 2005

Fung is a climate scientist, and this book talks about both the field and her personal story. One of a series entitled Women's Adventures in Science.

Girls Who Looked Under Rocks: The Lives of Six Pioneering

Naturalists by Jeannine Atkins. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QH26 .A84 2000

The stories of girls whose interest in the natural world blossomed into exciting careers as scientists.

Science is Women's Work: Photos and Biographies of American

Women in the Sciences by Nancy Gallop. Nat. Ctr. Juv. Q141 .G35 1994

One page profiles of women scientists, arranged by birth date from 1818 to 1948.

Scientist and Planner, Ru Chih Cheo Huang by Mary Ellen

Verheyden. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QH31.H8 V47 1985

A biography of a cancer researcher who was the first woman professor in the science department at John Hopkins University. One of a series entitled American Women in Science Biography.

DVDs

A Sense of Wonder. Nat. Ctr. Media QH31.C33 S4 2009

An interview style film that dramatizes Rachel Carson's own words.

Websites

4000 Years of Women in Science

Short biographies of women scientists from ancient times through the present.

<http://www.astr.ua.edu/4000WS/>

GirlStart

Online lessons, career information, and facts to help girls learn about science and more.

<http://www.girlstart.com/>

Girls, Inc.

A social networking site for girls ages 6-18. Set goals, watch videos, and share your strength.

<http://www.girlsinc-online.org/>

SciGirls

Online community with projects and videos from PBS' show for girls 8-12.

<http://pbskids.org/scigirls/>

Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics ON THE AIR!

Radio stories about different women scientists

<http://www.womeninscience.org/index.php>

If I were a scientist, I would study...