

Pairing Picture Books and Research with PebbleGo



Pairing Picture Books and Informational Texts

Combining easy picture books with simple research activities develops vital information literacy skills in the primary grades. **See the examples using award-winning picture books on the following pages.**

The steps are simple:

- Choose a curriculum topic.
- Select an age-appropriate picture book that is a good read-aloud that correlates to the topic.
- Read and discuss the story with students.
- Use guiding questions to focus on the selected topic.
- Explore an age-appropriate online database, such as **PebbleGo**, to locate information about the topic.
- Record, discuss, or draw a picture as a class or individually to recall details about the topic.

Using **PebbleGo** with emerging and beginning readers in kindergarten through 3rd grade is a great way to introduce the research process. Although **PebbleGo** is a [subscription database](#), it is well worth the cost.

Common Core State Standards

Research projects are an important part of the Common Core State Standards beginning in the early elementary grades. Some of the standards addressed by using PebbleGo are -

Reading Standards for Informational Text

- With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
- Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
- Use the illustrations and details in a text to describe its key ideas.

Writing Standards

- Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.
- Participate in shared research and writing projects
- With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

Language Standards

- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 1 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.
- With guidance and support from adults, demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

PebbleGo

<http://pebblego.com>

PebbleGo Databases

Animals

**Earth and Space
Biographies**

Social Studies

(available Fall 2012)

Information Literacy

Introducing the research process to primary students begins developing **information literacy skills**. When using these

age-appropriate databases, early readers learn to

- **locate**,
- **access**,
- **gather**,
- **record**,
- **organize**,
- **synthesize**,
- **evaluate**,
- **cite**

needed information – all important 21st century learning skills.





Pairing Fiction Books and Research with PebbleGo

Pairing Award-Winning Picture Books and Research

Below are some award-winning picture books and ideas for research topics using **PebbleGo's Animals, Earth and Space, and Biographies databases**. You may look for topics using the database's search box or follow the paths included for each book.

Also, included are some of the appropriate **Educator's Resources** and **Games**. If you do not currently subscribe to PebbleGo, you may apply for a free trial on the site's "Free Demos" page.



***The Lion & the Mouse* by Jerry Pinkney**

Little, Brown and Company, 2009

Caldecott Medal Winner 2010

A wordless adaptation of one of Aesop's beloved fables about friendship and kindness.

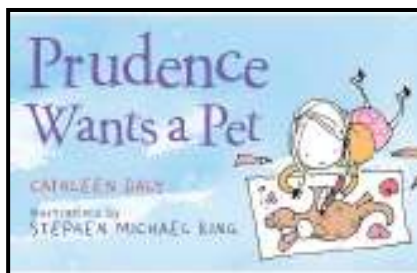
Topics: ecosystem, grasslands, savannas, habitats, animals – lion, mouse

Research It with PebbleGo

- **Animals**>Mammals>Wildcats>Lions
- **Animals**>Mammals>Woodland Animals>Mice
- **Animals**>Animal Habitats>Grassland Animals
- **Earth and Space**>Earth Science>Ecosystems>Grasslands

PebbleGo Educator Resources:

- **Animals: Reproducibles**>Coloring Fact Sheet-Lion
- **Earth and Space:** Lesson Plans-Ecosystem Sorting Chart



***Prudence Wants a Pet* by Cathleen Daly**

Roaring Brook Press 2011

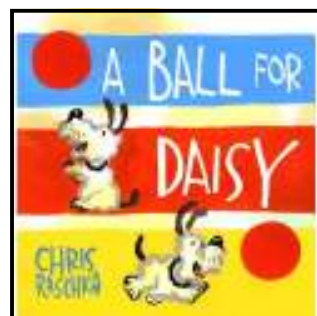
Children's Notable List 2012

In this quietly humorous picture book, Prudence tries out a branch, a twig, a shoe, and other things until her parents finally give her a kitten as a pet.

Topics: pets, cats

Research It with PebbleGo: **Animals**>Pets and Farm Animals>Pets>Cats and any other pets your students wish to research.

PebbleGo Educator Resources: **Reproducibles** – Pets Crossword



***A Ball for Daisy* by Chris Raschka**

Schwartz & Wade Books 2011

Caldecott Medal Winner 2012

A wordless picture book about all the fun a dog can have with her ball.

Topics: Pets, dogs

Research It with PebbleGo

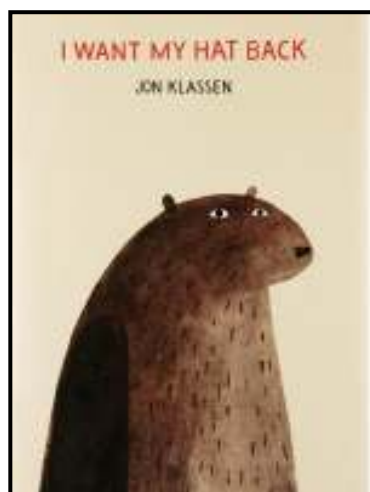
- **Animals**>Pets and Farm Animals>Pets>Dogs and any other pets your students wish to research.

Games: Wheel of Dog Breeds

PebbleGo Educator Resources: **Reproducibles** – Pets Crossword



Pairing Fiction Books and Research with PebbleGo



I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen

Candlewick Press 2011

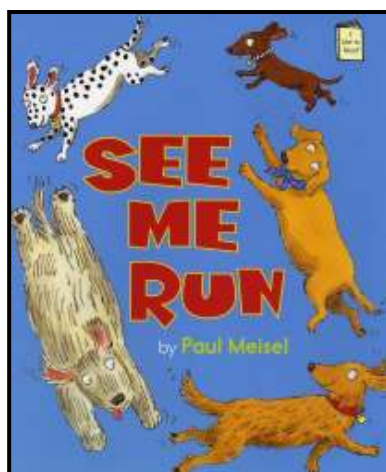
Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor 2012

A bear almost gives up his search for his missing hat until he remembers something important.

Topics: ecosystems, woodland animals, bears, rabbits

Research It with PebbleGo

- **Animals**>Mammals>Bears>Black Bears/Grizzly Bears
- **Animals**>Animal Habitats>Woodland Animals
- **Animals**>Mammals>Woodland Mammals



See Me Run by Paul Meisel

Holiday House 2011

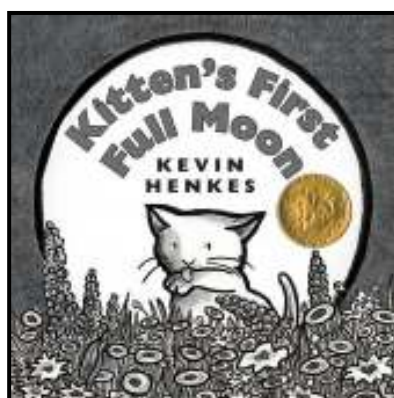
Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor 2012

Happiness is a day in the park when these dogs discover a mother lode of bones. Suddenly the bones turn into a dinosaur and the chase is on!

Topics: dogs, dinosaurs, fossils

Research It with PebbleGo:

- **Animals**>Dinosaurs>Tyrannosaurus Rex
- **Animals**>Pets and Farm Animals>Pets>Dogs
- **Earth and Space**>Earth Science>Earth Features>Fossils
- **Earth and Space**> Earth Science>Earth Scientists> Paleontologists



Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes

Greenwillow Books 2004

Caldecott Medal Winner 2005

When Kitten mistakes the full moon for a bowl of milk, she ends up tired, wet, and hungry trying to reach it.

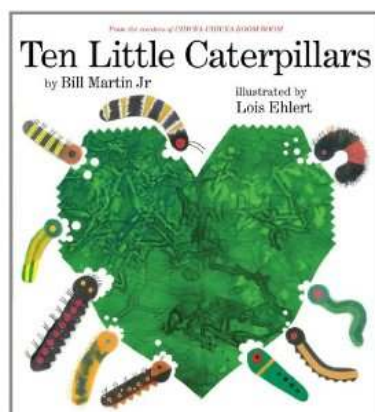
Topics: moon, cats(kittens)

Research It with PebbleGo:

- **Animals**>Pets and Farm Animals>Pets>Cats
- **Earth and Space**>Space>Our Solar System>The Moon/Moon Phases



Pairing Fiction Books and Research with PebbleGo



Ten Little Caterpillars by Bill Martin Jr.

Beach Lane Books 2011

Notable Children's Books 2012

Ten caterpillars are on the move to reach an amazing destination. . . a butterfly!

Topic: butterflies

Research It with PebbleGo:

Animals>Insects and Spiders>Insects>Monarch Butterflies/Painted Lady Butterflies

PebbleGo Educator Resources: **Animals**>**Reproducibles**>Coloring Fact Sheet—Butterfly



Me . . . Jane by Patrick McDonnell

Little, Brown and Company 2011

Caldecott Medal Honor 2012

Holding her stuffed toy chimpanzee, young Jane Goodall observes nature, reads Tarzan books, and dreams of living in Africa and helping animals.

Topics: Jane Goodall, chimpanzees

Research It with PebbleGo:

- **Animals**>Mammals>Primates>Chimpanzees
- **Biographies**>Scientists>Jane Godall

PebbleGo Educator Resources: **Biographies**>Reproducibles-Biography Picture Sequence

Additional Books: *The Watcher-Jane Goodall's Life with the Chimps* by Jeanette Winter



Love Twelve Miles Long by Glenda Armand

Lee & Low Books, Inc. 2011

New Voices Award 2012

This story is based on an account of the relationship between young Frederick Douglass and his mother, who walked twelve miles each way for nighttime visits with her son.

Topics: Frederick Douglass

Research It with PebbleGo:

Biographies>African American>U.S. History Makers>Frederick Douglass

PebbleGo Educator Resources:

- **Biographies**>Lesson Plans>Biography Dollars/Biography Report
- **Biographies**>Reproducibles>Biography Picture Sequence



Pairing Fiction Books and Research with PebbleGo



Back of the Bus by Aaron Reynolds
Philomel 2010

Children's Notable Booklist 2011

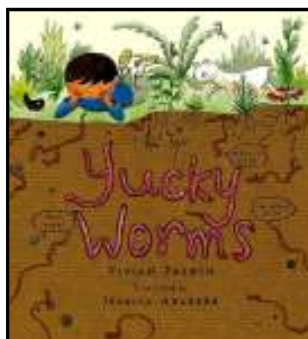
From the back of the bus, an African American child watches the arrest of Rosa Parks.

Topic: Rosa Parks

Research It with PebbleGo: [Biographies](#)>[African Americans](#)>[U.S. History Makers](#)>[Rosa Parks](#)

PebbleGo Educator Resources:

- [Biographies](#)>[Lesson Plans](#)>[Biography Dollars/Biography Report](#)
- [Biographies](#)>[Reproducibles](#)>[Biography Picture Sequence](#)



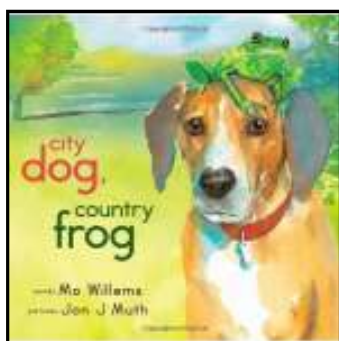
Yucky Worms by Vivian French
Candlewick Press 2010

Children's Notable Booklist 2011

While helping Grandma in the garden, a child learns about the important role of the earthworm in helping plants grow.

Topic: earthworms

Research It with PebbleGo: [Animals](#)>[Invertebrates](#)>[Earthworms](#)



City Dog, Country Frog by Mo Willems
Hyperion Book 2010

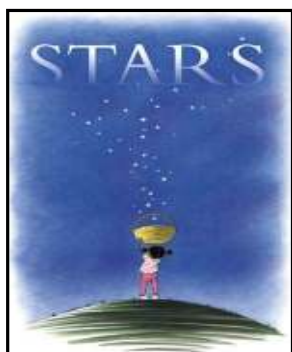
Children's Notable Booklist 2011

Through the seasons, whenever City Dog visits the country he runs straight for Country Frog's rock to play games with him, but during the winter things change for them both.

Topics: seasons, frogs, dogs

Research It with PebbleGo:

- [Animals](#)>[Amphibians](#)>[Frogs](#)
- [Animals](#)>[Pets and Farm Animals](#)>[Dogs](#)
- [Earth and Space](#)>[Seasons](#)>[What are Seasons?/Fall/Spring/Summer](#)



Stars by Mary Lyn Ray
Beach Lane Books 2011

Children's Notable Books 2012

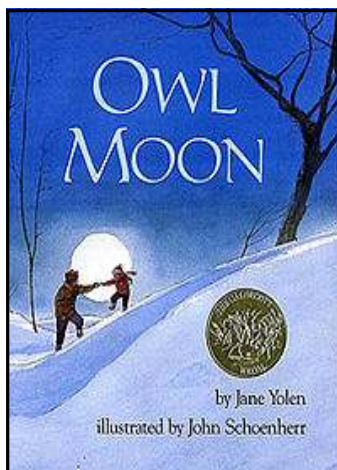
Explores the wonder of stars, whether they are in the night sky, on a plant as a promise of fruit to come, or in one's pocket.

Topic: stars

Research It with PebbleGo: [Earth and Space](#)>[Space](#)>[Stars](#)



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Owl Moon by Jane Yolen

Philomel Books 1987

Caldecott Medal Award 1988

On a winter's night under a full moon, father and daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl.

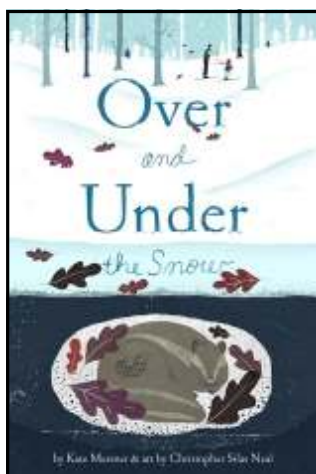
Topic: owls

Research It with PebbleGo:

Animals>Birds>Birds of Prey>Owls

Games: **Animals**>Predator and Prey

PebbleGo's Educator Resources: **Animals**>Lesson Plans>Bird Research



Over and Under the Snow by Kate Messner

Chronicle Books 2011

Children's Notable Books 2012

Discover the secret world of animals living under the snow.

Topics: snow, winter, bears

Research It with PebbleGo:

- **Earth and Science**>Weather>About Cold Weather
- **Earth and Science**>Weather>Snow
- **Earth and Science**>Seasons>Winter>Animals in Winter

PebbleGo's Educator Resources: **Reproducibles**>Chipmunk Maze



If you are unable to find some of these books in your library, ask your school or public librarian to help you locate a similar book. Also, ask your librarian to assist you in locating additional books on a selected topic to add to your classroom reading center.