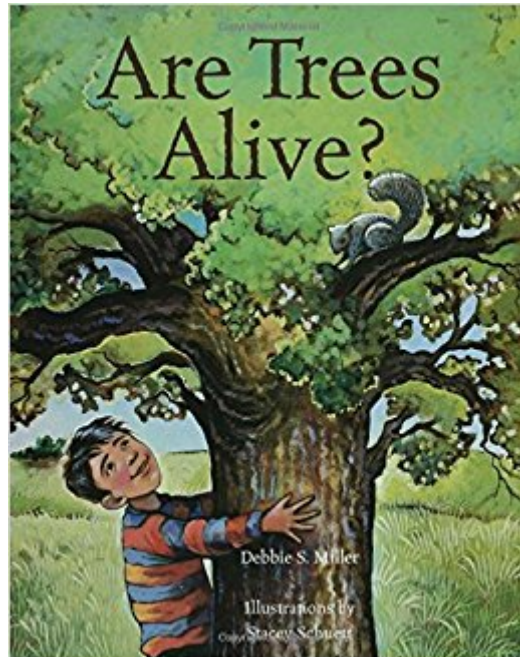




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Are Trees Alive?



Synopsis

"Are trees alive? How do they breathe? They don't have noses." And so begins a conversation between the author and her daughter that leads to a remarkable discovery: Trees are like children in so many ways! They may look very different from people, but trees have roots that hold them to the ground like feet and leaves that blow in the wind like hair. Their bark even comes in different colors, just like our skin. From this poetic comparison of plants and humans, readers will learn how trees live and grow, and how they get their food. They will learn about the baobab trees of Africa, the banyan trees of India, and the bristlecone pines of California. They will see, through Stacey Schuett's exquisite art, that trees come in all shapes and sizes-just like people-and provide a home to many different animals. But most of all, they will look at trees with greater respect and a bit of awe, after realizing that trees are alive too.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 640L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA Childrens (January 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0802788017

ISBN-13: 978-0802788016

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 8.9 x 285.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #700,266 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #154 in [Books > Children's](#)

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

reSchool-Grade 2-Using comparisons to the human body, Miller describes the characteristics of trees. In simple but poetic terms, she compares the veins of a leaf to those in a person's hand. She tells readers that the tree trunk supports the tree as our legs support us, and that "Bark is dark or light, rough or smooth, thick or thin, just like people's skin." Children can travel the globe, examining

common and unusual trees—a weeping willow in China, a baobab in Africa, Australia's ribbon gum, the paper birch of North America, India's banyan tree, etc. The vibrant acrylic-and-gouache illustrations are scientifically accurate and inviting, and the people depicted reflect the cultures of the trees' locations. Illustrated notes at the back of the book explain where they grow and their relative sizes and ages. The trees are also displayed on a map on the colorful endpapers. Team this unique title with such picture books as Cristina Kessler's *My Great-Grandmother's Gourd* (Orchard, 2000), Lynne Cherry's *Great Kapok Tree* (Harcourt, 1990), and Scott Sanders's *Meeting Trees* (National Geographic, 1997) for an informative unit or display about these plants. Lucinda Snyder Whitehurst, St. Christopher's School, Richmond, VA Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Ages 5-8. In this picture-book-size introduction, Miller explains how trees take in nutrients, grow, and survive changes in their environment. Information is simply, succinctly, and effectively conveyed in a few sentences. Colorful, double-page-spread, gouache-and-acrylic illustrations show trees from regions around the world, which are identified in a picture glossary at the back of the book. One of the best illustrations captures the immensity of redwoods by angling the view downward from mid-trunk and showing a tiny figure standing at the base of the tree. The endpapers are decorated with a world map showing distribution of the trees. The map is somewhat misleading, however, as a tree such as the paper birch, which actually occupies a wide range, is shown only in one small area. Todd Morning Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Wonderful book for children. Learning about the importance of trees and the characteristics of trees is great for young children. This book not only teaches children about trees, but it also encourages children to take care and respect trees.

I love this book, perfect preschool to kindergarten story that includes diverse trees and children.

This is an outstanding book for elementary children learning about nature. In beautiful poetic language, it shows how trees and humans are alike. For example, it explains how bark protects the inside of a tree just like skin protects the inside of a person. The illustrations are lovely - rich and colorful and multicultural. Love this book!!

Beautifully illustrated, informative book. Highly recommended for grades K-2.

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