

Bibliography of Children’s Literature for Beginning Expository Writing

Using Literature to Support Your Writing Program

Writers of all ages are inspired by the work of other writers. An important component of any classroom writing program is the sharing of examples of writing by professional authors. You may wish to read these examples to the students and discuss them within the context of the genre being studied, or you may offer them as independent reading selections. While some students are reading independently, you can confer with others who need help during the editing and proofreading processes.

The following titles will be useful to the students as they explore the theme of rain forest plants and desert plants in the Expository Writing unit.

Berquist, Paul and Shirley. *Saguaro Cactus*. The life of the saguaro cactus is portrayed in wonderful photographs—from a tiny seed to an aged giant of 150 years. This book explains how this well-known cactus provides a home for many other desert creatures. A picture glossary gives additional facts about the plants and animals of the desert habitat.

Chinery, Michael. *Plants and Planteaters*. This book is filled with photographs and descriptions of the plants that live in the tropical rain forest and the animals that eat them. A helpful glossary is included as well as names, addresses, and Web sites of societies dedicated to preservation of the rain forest.

Cooper, Jason. *Cactus*. Different types of cactus plants along with their flowers and fruits are shown in colorful photographs. The desert habitat and the cactus’s adaptation to it are explained.

Fowler, Allan. *Cactuses*. This easy-to-read book explains why cactus plants can survive in the desert. Various kinds of cactuses are shown in photographs and described in the text. A picture glossary is included.

Johnson, Rebecca L. *A Walk in the Rain Forest*. The reader takes an imaginary walk through a tropical rain forest in this easy-to-read expository book. The appearance and habits of animals and plants in the rain forest are discussed and shown in excellent photographs.