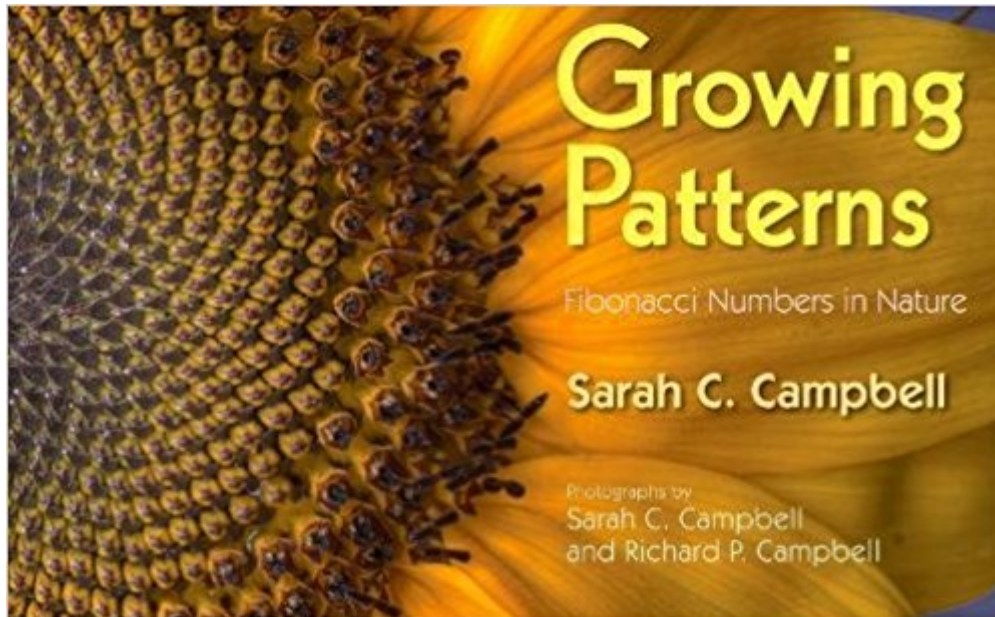




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Growing Patterns: Fibonacci Numbers In Nature



Synopsis

The biggest mathematical mystery in nature—Fibonacci numbers! Named after a famous mathematician, the number pattern is simple: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13. . . . Each number in the sequence comes from adding the two numbers before it. What's the mystery? The pattern crops up in the most unexpected places. You'll find it in the disk of a sunflower, the skin of a pineapple, and the spiral of a nautilus shell. No one knows how nature came up with the sequence. Sarah C. and Richard P. Campbell introduce the Fibonacci sequence through a series of stunning photographs in this ALA Notable Children's Book. Young readers will soon be seeing nature through new eyes, looking for Fibonacci numbers in daisies, pinecones, leaf patterns, seashells, and more.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 850 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Boyds Mills Press (March 1, 2010)

Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 31 customer reviews

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Age Range: 5 - 11 years

Grade Level: 1 - 6

Customer Reviews

Grade 3—6—•This slim, attractive volume makes clear the appearance and significance of Fibonacci numbers in nature, both through simple, precise explanations and eye-catching photographs. With plenty of white space and crisp images, the design of the book is appealing. Details about Fibonacci himself, other interesting mathematical concepts such as the "golden ratio," and a glossary are included. With such an obscure topic, this book may have a difficult time finding an audience, but math teachers looking to add an interesting element to a

lesson will find this a solid choice, and future mathematicians will be drawn into the magic and mystery of Fibonacci numbers. —Jody Kopple, Shady Hill School, Cambridge, MA (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

This book introduces the Fibonacci sequence, which begins 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13. Each new number is determined by adding the two preceding it. The presentation uses color photos of flowers with different numbers of petals to illustrate the beginning of the sequence, follows up with photographs highlighting the different spirals seen on pinecones, sunflowers, and pineapples, and includes a picture showing the chambers in a cut-away nautilus shell. The design of the first series of illustrations graphically expresses the Fibonacci sequence by beginning with very small photos and gradually increasing their size in proportion to the numbers in sequence. The book's intended audience is unclear. The short, simple text on some early pages ("This is a flowering quince. Count the petals.") will probably put off older readers, while young children may have difficulty even predicting the next number in the sequence, much less understanding the appended "More about Fibonacci Numbers" page. Though the Fibonacci sequence is seldom taught in elementary schools, teachers wanting to introduce it will find the basic ideas here, illustrated with attractive photos. Grades 2-5. --Carolyn Phelan

I bought this book to introduce the topic of Fibonacci patterns to my children (age 4 & 10). I'm fascinated by Fibonacci patterns but unfortunately everything that makes them interesting was left out of this book. For example, the book explains some things in nature have Fibonacci patterns but some things don't. It left my children very confused and asking why patterns with 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, etc parts are more important than things that have other patterns. This book ONLY introduces the fact that some patterns are Fibonacci. It doesn't explain why, what makes them significant, or anything that might peak a child's interest. My 4 year old, who LOVES all books, actually suggested we throw the book away. I don't recommend this book.

As a math geek, I really wanted to love this book. Unfortunately, I found it did not explain sequences and series very well. Great idea, the execution needs work.

My pre-school aged grandchildren enjoy both the colorful pictures and figuring out the math pattern as they look at the pictures and read about the pattern. I am a middle school math teacher and I

enjoyed reading the book to my middle school students during our recent unit on number patterns. This is the first "regular" book I've found that fits so well into the math curriculum. The book brings to life what would otherwise have been just another number pattern. This book helps bring math alive in beautiful pictures from nature. Many students don't see the beauty of math and science, and they don't see math in the everyday world. Growing Patterns can help change that. My school librarian and other math colleagues are eager to share this book with their students.

I love the book! Thanks for the quick delivery!

Good product, price, and service.

This is a beautiful book! I absolutely love the photographs and how they explain the mathematical concepts. If you're waffling about buying this, I'd say get it now, before it goes out of print.

Simple explanations and pictures for young children. Read this to my eight-year-old granddaughter in conjunction with BLOCKHEAD: The Life of Fibonacci, and it reinforces and enhances the concepts beautifully.

I've bought this book several times over for children in our extended family and for kids of friends. The photos make it really easy for them to visualize the math concepts and identify flowers that they might see in real life. Added bonus: the dimensions of the book are actual in the shape of the Golden Rectangle. Looking forward to more books from this talented team.

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