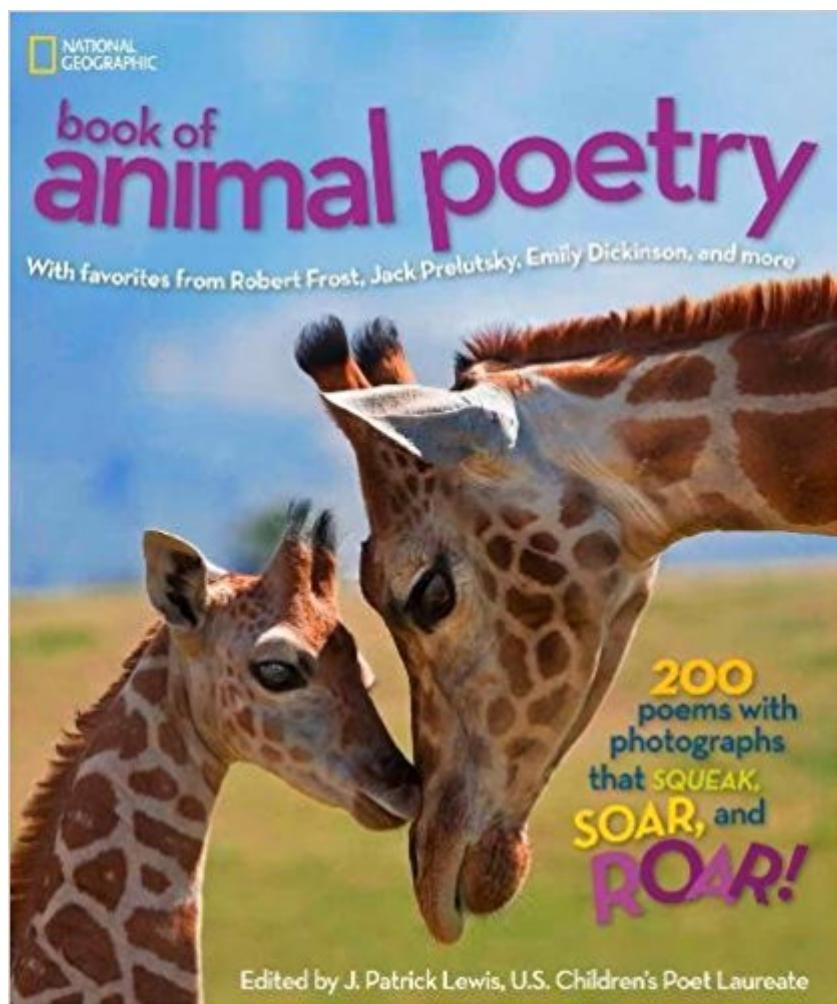


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# National Geographic Book Of Animal Poetry: 200 Poems With Photographs That Squeak, Soar, And Roar! (Stories & Poems)



## Synopsis

Named one of the Best Children's Books of 2012 by Kirkus Reviews!Named one of the top Children's Books of 2012 by the New York Public Library!"Add a little natural wonder to your poetry shelves. Because if we're talking about the best possible compliment to your eyes and ears alike, few have as many perks and grand moments as this." •School Library Journal starred review"Out of a windless August night/A luna moth in ghostly lightBeat softly on my window screen/Tick-tick-ticking-all silver green.She whispered secrets in my ear--/I am but a stranger here.The stars are scrawled across the sky/By ghostwriters, the Moon and I.You will not see me here tonight--/I have a thousand stars to write."What could be better than cuddling up with your child and this book on your lap and allowing your imaginations to soar with the words and images? Lovingly selected by U.S. Children's Poet Laureate J. Patrick Lewis and paired with vibrant animal photography, this collection of poems is an exuberant celebration of the animal kingdom and a beautiful introduction to this genre of literature. Designed for family sharing but targeted to ages 4-8, this dynamic, fresh, yet still classic collection of animal poems is a must-have for the family bookshelf.Featured poets include J. Patrick Lewis, Dorothy Aldis, Emily Dickinson, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Frost, Rudyard Kipling, Jack Prelutsky, Elizabeth Madox Roberts, Robert Louis Stevenson, Alfred, Lord Tennyson, and many more.Divided into chapters that group the poems by theme for extra resonance, the collection is a mix of old and new, classics, and never-before-published. A foreword from Lewis, sets the scene for helping children appreciate this gift of language and this visual feast for the eyes. Chapters include: Welcome to the World (birth of animal young) Big Ones (large animals--elephants, hippos, rhinos, bears) Little Ones (small animals--worms, insects) Winged Ones (birds and other flying creatures) Water Ones (aquatic animals--fish, dolphins, crabs) Strange Ones (curious creatures--armadillos, centipedes) Noisy Ones (loud animals--lions, hyenas) Quiet Ones (silent or still animals--hens, rabbits, snakes) Last Thought (a reflection on the world we share with animals)Releases simultaneously in Reinforced Library Binding: 978-1-4263-1054-6 , \$28.90/\$33.00 CanNational Geographic supports K-12 educators with ELA Common Core Resources.Visit [www.natgeoed.org/commoncore](http://www.natgeoed.org/commoncore) for more information.Â

## Book Information

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 1-5  Well-chosen poems are paired with breathtaking photos of the featured creatures, many depicted in their natural habitats. Entries vary from playful to thought-provoking, and the mixture of word and visual image is potent. Providing creative perspectives on critters from polliwogs to panthers, egrets to elephants, these selections will inspire youngsters to try penning an animal ode. © Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Named Best Poetry Book of 2012 by Bank Street Books! Named one of the Best Children's Books of 2012 by Kirkus Reviews! Named one of the top Children's Books of 2012 by the New York Public Library! Named one of the 100 Magnificent Children's Books of 2012 by Fuse 8! CYBILS' Poetry Finalist "Add a little natural wonder to your poetry shelves. Because if we're talking about the best possible compliment to your eyes and ears alike, few have as many perks and grand moments as this."  School Library Journal starred review  "Gorgeous, full-bleed photographs of wild and domesticated animals accompany animal-focused poems ranging from classic works to the writings of modern children  poets.  Publisher Weekly starred review  "A well-stirred mix of old and recent limericks, haiku, short lyrics, shaped poems and free verse  A spectacular collection  Kirkus Reviews starred review  "I can't think of a finer holiday gift ... This large, generously illustrated book provides a feast for the eye and animal-loving heart.  The Boston Sunday

Globe&Mail "Stunning photographs and 200 poems &#8226; squeak, soar and roar&#8226; in this bountiful bestiary that&#8226; is a delight for eyes and ears alike.&#8226; • New York Public Library&#8226; "The poems are well chosen and include rhyming, free verse, and shape poetry... This selection is sure to turn any animal lover into a poetry lover.&#8226; • Provo Library&#8226; "Lewis has carefully chosen classic and contemporary poems for their array of styles and moods."&#8226; • Children&#8226; Literature Comprehensive Database&#8226; "The perfect keepsake gift for little animal lover on your Christmas list.&#8226; • The Review Wire&#8226; "What could be better than cuddling up with your child and this book on your lap and allowing your imaginations to soar with the words and images?&#8226; • Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast"Resonate[s] with wonder at the variety, beauty and strangeness of the animal world." --Iowa Press-Citizen"The poems resonate with wonder at the variety, beauty and strangeness of the animal world." --The Iowa Gazette&#8226; "Stunning photographs combine with wonderful poems to create a family treasure of all to share,&#8226; • Patch.com"Take poems by Robert Frost, Emily Dickinson and others, add photos by National Geographic and you've got the spectacular Book of Animal Poetry."&#8226; • Redding.com

I am a self-proclaimed poetry snob, and thus find most books of poetry intended for young children to be less than ideal. This book-- National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry-- is the exact opposite of what I've found in most children's poetry books. This book is stunning, with a beautiful selection of poetry AND photographs that make the reader cry, smile, laugh, and sigh. Incredible. The book is organized into nine chapters of poetry and photography, and then also has an epilogue section with reference materials included. ALL chapters include a wide variety of poetry, including classic lyric poetry, haiku, free verse, and concrete poems. Every page has somewhere between one and three poems, as well as gorgeous National Geographic photos. Chapter 1-- "Welcome to the World"-- five poems about the beginnings of life Chapter 2-- "the big ones"-- twenty-nine poems about big animals-- elephants, moose, horses, cows, gorillas, etc. Chapter 3-- "the little ones"-- thirty-two poems about small animals-- insects, arachnids, small mammals, etc. Chapter 4-- "the winged ones"-- twenty-eight poems about winged animals-- eagles, bats, hummingbirds, etc. Chapter 5-- "the water ones"-- twenty-five poems about animals in water-- sharks, oysters, alligators, etc. Chapter 6-- "the strange ones"-- twenty-eight poems about odd animals-- anteaters, porcupines, eels, etc. Chapter 7-- "the noisy ones"-- twenty-four poems about animals that make a lot of noise-- pigs, frogs, big cats, etc. Chapter 8-- "the quiet ones"-- twenty-three poems about quiet animals-- moths, panther, snakes, etc. Chapter 9-- "Final Thought"-- four poems about taking care of animals

and the earthThat's 200 poems, with almost the same number of photos, that capture the beauty, the quirkiness, the power, the vulnerability, and the incredible diversity of animals that surround us on our amazing planet.This is a book of which I will be ordering additional copies to give as gifts to my many nieces and nephews. It is a treasure!

I think I have turned into my mother. The way she feels compelled to buy 5 pairs of the same favorite pants (just in case she can't find them later on) or an extra few boxes of candy (just in case she needs a last-minute Christmas gift), I now have multiple copies of this book. It is the perfect all-purpose gift book--a "welcome to the world" gift for brand-new babies, birthday presents for kids who love poetry (and especially those who don't), "just because" presents for adult friends who love photography. (I have some poems in this 200-poem masterwork--and I am so proud to be in it!!)

This book is chockfull of poems--a poetical bang for one's buck, which I like very much. There have been a lot of books of animal poems over the years (e.g., Eric Carle's collection, *Animals Animals*), but some genius finally came up with the idea of pairing photos from National Geographic's vast collection with an anthology of poems, in this case one created by our current US Children's Poet Laureate. While many of the poems are from the past, by poets such as Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, and Ogden Nash, more recent and current poets are also well represented. The poems are grouped in nicely parallel sections. After a brief set of introductory poems called "Welcome to the World," sections proceed as follows: "The Big Ones," "The Little Ones," "The Winged Ones," "The Water Ones," "The Strange Ones," "The Noisy Ones," and "The Quiet Ones." A section of four poems called "Final Thought" concludes the book. The fact that there are sections about noisy and quiet animals endeared the book to me even while I was still in the table of contents. But really, how do we judge a collection like this? Probably by looking at the overall qualities of the poems and the ways in which they represent their subjects. Variety of styles, voices, and ideas is important. Another consideration is the fit between illustrations and text. This book meets the criteria. For one thing, we get more than one take on certain animals. For example, the book offers four poems about elephants on a left-hand page with a really great photo of an elephant on the right--the photo, labeled "Asian elephant" in very tiny letters at the lower left, shows an elephant in a pond with green hills behind, tossing water onto his head with his trunk. The most well-known and oft-anthologized poem on the spread is "Eletelephony" by Laura E. Richards ("Once there was an elephant/Who tried to use the telephant--/No! No! I mean an elephone/Who tried to use the telephone..."). The other three poems are brief: an anonymous quatrain that has probably been around awhile

comments on the "great big trunk" that "has no lock and has no key," but is carried everywhere by the animal. It is accompanied by two modern poems, another quatrain and a haiku. Of course, not every animal gets more than one poem. The variety of poems--and animals--is just right, however. I'll list two subjects from each section to give you an idea: cow and orangutan, ladybug and lizard, bat and hummingbird, starfish and walrus, armadillo and blue-footed booby, pig and raccoon, Luna moth and sloth. Some of the poems are silly and others are serious. The best poem in the book is arguably Lewis's own, a poem so comprehensive and gorgeous that it rightfully introduces the collection. Only you might miss it if you're not careful: it's printed on the front cover beneath the dust jacket. The poem is titled "Instructions Found After the Flood," and I'll give you just the first seven lines (of 19). Let the red fox quicken the seasons. Let the zebra buck and clatter in the cage of his skin. Leave the glass lagoons to the blue heron, whose eye is steady. Let jungles whisper jaguar, whose paw is velvet. Let the worm explore the globe, his apple. Let the spider embroider the air. Let tongue and belly be called reptile. You see what I mean? This poem, like the collection, is deeply satisfying. Not every anthology is as rich as National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry, but every public and school library and, I hope, personal library needs this book.

my four grandchildren were born in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006. one, not the eldest, just completed Moby Dick. another, younger yet, just completed Never Kill a Mockingbird. a current favorite of my youngest yet is this outstanding collection of poems and images. prospective customers, please do your best to give your children and grandchildren books like this one, books like those within the series Poetry For Young People, books like those within the DK series, books rated five stars by most other ians. once in a while a dud may disappoint you; but on balance you will be richly rewarded.  for life.

I bought this for my six year old granddaughter, who loves animals. When it arrived at my house, I fell in love with it. The pictures are superb! And the poems are delightful! Since my granddaughter doesn't live close, I don't know how much she has read it, but from my point of view it is a quality purchase!

Another wonderful anthology of poetry for the classroom! The poems and accompanying photographs are delightful. My fourth grade students love sharing poetry aloud with the class. Our science teacher has borrowed this book to use in teaching a unit on adaptions. Loved by all!

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