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Over And Under The Snow



Synopsis

Over the snow, the world is hushed and white. But under the snow lies a secret world of squirrels and snow hares, bears and bullfrogs, and many other animals making their winter home under the snow. This beloved nonfiction picture book exploring the subnivean zone reveals the tunnels and caves formed beneath the snow but over the ground, where many kinds of animals live through the winter, safe and warm, awake and busy, but hidden beneath the snow.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 600 (What's this?)

Paperback: 44 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 74 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #76,882 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #84 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Weather #1369 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works #3975 in Books > Children's Books > Animals

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

Gliding through the woodland on skis, a girl and her father watch for signs of animals. A squirrel's tail flashes red as he disappears down a crack in the snow. A fox steps into view. Guided by her father, the child becomes increasingly aware of "the secret kingdom beneath the snow," where voles pass through tunnels, bullfrogs sleep in mud, and a queen bee hibernates in the ground. A few appended pages offer more information about the animals mentioned and recommend books and websites for further reading. Neal's artwork, mixed media with digital elements, uses the white snow to isolate images of the people, animals, and trees within the natural setting. Cutaway views show what is happening beneath the snow as well as on its surface. Reminiscent of linocut prints, the illustrations have a retro look that suits Messner's precisely worded, effective story. A good choice for winter reading, this quiet but

eye-opening picture book could heighten a child's awareness of the natural world.

Preschool-Grade 3. --Carolyn Phelan --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"Utterly charming, and informative, to boot." - Kirkus Reviews "Kate Messier... weaves a nature lesson" - USA Today "Beautifully rendered" - The Horn Book Magazine, starred review "[A] lovely study of the ways animals spend the winter." - Publishers Weekly, starred review "Throughout the book, Neal's crisp, clean mixed-media illustrations cleverly provide above- and belowground views, and Messner's back material will educate children about the subnivean zone and animal adaptations" - School Library Journal "Messner packs much information into the serene wintry landscape, beautifully captured in Neal's stunning retro-style illustrations." - The New York Times "This book depicting beauty in nature is a gem... Anyone looking for a picture book that also teaches science will love this title" - Library Media Connecton, Starred Review Marion Vannett Ridgway Book Award Winner: Illustration 2012 "This book depicting beauty in nature is a gem... Anyone looking for a picture book that also teaches science will love this title" - Library Media Connecton, Starred Review

I bought a couple books on animals in winter BUT those books ended up really being about animals in fall preparing for winter (which is NOT what I needed). I bought some books on animals living in the arctic or antarctic, but that is not really what I wanted for the winter season. THEN I found "Over and Under the Snow." This book is actually about animal behavior in winter (not preparing for winter during autumn). The animals tunnel and eat under the snow, footprints reveal where animals wondered or slept above ground, predators pounce through the snow to catch prey, and others hibernate till spring. The back of the book has further details on the animals. My only complaint is that the father and daughter have very different skin tones. It makes the father look ghostly and not alive in comparison to the daughter. This was not a big enough issue to lose the book a star.

Wonderful story about the secret happenings under the winter snow while a little girl and her father ski home through the woods. My boys love to see what the critters are doing beneath the snow!

A must have for your children's library. An engaging combination of a story mixed with science. Beautiful illustrations. Perfect read before taking a walk in the snow.

A favorite. Beautiful soft muted colors, a perfect woodland/winter book. Teaches where animals live

in the winter and there is even information in the back of the book about how animals survive in the winter. Also gives a book guide for further reading. How great, love when a book is both educational and beautiful.

This is an interesting children's book about the animals who live underneath the snow, in pockets of warmer air, waiting for spring's warmth. I never heard of the subnivean zone before, so I learned something from this book.

I was expecting a very different book. It wasn't cute or clever. The science seems to be accurate, but a child who is interested in common wild animals may not learn anything that she does not already know. The illustrations are all in the same style as the cover, and are nice drawings but not extremely nice drawings. So I cannot tell you that the book is extra special for this reason or that reason. But I also found absolutely nothing that disappointed me. Everything about the book, pictures, information, storyline, was competently done and pleasant. I expect to enjoy this book for years, and probably would have enjoyed having it read to me from second or third grade on, and enjoyed reading it by myself a few years later.

Five star

The questions of young children on deep-snow, cold winter days are answered in this book. Where are the animals? Where are the plants? Beautifully "winterized" illustrations are a plus in this book. It would make a wonderful science lesson for primary to middle grade children.

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