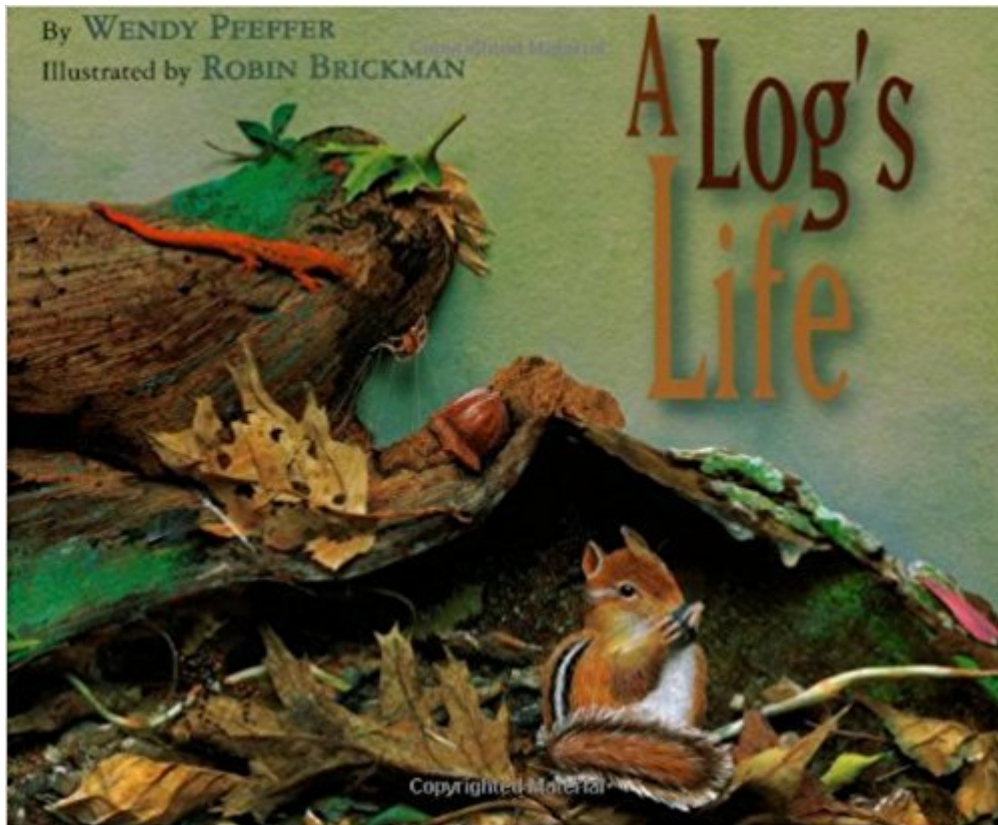




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A Log's Life



Synopsis

One stormy day a strong wind rages through the forest, causing an old oak tree to bend and sway. Lightning strikes; the tree crashes to the ground. Now it's a giant log. In this fascinating book, author Wendy Pfeffer and illustrator Robin Brickman introduce readers to the life cycle of a tree. The informative, lyrical text is complemented by stunning, three-dimensional paper sculptures that showcase the forest ecosystem, inspiring readers to take a close look at the trees -- and logs -- in their own backyards.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Aladdin; Reprint edition (March 6, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416934839

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Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.3 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #89,925 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Forests & Trees #57 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Earth Sciences #67 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Environment & Ecology

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 3. An attractive introduction to the life, death, and decay of an oak tree. The simple, informative text presents the complex cast of characters residing in or on the living tree as well as the decomposing log?from woodpeckers, squirrels, and porcupines to carpenter ants, millipedes, slugs, and fungi. The verbal descriptions of this rich ecosystem are enhanced by striking illustrations of three-dimensional paper sculptures, often so realistic as to seem to be preserved natural specimens. Although this ground has been covered in Alvin Tresselt's *The Gift of the Tree* (Lothrop, 1992), a reincarnation of *The Dead Tree* (Atheneum, 1972; o.p.); and James Newton's *Forest Log* (Crowell, 1980; o.p.), Pfeffer's gentle, lucid text and Brickman's superb illustrations

certainly merit inclusion in most collections. ?Patricia Manning, formerly at Eastchester Public Library, NY Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Wendy Pfeffer is the author of several children's books, including *Polar Bears* and *From Tadpole to Frog*, as well as numerous articles and stories for magazines. Her full-time writing career includes teaching writing to adults and children. She previously taught first grade, and was the founding director for a nursery school. She lives in Pennington, New Jersey, with her husband, Tom. Robin Brickman has illustrated many children's books, including *One Night in the Coral Sea* and *Beaks!*, by Sneed B. Collard III. To create three-dimensional illustrations for *A Log's Life* she painted watercolor paper, then cut, hand shaped, and glued the various pieces together. Ms. Brickman lives in western Massachusetts. Visit her website at www.robinbrickman.com to learn about the Community Mural Project based on this book.

Annually, I lead the 1st grade students of a primary school in PA on woodland ecology walks. One of the main focal points of our explorations is uncovering the treasures (amphibians, insects, etc.) hidden beneath the fallen logs on the forest floor. This book provides a very nice intro to the cycle of an oak tree, from seedling, to mature tree, to the decomposition of the fallen tree, as a log, which enriches the soil for the next generation of oak seedlings. It also wonderfully illustrates the diversity of life that contributes to the log's breakdown and the creatures that depend on the micro-habitat of a fallen log for their survival. The artwork is wonderfully intricate, yet accessible to the children I read it to.

Beautiful book. The pictures are gorgeous. The storyline is wonderful as well. We haven't used it in our homeschool as yet, but I've read through the book and it is the perfect book for k-2 or so to learn about the life of a log.

This book has become a favorite. The illustrations are stunning and make the story come to life. Perfect book for children who love exploring nature and those who homeschool.

A Log's Life is full of wonder for those who are shy about being out doors. It's challenging and stimulating for the non-adventurer. Discovery of the smallest habitats is what awaits the reader and explorer of what appears to be just an old tree. Beautifully illustrated and simple to read, but a

powerful message about how we are all connected in the grand circle of life.

Prior to this book it was difficult to get my son to sit through a book about anything other than trucks and cars ("Mighty Machines"). This book has drastically increased my 3 year old son's interest in nature and has encouraged him to get outdoors. Love it!

Gave these to our two schools for Arbor Day.

Highly detailed, up-close and beautiful illustrations and text that tells the amazing story of the lifecycle of a tree and all the animals and life forms it supports when it falls as a log. A beautiful book!

I use this book when I teach about the life cycle of butterflies and frogs. I think it is great for kids to know everything has cycle.

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