

Keeping Lakes in the Family

Sharing the Magic Through Stories

Compiled by Lynn Markham, Center for Land Use Education, UW-Stevens Point

What A Fish Wants, What A Fish Needs

This year's children's book recommendations focus on things fish need: food, shelter, maybe even another fish to love. Trees in lakes are a home, safe haven, nursery and bountiful buffet for fish and many other creatures in a healthy lake.



Bluegills

Ages 8+

Written by Elie Hart, Lynn Markham, Justin Sipiorski and Jonathan Stoffregren

Illustrated by Justin Sipiorski

Photos from Engbretson Underwater Photography

What is a bluegill? Where do they live; what do they eat; and what do they need to survive? This book will help you better understand bluegills and give you some ideas on where and how to find these beautiful sunfish!



Bluegills is the first volume in Cornerstone Press's new Freshwater Fish Series, produced in collaboration with Extension Lakes and the Wisconsin Center for Land Use Education.

Fish Hotels

Ages 8-12+

Written by Lynn Markham

What are fish hotels? Why do fish live in fallen trees; what benefits do they provide; how can we create fish hotels? This 20-page, non-fiction booklet explains how we can help fish by leaving trees in our lakes.

Bluegills and Fish Hotels are available from the Extension Lakes bookstore:

uwsp.edu/uwexplakes

What's It Like to Be a Fish?

Ages 4-8

Written by Wendy Pfeffer

Illustrated by Holly Keller

You can't breathe underwater, but a fish can. You can't eat underwater, but a fish does it every day. This classic picture book features graceful text that invites young readers to imagine what it's like to have gills, fins, and scales.

One Frozen Lake

Ages 3-7

Written by Deborah Jo Larson

Illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher

After walking across a frozen lake one morning, a boy and his grandfather make holes in the ice, drop their fishing lines into the water, and wait. After five hours, they move into a heated canvas shack and try again. They share hot cocoa with friends, but, "Seven hours pass. Not one fish." Packing up at nine o'clock, they reel in a line and catch a fish. That would be a happy ending, but Larson trumps it with an even better one. The artwork transports readers to the unusual setting, which children might find difficult to imagine on their own. An inviting introduction to a rarely written about activity.

