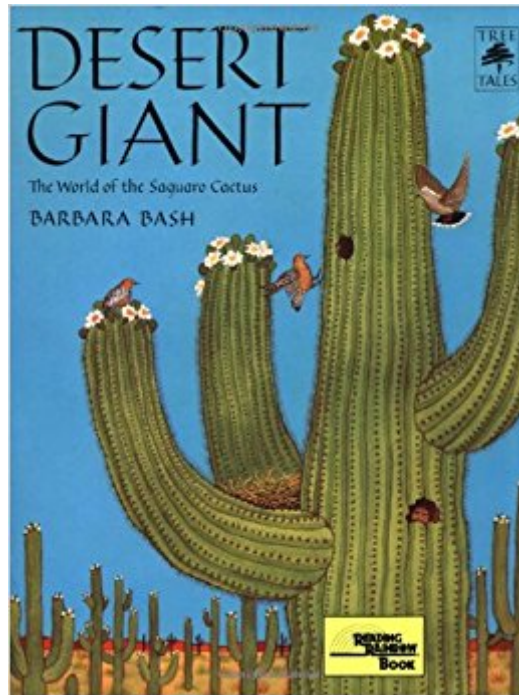




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Desert Giant: The World Of The Saguaro Cactus (Tree Tales)



Synopsis

A venerable saguaro cactus stands like a statue in the hot desert landscape, its armlike branches reaching fifty feet into the air. From a distance it appears to be completely still and solitary--but appearances can be deceptive. In fact, this giant tree of the desert is alive with activity. Its spiny trunk and branches are home to a surprising number of animals, and its flowers and fruit feed many desert dwellers. Gila woodpeckers and miniature elf owls make their homes inside the saguaro's trunk. Long-nosed bats and fluttering white doves drink the nectar from its showy white flowers. People also play a role in the saguaro's story: each year the Tohono O'odham Indians gather its sweet fruit in a centuries-old harvest ritual. In this first volume of Sierra Club Books' Tree Tales series, a simple, easy-to-read text and appealing drawings document the life cycle of this amazing cactus tree and the creatures it helps to support. Readers will come away with a better understanding of and a lasting respect for this accomodating giant of the desert.

Book Information

Series: Tree Tales

Paperback: 28 pages

Publisher: Sierra Club Books for Children (September 6, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1578050855

ISBN-13: 978-1578050857

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #260,847 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #75 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Forests & Trees](#) #112 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Flowers & Plants](#) #354 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment](#)

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

These giant denizens of the Sonoran desert--and the multitudinous life forms they sustain or affect--are depicted in vivid text and paintings. Ages 6-10. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 1-6 A lap-size book with colorful, detailed illustrations that complement clear text descriptive of the life cycle of a saguaro cactus and its uses by and contributions to southwestern desert dwellersinsect, reptile, animal, and human. Bash is informative without oversimplification or hyperscientificism. For pictorial and topic information, Desert Giant is comparable to Patricia Lauber's Life on a Giant Cactus (Garrard, 1974), and superior to Anita Holmes' The 100-Year-Old Cactus (Four Winds, 1983). It contains a delightful sequence showing how desert Indians harvest and use saguaro fruitnot mentioned in either of the other books. A handsome addition to books on this subject. George Gleason, Department of English, Southwest Missouri State University, SpringfieldCopyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I do love non fiction books for kids. It always impress me how author van give too much knowledge in such a creative and simple way. The illustrations are very pretty and helps the child to understand the lines. It is very good educational/ learning tool for a parent and teachers. I do recommend it a lot!

Wonderful book with lots of Saguaro biology. We read this before we took our 3.5 year old to Arizona on vacation. After reading about the saguaro cactus he was so excited to see them in person!

Good illustrations, which is why I bought it. I'm doing a desert coloring book and wanted some illustrations. This is a children's book.

Excellent book to accompany an art project!!!

It is very instructive.

Well written factual book about the saguaro cactus and its life cycle. Used with Kindergartners, it was a new book in our curriculum and will continue to use it throughout the years.

excellent book. Much better then I anticipated. Another very usable resource book for my library and meets a variety of age ranges.

We used this book in our 2nd grade class as a reader and for our science class on plants. We wanted to look at desert plants. Then we used it again in our next science subject which was on mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Children loved the beautiful art work.

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