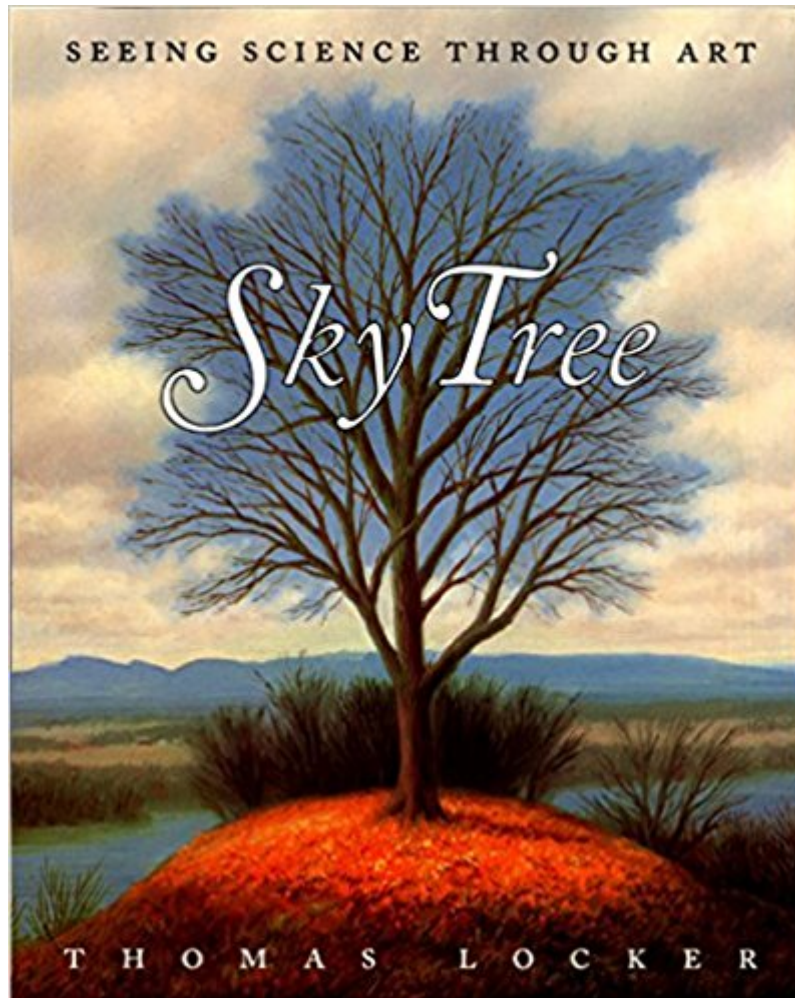




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Sky Tree: Seeing Science Through Art



Synopsis

In spring, a snapping turtle lays her eggs on the hillside beneath the tree. In autumn, leaves fall as squirrels scamper up the trunk carrying nuts. And on a winter night, a backdrop of twinkling stars shines through the branches. Each day, the tree changes with the purple and pink of a sunset or a nip of cold air. But the tree is more than a thing of beautyâits changes represent the passage of time in nature. In this stunning book by Thomas Locker, who was seven years old when he won his first award for a painting of a tree that still stands in the National Zoo, exquisite paintings and wondrous text are paired with questions about nature, and science comes alive through art.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 560 (What's this?)

Series: Seeing Science Through Art

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins (August 7, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064437507

ISBN-13: 978-0064437509

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #73,369 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Forests & Trees #287 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art #477 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Technology

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

Science and art appreciation join forces in this unusual variation on the theme of changing seasons. Accomplished oil paintings in a high romantic style show a single tree and its surroundings in transition-in deep winter or at the peak of autumn, for example. Quasi-surrealistic scenes of clouds, birds and stars filling bare winter branches challenge the reader to imagine the tree interacting with the sky and its inhabitants, and to ponder the liberties representational artists may take.

Accompanying text lightly points out incremental changes in atmosphere and their effects, and each

image is paired also with a question or two directly addressing the reader ("Why does this painting make you feel sad? Is the tree dying?

Grade 1-3?In his familiar lyrical style, Locker depicts the same tree throughout the seasons, but with a startling visual effect that will make readers sit up and take notice. After its leaves have dropped, the tree's bare branches are "clothed" in the same shape by being limned against clouds, holes in clouds, different skies, and even a flock of birds. The effect is as lovely as anything the artist has ever done. Each painting faces a brief appreciative caption printed in slightly enlarged type, plus a question designed to elicit responses to what viewers see (and further discussion in an appendix). However, some of the questions are leading ("Why does this painting make you feel sad?"), and the prose is less than careful: "By the end of the day many leaves began to fall, first one and then another." Text and pictures do not always correlate either; despite reference to "the weight of the heavy snow," the tree opposite "Snows [sic] fell" shows only a dusting. Though appealing in several ways?Locker adds analytical comments about color and composition that are particularly illuminating?the writing here is not up to the standard set by the art.?John Peters, New York Public LibraryCopyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Great images, very good condition.

The art in this book is incredible. A friend of mine had commented about this being one of her favorite books, but she had never purchased it. Her birthday was a few days later, so I immediately ordered it for her. She was thrilled.

This is an absolutely beautiful book. I read it to my 2nd Grade class during our Life Cycles unit on Trees. The illustrations are unbelievable. Thomas Locker books are all wonderful, but this was my favorite. It was great to connect Science and Art.

beautifully illustrated! It shows the tree through different seasons and times of day. All of Thomas Locker's books are lovely.

Great service and a good book. Thank you.

A neat book. Really makes you look at trees and how they change as their environment around them also changes.

Gift

i teach 4-yr-olds---have shared this book w/ them, other teachers, and friends, esp. those who are artists.the paintings are lovely, the science is goodthe best thing about this book is the opportunity to share, to read and discuss w/ loved ones, esp. young ones

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