The Blueberry Awards honor literature that best supports kids' connection to and stewardship of the Earth in a given year. Blueberry Changemakers foster concrete action for the planet!

2022 BLUEBERRY COMMITTEE: SALLY BATTLE, BETSY BIRD, BEA ECHEVERRÍA, MARTHA MEYER, BRIDGET PETRITES, JULIE RAND, BRIAN WILSON, KIM DAUFELDT, CARA PRATT, ETHAN JOHNSON
Think trees can’t communicate? Think again. Trees have a whole underground system of sending nutrients, messages, and even alarm signals to one another. You’ll never look at a tree the same way again.

Listen to the Language of the Trees: A Story of How Forests Communicate Underground

By Tera Kelley
Illustrated by Marie Hermansson

Agatha May and the Anglerfish

By Nora Morrison & Jessie Ann Foley
Illustrated by Mika Song

When a daydream-prone student is allowed to research her favorite creature, the anglerfish, she dazzles her classmates and teacher with her report!

Building

By Henry Cole

What other animal alters habitats to suit its needs? A beautifully rendered look at everyday beaver life as they build the structures that help the ecosystems around them.

Climb On!

By Baptiste Paul
Illustrated by Jacqueline Alcántara

What’s a kid to do when dad wants to watch TV on a beautiful day? Get ready to climb the highest mountain and to scale the steepest paths. A hiking book with a view to remember.
THE COQUIES STILL SING: A STORY OF HOME, HOPE AND REBUILDING
BY KARINA NICOLE GONZÁLEZ  ILLUSTRATED BY KRYSYL QUILES
Co-qui, co-qui! The coqui frogs sing to Elena from her family’s beloved mango tree—their calls so familiar that they might be singing, “You are home.” But home is suddenly not safe when a hurricane threatens. A story of natural and human resilience.

MAYBE YOU MIGHT
BY IMOGENE FOXELL  ILLUSTRATED BY ANNE CUNHA
A young girl makes a choice to plant a seed by a long dead riverbed. Little does she know that from this single, small act, a vibrant ecosystem will grow. This inspiring poem - bursting with hope for a greener world - is a love letter to our ailing planet.

ODD BIRDS: MEET NATURE’S WEIRDEST FLOCK
BY LAURA GEHL  ILLUSTRATED BY GARETH LUCAS (BOARD BOOK)
Meet nature’s oddballs in this charming board book about some of the most unique birds in the world.

UNCLE JOHN’S CITY GARDEN
BY BERNETTE G. FORD  ILLUSTRATED BY FRANK MORRISON
When the projects are built, a single plot remains. So Uncle John and his nieces and nephew set about bringing it to life with delicious food. A smart, touching memoir to a real life garden.

POETRY

SERENGETI: PLAINS OF GRASS
BY LESLIE BULION  ILLUSTRATED BY BECCA STADTLANDER
“Parched soil bed of volcano ash / roots asleep in a tangled mesh.” Lyrical poetry brings to vibrant life the interconnectedness of insects, plants, and animals in a singular ecosystem. Evocative and informative.

WAIT - AND SEE
BY HELEN FROST  PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICK LIEDER
“If a quick small movement takes you by surprise,/ stop and look - move nothing but your eyes.” Jaw-dropping photography accompanies a delicate poem following the life of an ever patient praying mantis.
**GRAPHIC NOVEL**

**LITTLE MONARCHS**  
*BY JONATHAN CASE*

This graphic novel adventure tells the story of 10-year-old Elvie and her crucial mission to save humanity from extinction after a sun shift has changed life on earth as we know it.

**FICTION**

**BEE AND FLEA AND THE COMPOST CAPER**  
*BY ANNA HUMPHREY  ILLUSTRATED BY MIKE DEAS*

Bee is bored. She wants to do more than just collect pollen all day, so when Flea hires her to join her investigation into the local compost heap, she’s on board. A magnificent deep dive (literally) into the ecosystem of compost and soil.

**THE FIRST RULE OF CLIMATE CLUB**  
*BY CARRIE FIRESTONE*

When twelve-year-old Mary Kate joins a special science pilot program focused on climate change, she and her friends come up with big plans to bring lasting change to their community.

**ODDER**  
*BY KATHERINE APPLEGATE  ILLUSTRATED BY CHARLES SANTOSO*

A little otter needs help! He needs to go to an animal rehabilitation center after a scary incident with a shark. This moving free verse novel is from Odder’s otter point of view.

**NONFICTION PICTURE BOOKS**

**BEWARE THE BURMESE PYTHONS AND OTHER INVASIVE SPECIES**  
*BY ETTA KANER & PHIL NICHOLLS*

A kid-friendly introduction to invasive animal species that explores how they get to new ecosystems and the damage they cause. Fun, eye-catching formats, ranging from comic strips to posters to newspaper articles highlight what scientists are currently doing to help.
**GOOD EATING: THE SHORT LIFE OF KRILL**  
By Matt Lilley  
Illustrated by Dan Tavis  
Follow the Antarctic krill from blobby egg to shrimplike maturity, where they are surrounded by “krillions” of fellow crustaceans and a few hungry-looking seals, penguins, and whales. The author makes hilarious observations on successive growth stages, bioluminescence, and this keystone species’ role in the Southern Ocean’s food chain.

**HELLO, PUDDLE**  
By Anita Sanchez  
Illustrated by Luisa Uribe  
Watch various animals, big and small, interact with a little puddle. Great for young readers and includes extensive back matter.

**HIDDEN ANIMAL COLORS**  
By Jane Park  
From brilliant green eggs to pink sweat and blue blood, the natural world loves a hidden surprise. Check out these creatures and critters, captured on film, and perfect for read-alouds.

**HONEYBEE RESCUE - A BACKYARD DRAMA**  
By Loree Griffin Burns  
Photography by Ellen Harasimowicz  
Follow honeybee rescuer Mr. Nelson as he expertly removes a colony of bees from Mr. Connery’s barn (with a vacuum!) and helps it relocate back to a hive. Nature lovers and scientists-to-be will learn ways to keep honeybees (and our ecosystem) safe.

**THE LONGEST JOURNEY: AN ARCTIC TERN’S MIGRATION**  
By Amy Hevron  
Follow the epic annual migration of an Arctic Tern on its sixty-thousand-mile journey to the South Pole and back again, the longest such migration in the animal kingdom.

**A RIVER’S GIFTS: THE MIGHTY ELWAHA RIVER REBORN**  
By Patricia Newman  
Illustrated by Natasha Donovan  
When the Elwha River was dammed up it not only decimated the salmon population but flooded the lands of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. So what happens when you remove the dams? A powerful story of activism and nature’s recovery.
OPERATION PANGOLIN: SAVING THE WORLD’S ONLY SCALED MAMMAL
BY SUZI ESZTERHAS
Join author and photographer Suzi Eszterhas in the jungles of Vietnam where Thai Nguyen works with the Save Vietnam’s Wildlife organization to save endangered pangolins.

REWILDING: BRINGING WILDLIFE BACK WHERE IT BELONGS
BY DAVID E. STEEN   ILLUSTRATION BY CHIARA FEDELE
Rewilding means returning animals or plants to places where they used to live. Meet the scientists determined to create a greener future – and the animals returning to ecosystems.

SAVE THE PEOPLE! HALTING HUMAN EXTINCTION
BY STACY McANULTY   ART BY NICOLE MILES
This book delivers an action-packed look at past extinctions and current threats to humanity’s survival -- with the ultimately reassuring message that humans probably have a few more millennia in us.

THE SNOWY OWL SCIENTIST (SCIENTISTS IN THE FIELD SERIES)
BY MARK WILSON
Venture into the Alaskan arctic and the summer realm of these gorgeous raptors! Discover the diverse species necessary to owl survival, how climate change is affecting the landscape of their nesting sites of past millennia, and what it takes to do field research in the frigid tundra.
FASHION FORWARD: STRIVING FOR SUSTAINABLE STYLE
BY RAINA DELISLE
Go behind the glitz and glamor of the fashion industry to explore a little more deeply the social and environmental implications of your latest pair of new shoes or jeans.

LION LIGHTS: MY INVENTION THAT MADE PEACE WITH LIONS
BY RICHARD TURERE AND SHELLY POLLOCK
ILLUSTRATED BY SONIA POSSENTINI
Richard grew up in Kenya, protecting his Maasai family’s cattle from the lions wandering at night from the nature reserve. Using salvaged components, he surrounded the cattle stockade with blinking lights, and it worked! His invention, Lion Lights, is now used in Africa, Asia, and South America to protect farm animals from protected and endangered predators.

MAKE WAY FOR ANIMALS!: A WORLD OF WILDLIFE CROSSINGS
BY MEEG PINCUS
ILLUSTRATED BY BAO LUU
Take a tour of wildlife crossings across the globe, from grassy badger bridges to underpasses for elephants. Discover how these inventive pathways have saved both animal and human lives and helped preserve ecosystems.

OUR GREEN CITY
BY TANYA LLOYD KYI
ILLUSTRATED BY COLLEEN LARMOUR
A charming, child-friendly tour around an ideal sustainable city, this hopeful and uplifting book encourages children to imagine what’s possible, with neighbors from diverse backgrounds coming together to care for their surroundings and one another.
MELTDOWN: DISCOVER EARTH’S IRREPLACEABLE GLACIERS AND LEARN WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SAVE THEM

BY ANITA SANCHEZ    ILLUSTRATED BY LILY PADULA

Meltdown introduces kids to global warming through glacier science! Explore what will happen to our planet—and us—if the glaciers keep disappearing. Actionable steps for kids and their families make the science personal.

RUSH HOUR: NAVIGATING OUR GLOBAL TRAFFIC JAM

BY ERIN SILVER

Traffic. It’s not only frustrating, it’s hurting the planet. Emissions from cars, buses, trucks and planes are one of the leading causes of pollution in North America. Kids can help drive change, from walking to school to petitioning the government. Learn about new fascinating technologies, too.

THIRST

BY VARSHA BAJAJ

Minni lives in the poorest part of Mumbai, where access to water is limited to a few hours a day and the communal taps have long lines. One night, Minni witnesses thieves stealing lots of water. What should she do?

YOUR PLANET NEEDS YOU! A KIDS’ GUIDE TO REDUCING WASTE AND RECYCLING

BY PHILIP BUNTING

Each year, a single person can create up to a ton of garbage. That’s the weight of a small hippo! Where does that waste come from? Where does it end up? How does composting work? And what else can we do to help our planet? Packed with simple explanations of how kids and their families can reduce, re-use, and recycle!