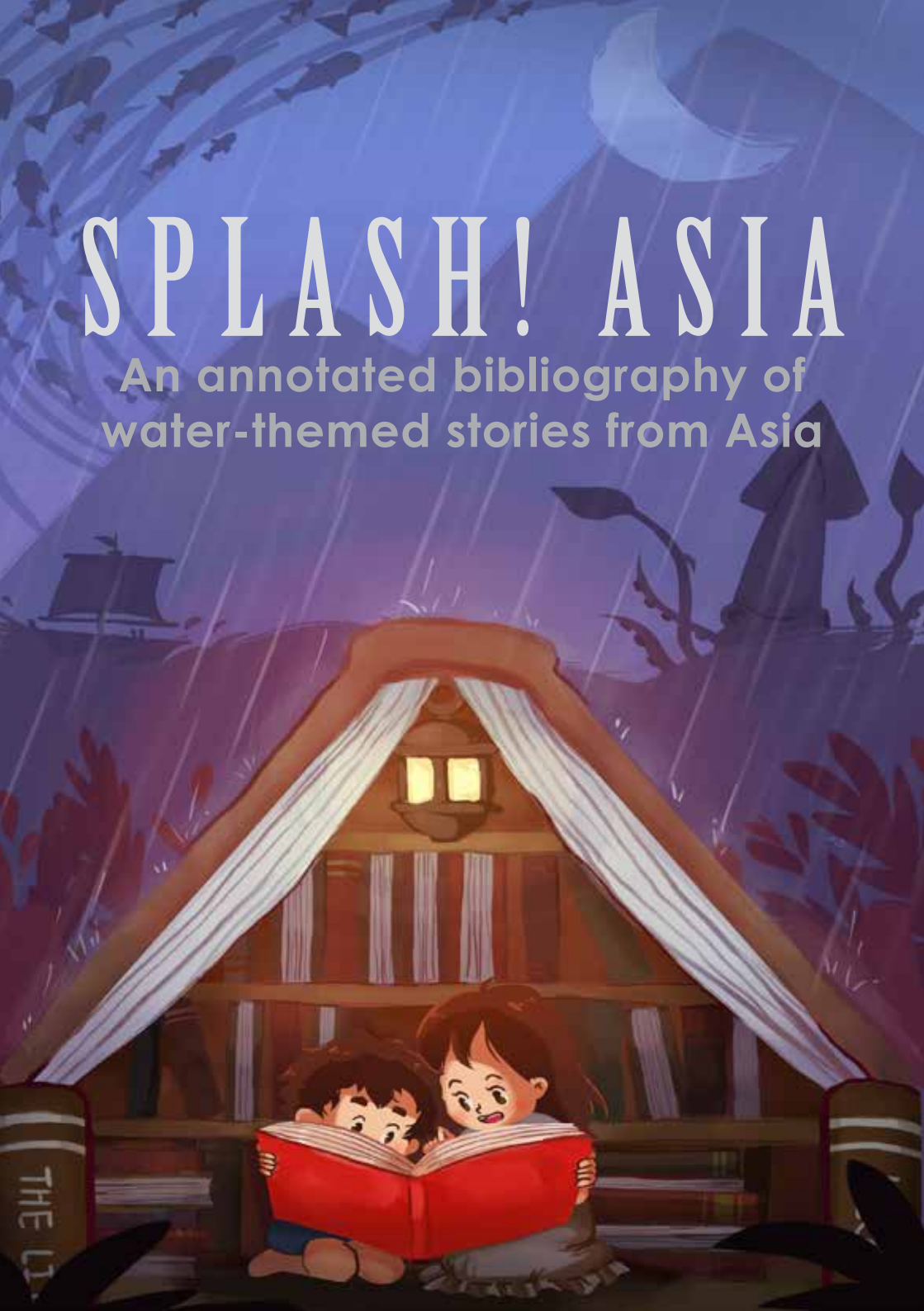


SPLASH! ASIA

An annotated bibliography of
water-themed stories from Asia



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In Celebration of International Year of Water Cooperation
<http://www.unwater.org/water-cooperation-2013/en/>



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www.afcc.com.sg
www.bookcouncil.sg



It is my pleasure to be launching our first collection of children’s stories with Asian content on a common theme at this year’s Asian Festival of Children’s Content.

Project Splash! Asia is a celebration of water-themed stories from Asia and the authors and illustrators from the region and around the world whose works release the floodgates of imagination, waves of creativity and the pure joy of reading that draws us into a lifelong learning adventure! We hope the stories we have gathered in the collection and this bibliography will inspire children to treasure our Asian heritage, as well as the universal importance of water in our lives as we celebrate the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation around the world.

I would like to express heartfelt thanks to all who have supported and contributed to Project Splash! Asia. We especially appreciate collaboration with the National Library Board (NLB) whose staff prepared the annotated bibliography for over 60 books selected by the Project Committee for the collection and this publication.

We are happy to donate the collection to the NLB and to share this publication online as a useful resource for parents, educators, researchers, librarians, publishers, authors, illustrators, storytellers, and everyone who loves books. This collection is by no means exhaustive. We look forward to building the reference with your favourite water themed stories.

Heartfelt thanks to Christopher Cheng, member of AFCC Board of Advisors for contributing an original work, *Water*, for Project Splash! Asia. He is generously donating all proceeds from the sale of this poetic tribute to water to the Asian Festival of Children’s Content.

Enjoy swimming into Splash! Asia, and share your stories with us!

Claire Chiang
 Chairman
 Board of Advisors
 Asian Festival of Children’s Content



Project Splash! Asia was inspired by an idea to focus on one common theme in children’s literature with Asian content. The first image that splashed across our minds was WATER!

Water features in folklore, myths and legends that are part of our heritage in Asia. Water is an important part in our history, culture, and economic development. In children’s literature, water is a universal theme that has inspired the imagination and creativity of children and adults alike for centuries everywhere in the world. 2013 is the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation - water being the most precious resource in our every day lives.

And so we embarked on Project Splash! Asia to collect children’s picture books with Asian content and water as a central theme. We discovered wonderful books in the National Library Board of Singapore (NLB). We drew from the pool of multicultural books and river of stories from children’s literature blogs. Many AFCC partners and supporters contributed books and titles.

We are happy to highlight that three quarters of the collection of over 60 books on exhibition at the Asian Festival of Children’s Content, AFCC2013, and annotated in this bibliography, were already available for loan from the NLB libraries, and that the additional stories gathered will be donated to the NLB. We hope that this annotated bibliography of the collection and list of over 100 books in the Index will be a useful resource for parents, teachers, storytellers, librarians, researchers, community and corporate organisations.

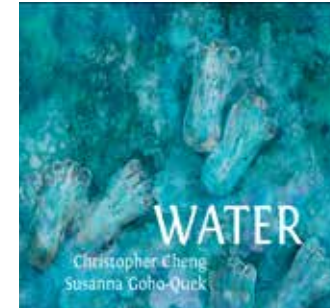
Take a Dip or Dive into Splash! Asia Under Six Themes

Six broad themes emerged from the Committee’s review of the stories in this wonderful collection. Readers will discover, within each theme, the uniqueness, similarities, diversity and universality in our lives in the beautifully written and illustrated stories from over 15 countries. The genres ranges from fiction, poetry, non-fiction, myths, folktales, legends, and fantasy. While most of the books are written in English, there are a notable number of stories written in two (and even three) languages that have been recently published. We have also selected a few stories that have not been translated into English but can be enjoyed by all through the universal and powerful language of art.

To help readers take a first dip, two stories are highlighted in the following brief note about what you will discover in each of the six themes. We start with an original contribution to Project Splash! Asia, newly released at AFCC2013, which captures all of the themes in a beautifully poetic tribute to water, simply titled - Water, written by Christopher Cheng and illustrated by Susanna Goho-Quek.

Launched at AFCC2013

A poetic tribute to water.



Myths, Legends, Folktales

Children will be enchanted by the dragons in myths and legends from China, Japan, Korea and Vietnam. Their curiosity will be piqued by the legends of how the islands around Singapore were formed, how the villagers in the Philippines first learned to fish for food from the sea, and more.



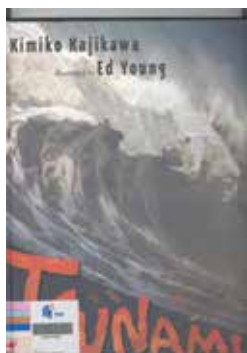
Water Journeys and Travels: Finding Home

Struggle, longing and discovery are captured in stories in this theme, often through the eyes of young children, as they experience the long journey across the seas in search of a new home. In other stories, the journey is not towards the great unknown but simply finding comfort and peace at the seaside rather than in the bustle of city life.



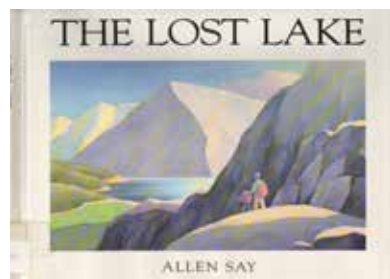
Water's Fickle Furies and the Power of the Elements

From a gentle drop of rain on a baby's face to surviving monsoon floods and saving a village from the monstrous wave of a tsunami, what these books have in common are the striking illustrations that demonstrate the power of the elements. This is a collection of titles that sweeps across Asia from the Middle East to India to Southeast Asia.



Ocean's End: Edge of the Sea, Lakes, Rivers, and Islands

Children will learn to appreciate the multi-dimensional delicacy of the wave, the sparkling sand in beaches, the texture of corals, and the inexpressible beauty of islands as they explore the edge of the sea, lakes and rivers through stunning photographs as well as beautiful hand-drawn illustrations in these inspiring stories.



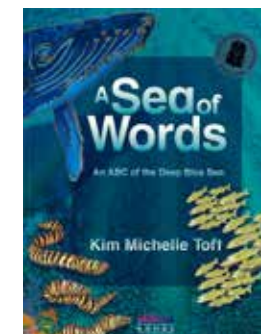
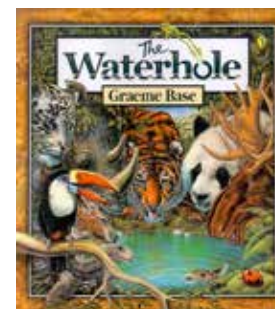
Sea Creatures and Water as Life Source

A young otter learning to fish, singing clams hoping to return home in the sea, a blue whale in a little girl's bedroom, and ancient turtles will capture children's hearts and open their minds to the stories about water as life source, learning about rice farming in Bali, gathering wakame seaweed in Japan, and the impact of pollution on sea creatures everywhere.



Transnational Themes and Anthologies

A River of Stories, Water Stories From Around the World, A Drop Around the World, Our World of Water, One Well-The Story of Water, All the Water in the World – these are just a few of the many titles that will take you to places and countries not just in Asia, but around the world. The stunning illustrations, photographs and stories in this transnational collection will, perhaps, most directly engage children in thinking about the challenges faced by children and families around us and what we can do to make a difference.



A Celebration of Asian Children's Content Creators

The stories in this collection and bibliography are a celebration of the authors, illustrators, translators, publishers, and all who have created these wonderful stories many of which can be enjoyed not only in printed form but also in other media forms enabled by technology. Many featured in this publication are award-winning books, and many of the creators are active contributors to the AFCC as well as other programmes organised by the Singapore Book Council and/or in their home countries. We look forward to the opportunity to welcoming many more to share their insights and experiences at the Festival in the coming years.

Deepening the Pool of Stories

This collection and index of water-themed stories from Asia are far from exhaustive. We would welcome recommendations to add to this resource reference. We have gathered stories from 15 countries. We have focused on stories published in English and bilingual stories with English being one of the languages, but if you would like to share with us a well-illustrated story in another language please feel free to send us the details.

Making Waves

We hope the stories in Splash! Asia will not only spark the imagination, creativity and pure joy of reading, but also inspire children of all ages to value the importance of water in our lives, to think about the challenges faced by children and families around the world, and to learn what we can do to make a difference.

We welcome you to draw on this collection of water themed stories for your reading, storytelling and other programmes.

Share what you think of the stories in this collection, what you have done to celebrate international year of water cooperation, and your own water themed stories!

Just mention Project Splash! Asia when you send your note to any of the following websites:

www.afcc.com.sg/_2013/programme/project-splash-asia
www.gatheringbooks.org
www.papertigers.org

Evelyn S Wong
Project Splash! Asia Committee

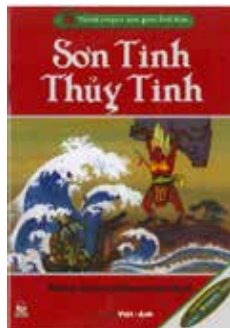


Myths, Folktales, and Legends

Water Genie and Mountain Genie/Water God and Mountain God

Author: An Cuong
Illustrator: Mai Long
(2000). Vietnam: Kim Dong Publishing House

Failing to marry the King's daughter, My Nuong, Thuy Tinh the Water Genie is furious and begins to wreak havoc at the Van Lang capital where My Nuong and her husband, the Mountain Genie, are residing. The people of Van Lang join efforts to help the Mountain Genie in his fight and together they defeat their enemy and save their homes from destruction.



The Mermaid's Muse: The Legend of the Dragon Boats

Author: Bouchard, David
Illustrator: Zhong-Yang Huang
(2000). Hong Kong.: Raincoast Books
Call No.: 398.20951 BOU - [FOL]

In ancient China, a sea dragon develops a friendship with Qu Yuan, a celebrated poet-in-exile. When the sea dragon is mistakenly attacked for capturing Qu Yuan, he goes to the aid of the dragon in this moving tale about friendship, loyalty, and the origin of dragon boats.



The Magic Boat

Author: Demi
(1990). New York: Henry Holt and Company
Call No.: Eng 398.2 DEM - [FOL]

Young man Chang rescues an old man and receives a magical boat as reward. However Ying, who is also rescued by Chang, tricks him into giving her the boat. After much hardship, Chang retrieves his precious boat with the help of his animal friends and some magical powers.



Amansinaya: Goddess of the Sea

Author: Evasco, Eugene
Illustrator: Tejido, Jomike
(2007). Quezon City: LG & M Corporation

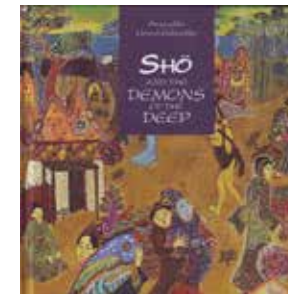
This bilingual picture book (written in both English and Tagalog) shares the story of poor villagers from a seaside town who would often remember the time that they were once stricken by famine. The village shaman, Tata Isio, in his quest for answers, listens to the advice of a little girl named Amansinaya who was reputed to have become the goddess of the sea. The story shows the legendary power of the sea goddess and how the sea provides what the people need in abundance.



Sho and the Demons of the Deep

Author: Galouchko, Annouchka Gravel
Illustrator: Galouchko, Annouchka Gravel
(1995). U.S.A.: Annick Press
Call No.: JS GAL

In a tiny fishing village in ancient Japan, people put their nightmares in little bags setting them free on the waves. However, the bags open while in the waters and the nightmares escape like demons. A little girl called Sho helps the villagers by teaching them to own their nightmares instead of casting them into the sea, turning them into kites.



The Water Dragon

Author: Li, Jian
(2012). New York: Better Link Press
Call No.: English 398.20951 LI - [FOL]

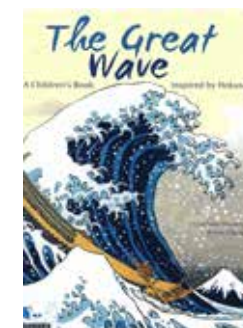
This bilingual picture book talks about a young boy named Ah Bao who discovered a magical stone which caused his rice crocks to overflow and continually filled his money jar. Being a generous and kind-hearted boy, he shared this with the poor villagers. However, the magic came with a price. Find out how Ah Bao saved his village with a vision of a water-spewing Dragon.



The Great Wave: A Children's Book

Author: Massenot, Veronique
Illustrator: Pilorget, Bruno
(2011). Munich: Prestel
Call No.: Eng J P MAS

This picture book shares the story of Aki and Taro who were childless, until a miracle child from the sea happened onto their lives. The boy from the sea, Naoki, knew about his mysterious origins and wanted to find out exactly who his 'real' parents are.



The Legend of Sword Lake

Author: Minh, Trang
Illustrator: Vũ, Duy Nghĩa
(2003). Vietnam: Kim Dong Publishing House
Call No.: RA CL 398.209597 VU - FOL

In this folktale of magic from Vietnam, farmer Le Loi and his volunteer Lam Son Army receive mystical help from the Dragon King in the form of a sword that allows them to defeat the invading Minh army. The story is told in both Vietnamese and English, and explains how Sword Lake in Hanoi got its name.



The River Dragon

Author: Pattison, Darcy
Illustrated by: Jean and Mou-Sien Tseng
(1991). Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books.

In this story, Ying Shao, the blacksmith, needed to outwit the dangerous river dragon in order to marry his betrothed, the dainty and gentle-natured Kal-Li. The story celebrates the cunning and quiet simplicity of the underdog finding deliverance through fortune cookies, five colored silk scarves and crawling centipedes. The illustrations also do the majesty of the river dragon justice with its fire, danger, and darkness.



Sim Chung and the River Dragon : a Folktale from Korea

Author: Schecter, Ellen
Illustrator: Otani, June
(1993). New York : Bantam Books
Call No.: JP 398.2 SCH -[FOL]

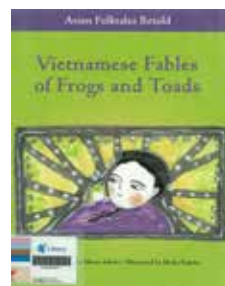
This Korean folktale follows a beautiful and courageous girl, Sim Chung, as she sacrifices her freedom to live with the terrifying River Dragon in exchange for her father's sight. The dragon, moved by Sim Chung's love for her father, decides to release her, and she gains a loving husband along the way.



Vietnamese Fables of Frogs and Toads

Author: Sakairi, Masao
Illustrator: Kojima, Shoko
(2006). Berkeley, California: Heian International
Call No.: Eng J P 392.2 SAK - [FOL]

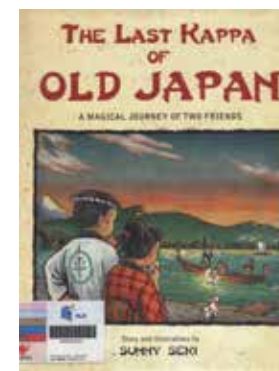
This volume consists of two Vietnamese fables, "The Frog Bride" and "The Toad Who Brought the Rain". "The Frog Bride" is a story about a frog that marries a young student while the second story is about a toad's attempt to ask the god for rain.



The Last Kappa of Old Japan : a Magical Journey of Two Friends

Author: Seki, Sunny
Illustrator: Seki, Sunny
(2010). North Clarendon, Vt. : Tuttle Pub.
Call No.: JP English 398.20952 SEK -[FOL]

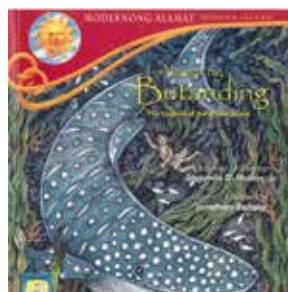
In Old Japan lives Norihei, son of a farmer. He saves and befriends Kyu-chan, who turned out to be a kappa, a mythical aquatic creature. While mindful that other human beings are out to exploit the fact that Kyu-chan is 'different', the two friends protected each other until the time that Kyu-chan gave Norihei a crystal necklace shaped like a water drop as a parting gift, as his family had to move away. They found each other more than twenty years later when an unfortunate accident made Nori-bo drop the crystal necklace into a stream to call his friend for help.



The Legend of the Whale Shark (Alamat Ng Butanding)

Author: Segundo, D. Matias, Jr.
Illustrator: Ranola, Jonathan
(2011). Philippines: Lampara Books

Everyone in Bicol is afraid of Tanding, the tallest man in the town. When disasters strike, Tanding steps forward to protect the townspeople who eventually came around and express their gratitude to him by giving him clothes that finally fit his gigantic frame. However, their happiness is short-lived when a strong earthquake hits the town and kills Tanding who attempts to save one of his friends. Yet, Tanding's death signaled the birth of a new gentle creature, the whale shark whose body resembles the colors of Tanding's new clothes, hence the name Butanding.



Singapore Children's Favourite Stories

Author: Taylor, Di
Illustrator: Tay-Audouard, LK
(2003). Singapore: Periplus Editions (HK) Ltd
Call No.: J SING TAY

This volume is a compilation of tales and legends about Singapore that gives us clues to the origin of our sunny island. The collection of stories shares how we got our name, why the soil at Bukit Merah is red, and other incredible historical events that also show how water is significant to Singapore's history as a country.





Water Journeys and Travels: Finding Home

So Far from the Sea

Author: Bunting, Eve
 Illustrator: Soentpiet, Chris K.
 (1998). New York: Clarion Books
 Call No.: JP BUN

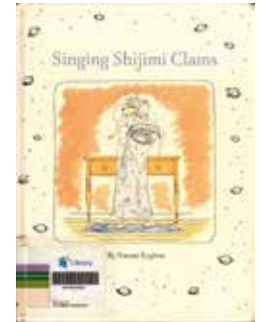
Set in 1972, Laura Iwasaki recounts her family's visit to her grandfather's grave at the former Manzanar War Relocation Camp in eastern California where thousands of American citizens of Japanese ancestry were relocated during World War II. Laura's grandfather, a tuna fisherman, was robbed of his boat, home and dignity when he was sent to the camp, far from the sea that he loved. Laura says goodbye to her grandfather in her own way and poignantly shows patriotism to America.



Singing Shijimi Clams

Author: Kojima, Naomi
 (2006). California: Kane/Miller Book Publishers
 Call No.: JP KOJ

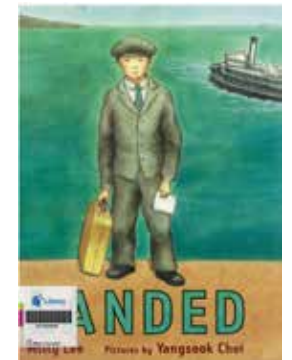
This is a heartwarming tale of a witch and her intended meal of captive clams. Moved by their tears, the witch offers to return the clams to shore. The return trip to their seaside home is financed by the clams singing which elicits contributions from passersby.



Landed

Author: Lee, Milly
 Illustrator: Choi, Yangsook
 (2006). New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux
 Call No.: JP LEE

Sun's father owns a store in America and decides to send for him after Sun's twelfth birthday. Upon reaching America, Sun is sent to Angel Island for a thorough check-up, where he discover that first-timers to America can be detained for weeks, even years! Sun is questioned intensively by American officials so that they can eliminate the possibility of immigrants pretending to be sons of merchants returning to America.



Our Home is the Sea

Author: Levinson, Riki
 Illustrator: Luzak, Dennis
 (1988). New York: E. P.Dutton
 Call No.: ACL LEV

A young boy travels home from school, passing through the busy streets of Hong Kong. There are bustling markets, tall apartment buildings, and people carrying out their daily activities. In a story beautifully illustrated with detailed paintings, the boy makes observations about modern city life and confirms his beliefs that he will be a fisherman like his father and grandfather before him because their true home is the sea.



A Long Walk to Water

Author: Park, Linda Sue
(2010). New York: Clarion Books
Call No.: J PARK

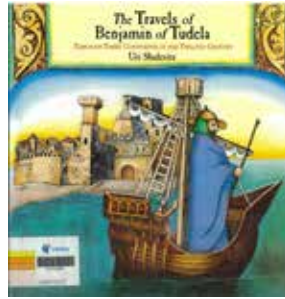
Two stories run parallel in this powerfully written true story set in Sudan. Nya in 2008 spends eight hours a day walking to fetch water. Salva, who flees bloodshed during the civil war in Sudan in 1985, is thrown out of a refugee camp in neighboring Ethiopia and leads some 1,200 Lost Boys on the two-year walk across Sudan to Kenya. A very moving book that is too absorbing to put down before the end.



The Travels of Benjamin of Tudela: Through Three Continents in the Twelfth Century

Author: Shulevitz, Uri
(2005). New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux
Call No.: J SHU

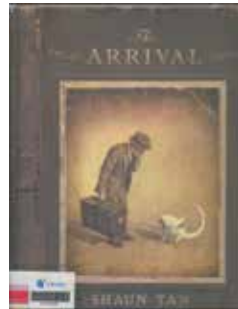
As a Jew, Benjamin most longs to visit Jerusalem, but it is dangerous to travel through Muslim lands because of the war between the Christian Crusaders and the Muslims, so he pretends to be an Arab. Benjamin recalls many exciting stories about the places across Europe, Africa and Asia that he visits in his 14-year journey.



The Arrival

Author: Tan, Shaun
Illustrator: Tan, Shaun
(2004). South Melbourne: Lothian Books
Call No.: J TAN

A stunning, wordless book that follows one man as he seeks to create a new life for his family (who join him later) away from his war-torn country. He encounters acts of both hostility and kindness and gradually learns a new way of life. Tan's depiction of the machinations of war is particularly powerful and chilling.



The Jade Necklace

Author: Yee, Paul
Illustrator: Lin, Grace
(2002). Vancouver: Tradewind Books
Call No.: RA1CL Eng q813.54 YEE

This story begins at the turn of the nineteenth century in South China where Yenyee and her family live. One night, her fisherman father vanishes in a ferocious storm at sea. But it is not only her father that she suddenly loses that day. Yenyee feels betrayed by the ocean, a friend she has trusted all her life, and betrayed by her family who then send her across the Pacific Ocean to the New World to be a servant.



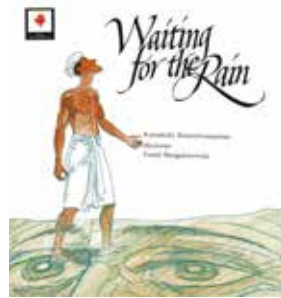
Water's Fickle Furies and the Power of the Elements



Waiting for the Rain

Author: Balasubramanian, Kamakshi
Illustrator: Bangalorewala, Yusuf
(1990). India: National Book Trust.

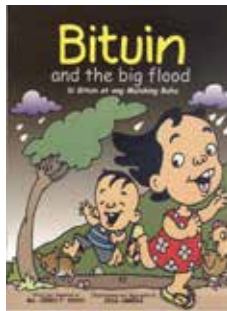
Velu the farmer never took a break from his work. This year, the rains did not come, leaving the lands barren. He felt unhappy about this until he chatted with an old lady, who made him realise that he was working the land too hard, and that he needed to give the land a break from the ceaseless year-round cultivation.



Bituin and the Big Flood (Si Bituin At Ang Malaking Baha)

Author: Doyo, Ma. Ceres P.
Illustrator: Abrera, Jess
(2010). Philippines: Anvil Publishing
Call No.: RAEL English 828.9959903 DOY

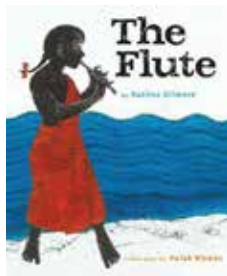
This book is written in both English and Taglog, and is about a little girl's experience during the Typhoon Ondoy, and of her community's efforts in helping one another during that difficult time. The simple story will give new hope to children who have just experienced recent natural disasters and tragedies, and help them overcome these experiences.



The Flute

Author: Gilmore, Rachna
Illustrator: Bawas, Pulak
(2011). Vancouver: Tradewind Books

A young girl is saved from monsoon floods when her parents push her into a tree, along with her mother's flute that turns out to have magical properties. The flute will eventually help her to find a new, loving home, after she has had to endure cruel treatment from the aunt and uncle.



First Rain

Author: Herman, Charlotte
Illustrator: Mitter, Kathryn
(2010). Chicago: Albert Whitman & Co
Call No.: J P HER

Abby moves to Israel with her parents. She looks forward to living in her new home but misses her Grandma. It does not rain in Israel during summer, and Abby remembers the happy moments with Grandma when they were playing in the rain. One day, it begins to rain. Just as she is opening the door to play in the rain, she is greeted by her Grandma who has just arrived from America.



The Falling Raindrop

Author: Johnson, Neil and Chin, Joel
Illustrator: N.A.
(2006). Singapore: Neil Johnson
Call No.: JP JOH

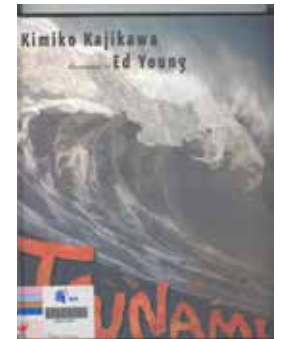
A raindrop begins its journey to earth, thrilled to be flying along with a storm. But when flying begins to feel like falling, the raindrop is unable to enjoy itself for fear that a big change is coming. After hitting a campfire on the ground, the raindrop overcomes its fear and begins the journey back to the clouds as a wisp of steam.



Tsunami

Author: Kajikawa, Kimiko
Illustrator: Young, Ed
(2009). New York: Philomel Books
Call No.: JP 398.2 KAJ -[FOL]

An exciting yet touching portrayal of a natural disaster, this folktale tells how an elderly Japanese farmer saved a village from an impending monster wave, otherwise known as the "tsunami," by setting fire to his rice fields so as to get the villagers to move to higher ground.



A Very Big Storm

Author: Lim, Emily
Illustrator: Scrawl Studios
(2011). Singapore : Singapore National Co-operative Federation
J SING LIM

The Sparrow sees big, dark clouds approaching the forest. The animals get together to prepare and protect themselves from the impending storm. When Little Honey Bear cries for help, everyone decides to build a big rain shelter so that all can stay dry during the storm.



Monsoon Afternoon

Author : Sheth, Kashmira
Illustrator : Jaeggi, Yoshiko
(2008). Atlanta, Georgia : Peachtree
Call No: ACL SHE

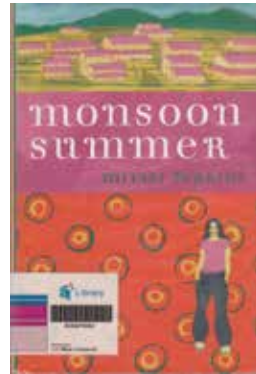
A child welcomes the arrival of the monsoon season. The heavy rain promises lots of fun for the boy but everyone is busy. Dadaji (grandfather) offers his time to the boy. They spend time together enjoying the cool wet season – making paper boats and playing, and finally, the boy sits on Dadaji's shoulders and picks the ripe mangoes.



Monsoon Summer

Author: Perkins, Mitali
(2004). New York: Delacorte Press
Call No.: YPER

This is a coming-of-age story about 15 year-old Jazz who reluctantly volunteers with her family at the Indian orphanage where her Mum grew up. While she misses her social enterprise venture with her best friend Steve, she discovers monsoon summer magic in the process of secretly helping struggling young Danita work towards her dream for the future.



Once in a Village...

Author: Madan, H.C.
Illustrator: Bahl, Nina
(1988). India: National Book Trust

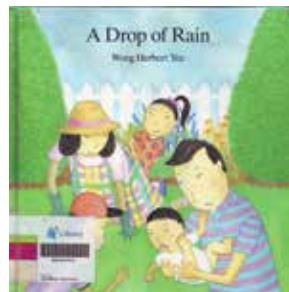
The wise elders warned the villagers against cutting down the trees in the forest to make way for more houses and fields to grow food, but they did not listen. The rain did not come that year, or the years after that. Through the villagers' suffering, this story illustrates the importance of conserving and giving thanks to nature.



A Drop of Rain

Author: Yee, Wong Herbert
Illustrator: Yee, Wong Herbert
(1995). Boston: Houghton Mifflin
Call no.: JPYEE

This story is about an Asian extended family doing their chores out in the garden, when tiny drops of rain start falling on the baby's eye, cheeks, brow, and face. Everyone thinks that the baby is crying and tries to pacify him. But in the end, they realise that it is not tears on baby's face but drops of rain.



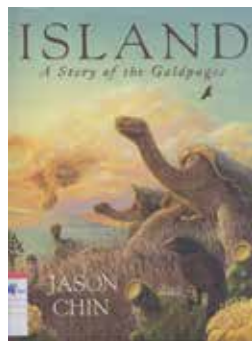
Ocean's End: Edge of the Sea, Lakes, Rivers, and Islands



Island: A Story of the Galápagos

Author: Chin, Jason
Illustrator: Chin, Jason
(2012). New York : Roaring Brook Press.
Call No.: JP 508.8665 CHI

A volcano erupts and gradually, an island is formed. Over time, the island shrinks and sinks, forcing the animals and plants living on it to evolve, in order to adapt to its environment for survival. Award-winning author and artist Jason Chin, by creatively combining geography and science into narrative non-fiction, educates children on volcanic activities and the evolution of species.



Water Sings Blue: Ocean Poems

Author: Coombs, Kate
Illustrator: So, Meilo
(2012). San Francisco, Calif.: Chronicle Books.
Call No.: JP 811 COO

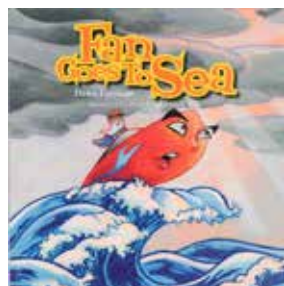
Have you ever imagined the different sea creatures living in the underwater world? Water Sings Blue opens our eyes to this wondrous world with enchanting poems that sing the beauty and power and mystery of the ocean, accompanied by beautiful watercolour paintings.



Fan Goes to Sea

Author: Farnham, Dawn
Illustrator: Zyna C. And Chan Wai
(2010). Kuala Lumpur: Beanstalk.
Call No.: JP FAR

In this colourfully illustrated book, Fan the new speedboat joins Captain Yangtze's fleet. However, the other lifeboats tease him for being inexperienced and Fan feels annoyed. One day, Hazza, one of the lifeboats, hits some big rocks at sea. Fan, with his unwavering courage, saves the day.



Wave

Author: Lee, Suzy
Illustrator: Lee, Suzy
(2008). San Francisco, Calif. : Chronicle Books.
Call No.: JP LEE

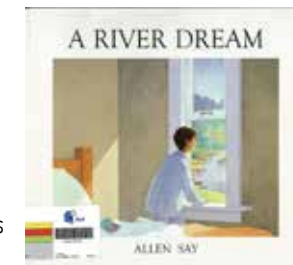
This simple yet evocative wordless picture book depicts a little girl's first experience at the beach playing with the roaring waves. Starting out with the girl's apprehension towards the waves, it turns into a playful experience between the girl and the wave with the sea gulls soaring overhead.



A River Dream

Author: Say, Allen
Illustrator: Say, Allen
(1988). Boston, Mass : Houghton Mifflin.
Call No.: JP SAY

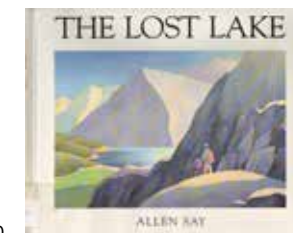
A River Dream touches on a relationship that is not often explored – that between uncle and nephew. In a night of dreams, the street outside Mark's home turns into a river and he goes fishing with his uncle. What ensues is a lovely story of moonlit reverie built on the themes of treasuring kinship and respecting nature.



The Lost Lake

Author: Say, Allen
Illustrator: Say, Allen
(1989). Boston : Houghton Mifflin Co.
Call No.: RA CL 823.914 SAY

A young boy goes to live with his father during the summer. His father is pre-occupied with work, but one Saturday decides to bring him camping to look for the special lake that he visited as a little boy. They find it crowded with many tourists, and go in search of another 'lost lake'. Their journey together serves as a great chance for them to forge a closer bond.



How to Cross a Pond: Poems about Water

Author: Singer, Marilyn
Illustrator: So, Meilo
(2003). New York : Alfred A. Knopf.
Call No.: J 811 SIN

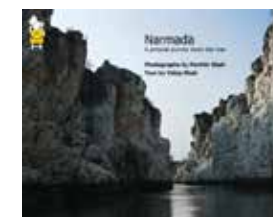
This book captures the nature of water in a perceptive and inspirational collection of poems. Clear words and elegant poetry describe water in all its forms, from the dominant flows of ocean tides to the rippling of a single drop of water. Powerful illustrations in blue ink and watercolour enhance the delicate images expressed in the poems.



Narmada: A Pictorial Journey down the River

Author : Vidya Shah
Illustrator: Photographs by Parthiv Shah
(2010). India: Pratham Books

Via the narrative device of a grandmother telling stories to her two grandchildren, readers are taken on a journey to explore India's third largest river, the Narmada. The book covers the river's ecology and cultural significance, including its importance as a pilgrimage destination.



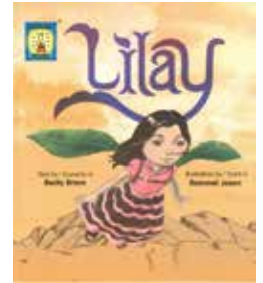


Sea Creatures and Water as Life Source

Lilay

Author: Bravo, Becky
 Illustrator: Joston, Rommel
 (2011). Philippines: Lampara Publishing House, Inc.

In this bilingual Filipino tale, the town of Matubig awakes one morning to find their water missing – having fled the town that wasted so much of it. Lilay is the girl who bravely goes in search of the missing water to save the town that has since realised the importance of water.



Watermelon Boy

Author: Deewai, Anusara
 Illustrator: Ratchawat, Chai
 (2008). Thailand: Amarin Printing and Publishing Co.

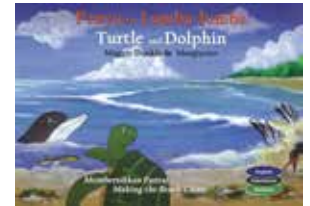
One day, a poor elderly couple who are fishermen see a big watermelon floating down the river. They bring it home to eat, but find a little boy inside. He takes care of the couple and the whole village, even using his magical cooling touch to cure the villagers when they are sick. One day he is captured by an ogre, but he cares for him too and all is well.



Turtle and Dolphin : Making the Beach Clean

Author: Dunkle, Maggie
 Illustrator: Margjyono
 (2012). Indonesia, Bali: Saritaksu Editions

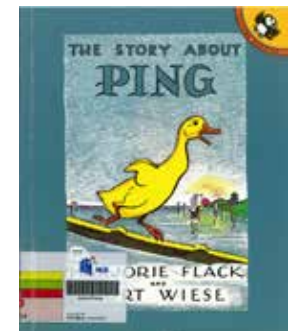
This book discusses the repercussions of water pollution from the perspective of a dolphin, a turtle, a seagull and a hermit crab. Just when all hope seems lost, they observe that humans have to take a stand to save the ecosystem from further degradation. The story is written in Indonesian, Balinese and English, with a musical score.



The Story about Ping

Author: Flack, Marjorie
 Illustrator: Wiese, Kurt
 (1977). New York: Puffin Books
 Call No.: English FLA

Set on the mighty Yangtze River in China, this story is about the adventure of Ping, a young domesticated duck. One day, Ping is late for home. To avoid getting a smack for being the last to board his master's boat, Ping hides while the boat sails away. In his quest to reunite with his family, Ping encounters dangers unknown to him and learns, in the end, that home is always the best place to be.



Like Fins for Feet

Author: Ho, Perry
Illustrator: Melson, Kristal
(2009). Singapore: Straits Times Press Children
Call No.: J SING HO

One morning, a little girl wakes up to find a blue whale in her bedroom. She tries to go about her daily routine, but the presence of the blue whale makes her see everything differently. She finds that there is much to learn about life from the blue whale. The illustrations in this book are simple yet imaginative, and effortlessly bring out the dreamy nature of this book.



Waterlife

Author: Jha, Rambharos
Illustrator: Park, Linda Sue
(2011). [Besant Nagar, Madras] India: Tara Books
Call No.: English 759.954 JHA-[ART]

This book features adapted motifs of Mithila art (a form of folk painting in Bihar, India) which the author uses to colourfully illustrate creatures found in the Ganga River. Each featured creature is accompanied by a short story inter-weaving the author's memories and folklore legends.



Floating Market

Author: Kim Hai;
Illustrator: Nguyen Thi Ngoc Bich
(2012). Vietnam: Room to Read

Waking up one morning, Thom was very excited about going with her mother to the floating market. At the market, Thom learned about a myriad of interesting food and facts.



The King of Sailfish

Author: Li Ruqing
Illustrator: Li Ruqing
(2012). Taiwan: Linking Books

Uncle Shun and his grandson Blackie are fishermen who have been facing smaller and smaller catches. One day they encounter the largest sailfish that they have ever seen, which behaves unusually when they attempt to catch it. Later they realise that it had been protecting a school of baby sailfish from the fishermen.



Little Otter Goes Fishing

Author: Lim, Emily
Illustrator: Scrawl Studios
(2012). Singapore: Singapore National Co-operative Union
Call No.: JP SING 428.6 LIM

This tale depicts Little Otter and his challenges in learning to fish from Big Otter. The story explores important life skills to otters such as diving and foraging in a sequential manner. Little Otter is resilient despite the difficulties and ultimately he becomes proficient and passes on the skills to Baby Otter.



Cycle of Rice, Cycle of Life: A Story of Sustainable Farming

Author: Reynolds, Jan
2009. : Lee & Low Books
Call No.: J 633.1 REY

This book explains the integral part water plays to rice farming in the land of Bali, Indonesia. From irrigation plans to deifying the water goddess, Dewi Danu, the livelihood of these simple Balinese farmers is beautifully illustrated in this story. In addition, the ancient water temple system of farming is deemed to be more productive culturally and ecologically.



The Journey of a Little Coconut

Author: Maung Ye Thu
(2011). Myanmar: U Ye Myint, Chan Thar Sarpay (Press)

This is the tale of a small coconut in the rainforest who wants to reach the faraway ocean. After a hurricane destroys the forest, he begins his journey. Along the way he encounters illegal fishing and dumping of trash into the river, which leads to an epiphany for the young coconut.



Puteri Tioman: The Green Turtle

Author: Aishah, Rossiti; illustrated by Farrah Ashiela Samsuri
(2011). Malaysia: Rain Tree

Besides telling the story of Puteri Tioman, this book also details the dangers that green turtles face in the seas around Tioman. Threats include pollution which ruins their habitats and people digging up turtle eggs to eat. The book also highlights the many ways that one can do to save the green turtles and protect the environment!



Udang Galah yang Sombong (An Arrogant Lobster)

Author: Raifana Haji Ranie
(2007). Bandar Seri Begawan: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka
Call No.: MALAY J P RAI

Gadi is an arrogant lobster who looks down prawns because they are smaller than him. He does not want to play with them even though he is lonely. Gadi realises his mistake and becomes grateful to the small prawns after they save him from the nets cast out by fishermen.



Can We Drink the Ocean: A Book about Water

Author: Rocoles-Jimenez, Gidget
Illustrator: Roxas, Isabel
(2007). Quezon City : Adarna House
Call No.: J 553.7 ROC

The oceans cover about 70% of earth's surface. However, the water in the ocean is too salty to drink. Drinking too much seawater may result in dehydration and even death. Water suitable for drinking can be obtained from seawater by removing the salt through a process called desalination. Keen to find out more interesting information about water? This book is a good start for children 11-12 years old.



Tok Pandai dengan Si Putut (Tok Pandai and Si Putut)

Author: Sarinah Haji Ahmad
(2006). Bandar Seri Begawan: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka
Call No.: MALAY J P 398.2 SAR -[FOL]

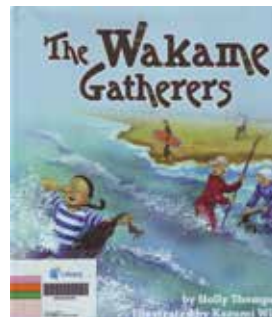
Do you want to know why crocodiles do not bother the people of Kampong Litnaba (a village) when they use Sungai Telasi (a river near the village)? A long time ago, the villagers asked Tok Pandai, who is close to a crocodile named Si Putut, to tell the crocodiles not to bother the villagers when they use the river.



The Wakame Gatherers

Author: Thompson, Holly
Illustrator: Wilds, Kazumi
(2007). Walnut Creek, Calif : Shen's Books
Call No.: J P THO

Through the simple act of sharing the significance of seaweed or wakame gathering in Japan and the way they are used in Maine, USA; the tension due to the war years of the past is quickly dissolved between the two grandmothers of the story's protagonist, Nanami, into a bond of love, care and respect.



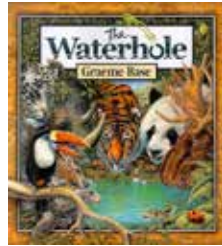
Transnational Themes and Anthologies



Water Hole

Author: Base, Graeme
(2008). New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers

Author Graeme Base blends the art of storytelling into this counting book which illustrates different animals stopping by to drink from the water hole. Through this tale, young readers are also able to recognise the animals' habitats and understand the importance of the water source as the water hole starts to shrink.



Watch over Our Water

Author: Bullard, Lisa
Illustrator: Xiao, Xin
(2012). Minneapolis : Millbrook Press
Call No.: J P 333.91 BUL

Written for the young child in mind, this book explains why water is so precious.

It presents simple tips that everyone can use to save water – one drop at a time – in three chapters titled 'More Important than Root Beer', 'Stop Water Waste' and 'Keep Water Clean'.



A River of Stories: Tales and Poems from across the Commonwealth

Compiled by: Curry, Alice
Illustrator: Piénowski, Jan
(2011). London : Commonwealth Education Trust
Call No.: J English 820.8 RIV

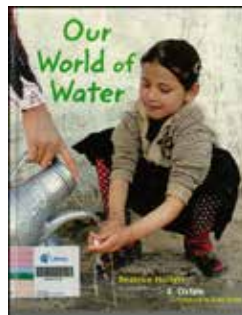
This is a retelling of stories of magical life-sustaining water, revolving around animals, people, rivers, rain and water gods. Hermit crabs having a tug of war on Sri Lanka's shores, water gods debating who is the most powerful, these are some of the beautifully illustrated stories reflecting the rich tradition of Commonwealth countries.



Our World of Water

Author: Hollyer, Beatrice
(2008). London: Frances Lincoln Children's
Call No.: J 333.91HOL

Six children from different parts of the world narrate their daily experiences with water, and how they value it. These experiences remind us how often this invaluable resource may be taken for granted, especially in places where water supply is seemingly abundant.



Atlantic

Author: Karas, G. Brian
(2002). New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons
Call No.: J P KAR

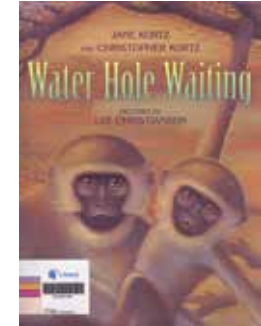
As the title reveals, this book tells the reader what the Atlantic Ocean is, how far it stretches, how the moon affects its tides, and other characteristics of this ocean. This book is different from similar non-fiction titles as it is written from the perspective of the ocean itself.



Water Hole Waiting

Author: Kurtz, Jane. Kurtz, Christopher
Illustrator: Christiansen, Lee
(2002). New York: Greenwillow Books
Call No.: JP English KUR

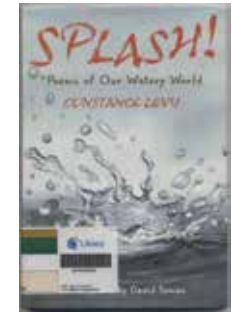
In this tale set in the African Savannah where water is scarce, animals, big and small, take turns to drink water from the same water hole. A baby vervet monkey waits and waits for her turn to quench her thirst, as these animals are predators or simply block her way. Waiting can be pretty hard!



Splash! Poems of Our Watery World

Author: Levy, Constance
Illustrator: Soman, David
(2002). New York: Orchard Books
Call No.: J 811LEV

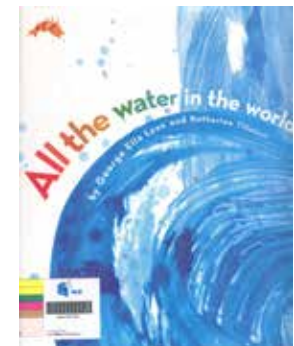
This poetry collection brings to life the roles water plays in nature and in our everyday lives. The thirty-four poems explore the myriad range - from sea foam to dew drops, from lemonade to laundry - and more. Some of the poems are accompanied by evocative monochromatic watercolor illustrations.



All the Water in the World

Author: Lyon, George Ella
(2011). New York : Atheneum Books for Young Readers
Call no.: J P 551.48 LYO

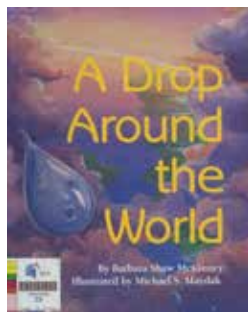
Light-hearted changing fonts and brilliant paint-and-paper collage illustrations in this book introduce young children to the water cycle, and the important role of water as a life source. Author Lyon also weaves rhymes and poetic lines in the pages to encourage the young readers to go green.



A Drop Around the World

Author: McKinney, Barbara Shaw
Illustrator: Maydak, Michael S.
(1998). Nevada City, Calif.: Dawn Publications
Call No.: J English 551.48 MAC

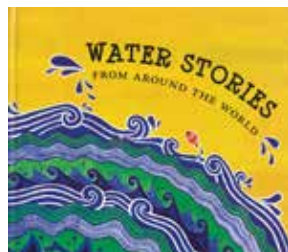
Starting its journey from Maine, a raindrop takes us on an adventure around the world, experiencing changes in state, for example, from water droplet to snowflake to ice, as it travels. Written in poetry style with beautiful illustrations, this book helps children learn that water is important and that it affects everything in life.



Water Stories from Around the World

Editors: Menon, Radhika & Rao, Sandhya
(2010). India: Tulika Publishers
Call No.: J 398.2 WAT

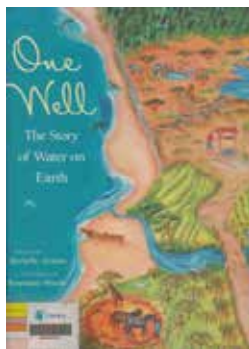
A delightful collection of stories from mythology and folklore that reflect the importance of appreciating and saving water. A quaint Indian story about a simple hole shows how everybody has a right to water. In another story, a classic Grecian tale, Poseidon uses a box to teach Alexander that nobody can own water.



One Well: the Story of Water on Earth

Author: Strauss, Rochelle
Illustrator: Woods, Rosemary
(2007). Toronto, Ont.: Kids Can Press.
J 553.7 STR

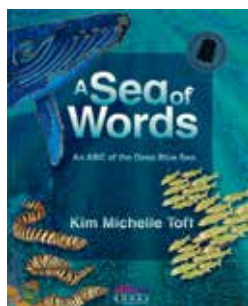
A single splash can produce miracles of life. One Well tells the stories of how water in all its forms connects with and affects Earth and its inhabitants. Besides collecting many interesting water-related facts, the book also highlights the crisis happening in this global 'well' and the importance of water conservation.



A Sea of Words: An ABC of the Deep Blue Sea

Author: Toft, Kim Michelle
(2006). New South Wales: Silkim Books

This is a wonderful ABC book for lovers of the ocean as each letter of the alphabet represents one sea creature. The writer writes an alliterative tongue twister for the letters allowing the reader to learn about ocean creatures in a fun way. The beautiful illustrations are handpainted on silk.



Book List

Thank you to all who recommended titles and contributed books with a water theme from Asia. Due to space constraints, annotations could not be provided for all of the wonderful stories gathered. This listing includes over 100 titles, and it will be updated periodically with new recommendations and discoveries added to the *Splash! Asia* online resource at www.afcc.com.sg

The titles are listed with the following information where available:

TITLE
AUTHOR; ILLUSTRATOR
PUBLISHER, YEAR
ISBN
CALL NO. (in Singapore National Library)
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (of the story)

All the books are in English, or are bilingual with English text, unless otherwise indicated.

Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain: A Nandi Tale
Aardema, Verna;
Puffin, 1992
ISBN: 0-14-054616-2
J398.2 AAR-[FOL]
Kenya

Puteri Tioman: The Green Turtle
Aishah, Rossiti; illustrated by Farrah Ashiela Samsuri
Rain Tree, 2011
ISBN: 9789675250811
Malaysia

Menggay's Magical Children (An Mahiwagang Manok ni Menggay)
Alfar, Nikki; illustrated by Alcaraz, Frances
Lampara Books, 2012
Philippines

A Thirsty Sparrow (Isang Mayang Uhaw: Paano Siya Makainom ng Tubig sa Baso)
Almario, Virgilio; illustrated by Torres, Jimmy
Adarna, 1993
Philippines

Water Genie and Mountain Genie
An Cuong; illustrated by Mai Long
Kim Dong Publishing House, 2000
Vietnam

Wasim One-Star
Ashley, Chris; illustrated by Kate Pankhurst
Frances Lincoln Publishers, 2010
ISBN: 978-1845077754
JS ASH
UK; Middle East

Get Set! Swim!
Atkins, Jeannine; illustrated by Lee, Hector Viveros
Lee & Low Books, 1998
ISBN: 978-1600603365
JP ATK
Puerto Rico

Annie D. Ant
Ballesteros, Carmelita C.
Panday Isip, 2003
ISBN: 9789719283706
Philippines

Water Hole
Base, Graeme
Puffin Books,
ISBN: 9780810972469
Transnational

Peeking Ducks
Bell, Krista; illustrated by Rippin, Sally
Windy Hollows Books,
ISBN: 9781921136450
China

The Mermaid's Muse: The Legend of the Dragon

Boats
Bouchard, David; illustrated by Huang Zhong-Yang
Raincoast Books, 2000
ISBN: 978-1551922485
JP 398.20951 BOU
China

Lilay

Bravo, Becky; illustrated by Joson, Rommel
Lampara Books, 2011
ISBN: 9789715185172
Philippines

Watch over Our Water

Bullard, Lisa; illustrated by Xin Xiao
Millbrook Press, 2012
ISBN: 9780761385172
JP 333.91 BUL
Universal

So Far from the Sea

Bunting, Eve; illustrated by Soentpiet, Chris K.
Clarion Books, 1999
ISBN: 9780395720950
JP BUN
Asian Americans

The Great Race: The Story of the Chinese Zodiac

Casey, Dawn; illustrated by Wilson, Anne
Barefoot Books, 2008
ISBN: 978-1846862021
J 398.0951 CAS
China

Awakening the Dragon: The Dragon Boat Festival

Chan, Arlene; illustrated by Zhang Song Nan
Tundra Books, 2004
ISBN: 978-0887768057
J 394.26951 CHA
China

*Lang Laut Membawa Bencana
(The Sea Eagle Brings Disaster)*

Che Sulaiman, Safian
Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, 2009
ISBN: 9789836298713
JP MALAY SAF
Malaysia - text in Malay

Water

Cheng, Christopher; illustrated by Goho-Quek, Susanna
AFCC Publications, 2013
ISBN: 978-981-07-6543-9

Island: A Story of the Galapagos

Chin, Jason
Roaring Book Press, 2012
ISBN: 978-1596437166
JP 508.8665 CHI
Universal

Water Sings Blue: Ocean Poems

Coombs, Kate; illustrated by So, Meilo
Chronicle Books, 2012
ISBN: 978-1452113807
JP 811 COO
Transnational

*A River of Stories: Tales and Poems from Across
the Commonwealth*

Curry, Alice; illustrated by Pienkowski, Jan
Commonwealth Education Trust, 2011
ISBN: 978-0956929907
J 820.8 RIV
Commonwealth of Nations Member States

The Watermelon Boy

Deewai, Anusara; illustrated by Ratchawat, Chai
Amarin Printing and Publishing Public Co Ltd, 2008
Thailand - Text in Thai

The Magic Boat

Demi
Henry Holt and Company, 1990
ISBN: 978-0805011418
J 398.2 DEM
China

*Bituin and the Big Flood (Si Bituin at ang Malaking
Baha)*

Doyo, Ma. Ceres P.; illustrated by Abrera, Jess
Anvil Publishing, 2010
ISBN: 9789712723476

Turtle and Dolphin

Dunkle, Maggie; illustrated by Margiyono
Saritaksu Editions, 2012
Bali

Amansinaya: Goddess of the Sea

Evasco, Eugene; illustrated by Tejido, Jomike
Quezon: LGM Corporation, 2007
ISBN: 978-9710422494
Philippines

Fan Goes to Sea

Farnham, Dawn; illustrated by Zyna C. and Chan Wai
Beanstalk, 2010
ISBN: 9789677301771
JP FAR
Malaysia

The Story about Ping

Flack, Marjorie
Grosset & Dunlap, 2000
ISBN: 9780448421650
JP FLA

Turtle Takes a Trip

Flint, Shamini; illustrated by Johansen-Ellis, M
Sunbear Publishing, 2006
ISBN 978-9810565398
J FLI
Singapore

Sho and the Demons of the Deep

Galouchko, Annouchka Gravel
Annick Press, 1998
ISBN: 978-1550373981
JS GAL
Japan

Big Rain Coming

Germain, Katrina; illustrated by Bancroft, Bronwyn
Clarion Books, 1999
ISBN: 978-0618083442
JP GER
Australia

Friend

Ghosh, Debabrata
National Book Trust India, 2009

Sam, Grace and the Shipwreck

Gillespie, Michael; illustrated by Martinez, Sonia
Fremantle Press, 2011
ISBN 978-1921696-008
Australia

The Flute

Gilmore, Rachna; illustrated by Biswas, Pulak
Tradewind Books, 2011
ISBN: 9781896580579
India

The Dragon's Tears

Gregory, Manju; illustrated by Pilorget, Bruno
Mantra Lingua Ltd, 2001
ISBN: 9781852696900
China

Like Fins for Feet

Ho, Perry; illustrated by Melson, Kristal
Straits Times Press Children, 2009
ISBN: 9789814266345
J SING HO
Singapore

Our World of Water

Hollyer, Beatrice
Henry Holt and Company (BYR), 2009
ISBN: 978-0805089417
J 333.91 HOL

Waterlife

Jha, Ranbharos
Tara Books, 2011
ISBN: 978-9380340135
759.954 JHA -[ART]
India

The Falling Raindrop

Johnson, Neil; illustrated by Chin, Joel
Neil Johnson, 2006
ISBN: 978-1582463124
JP JOH
Singapore

Whale Song

Johnston, Tony; illustrated by Young, Ed
G.P.Putnam's Sons, 1987
ISBN: 978-0399214028

The Call of the Osprey

Jorgensen, Norman; illustrated by Harrison-Lever, Brian
Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 2004
ISBN 1-920731-85-7
Australia

- Tsunami*
Kajikawa, Kimiko; illustrated by Young, Ed
Philomel Books, 2009
ISBN: 978-0399250064
JP 398.2 KAJ [FOL]
Japan
- Monsoon*
Krishnaswami Uma, illustrations by Akib, Jamel
FSG, 2003
ISBN: 978-0374350154
ACL KRI
India
- Splash! Poems of Our Watery World*
Levy, Constance; illustrated by Soman, David
Orchard, 2002
ISBN: 9780439293181
J 811 LEV
Transnational
- The Legend of the Dugong (Alamat ng Dugong)*
Matias, Segundo D.; illustrated by Alcaraz, Frances
Lampara Books, 2012
ISBN: 9789715183722
Philippines
- Atlantic*
Karas, G Brian
G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2002
ISBN: 9780399236327
Universal
- Water Hole Waiting*
Kurtz, Jane Christopher; illustrated by Christiansen, Lee
Greenwillow Books, 2002
ISBN: 978-0060298500
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