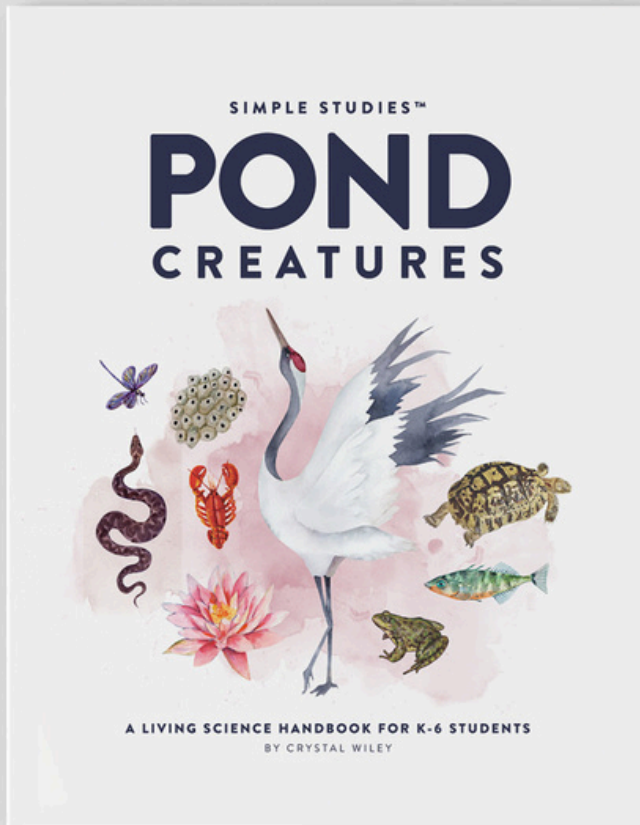


SIMPLE STUDIES

# SAMPLE



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SAMPLE

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SIMPLE STUDIES™

# POND CREATURES



**A LIVING SCIENCE HANDBOOK FOR K-6 STUDENTS**

BY CRYSTAL WILEY

# Picture Booklist by Lesson

There are a plethora of wonderful picture books about pond creatures but the books listed in the book lists offer the opportunity for students to build **joyful relations with pond creatures** through story. And so, this is by no means an exhaustive list and I encourage every instructor to seek out additional living books as you see fit.

*\*Finally, while I researched books for hours trying to adhere to the living book recommendations, a few books do not fit into this category and were chosen for their childlike, whimsical prose and overall message. I tried to offer more than one suggestion should you be unable to secure them all at your local library.*

**HELPFUL TIP:** *I recommend gathering at least the first 9 lessons before beginning lessons (from the library if possible). I will remind you ahead of time to gather picture books for lessons 10-18.*

## Lesson 1:

- If You Spent a Day with Thoreau at Walden Pond* by Robert Burleigh
- Frogs* by Gail Gibbons
- Pond* by Donald Silver
- A Boy, A Dog, and a Frog* by Mercer Mayer
- Stick* by Steve Breen
- The Frog Alphabet Book* by Jerry Pallotta
- All About Frogs* by Jim Arnosky
- Fanatical About Frogs* by Owen Davey

## Lesson 2:

- Pond* by Jim LaMarche
- Can You Dance Like John?* by Jeff Kuras (*Recommend pre-reading for heavy topics*)

# Lesson 2

## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- *Among the Pond People*
- *Among the Pond People Coloring Pages*
- Nature Journal
- Bird Field Guide or Visual Encyclopedia with Sandhill Cranes
- Sandhill Crane Image (*attached*)
- Colored Pencils or Paints
- Computer (*optional*)
- Picture Books below (*optional*)

Ask the students what they recall from last chapter..

**Read together,** *Among the Pond People*, chapter 2, “The Dance of the Sand-Hill Cranes,” and ask for an oral or written narration. While you read, let younger students paint or color the picture on page 2 of the *Among the Pond People Coloring Pages*.

**Older Students:** Have students look up a [Sandhill Crane](#) in their bird field guide or visual encyclopedia and draw one in their nature journal.

**Optional:** Watch [Sandhill Cranes Dancing](#).

**Dictation Sentence:** “They were a fine company to look upon, orderly, strong and dignified.”

**Picture Books for Lesson 2:** *Pond* by Jim LaMarche, *Can You Dance Like John?* by Jeff Kuras (*Recommend pre-reading for heavy topics*), *Rudy’s Pond* by Eve Bunting, *Butternut Hollow Pond* by Brian Heinz, *Crane and Crane* by Linda Joy Singleton

# Materials Needed for Entire Study

- ❑ **Among the Pond People** by Clara Dillingham Pierson (*This book is available in the public domain. We use the printed version from New West Press but it is also available by other publishers and you can find a copy on most used online bookstores such as Thriftbooks.com, Abebooks.com and Amazon. The free audio version is available on Librivox.com as well*).
- ❑ **Among the Pond People Coloring Pages** (*for younger students*)
- ❑ **Personal Nature Journal** (*each student*)
- ❑ **Quality Coloring Pencils** (*Recommended: Prismacolor*)
- ❑ **Picture & General Booklists** (*attached*)(*optional*)
- ❑ **Pond, Reptiles and Amphibians and/or a General “Pond” Field Guide and/or A Visual Encyclopedia** showcasing multiple pond species. (We use the **Smithsonian Natural History** by DK Publishing. *\*The main goal is to find guides and books with realistic, vivid images of each animal, reptile, insect or bird or habitat when possible*).
- ❑ **Handbook of Nature Study** by Anna Botsford Comstock (*optional*) - (*This guide is a timeless resource highly recommended for instructors interested in better equipping themselves in all manners of nature study*).

# Frog (Lesson 1)



F R O G

## Sandhill Crane (Lesson 2)



SANDHILL  
CRANE

SIMPLE STUDIES™

# POND CREATURES



COLORING PAGES

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NAME



**SNAPPING TURTLE**



Sandhill Crane (Lesson 2)



SANDHILL CRANE

SIMPLE STUDIES™

# POND CREATURES

A LIVING SCIENCE HANDBOOK FOR K-6 STUDENTS  
BY CRYSTAL WILEY

T. MARTIN'S PRESS

## Life

ATED  
ve • Easy-to-Use



CRANES  
2

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC POCKET GUIDE

## Reptiles & Amphibians OF NORTH AMERICA

+ 148 species, coast to coast  
+ Photograph &

# TESTIMONIALS

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*I have been searching for a few years for the right addition to our morning time. I needed something that has poetry, reading, Biblical principles and nature oriented lessons. I would find something but become overwhelmed by the amount of "fluff" and extra content. These studies are so feasible and attainable and have added a wonderful component to our Charlotte Mason homeschool! My only problem is choosing which one to do next!!!! Love them all!!! - Katie Woodruff*

OUR KIDS RECENTLY FINISHED YOUR JUNGLE STUDY AND REALLY ENJOYED IT. :) — GENEVIEVE D.

*We've used your guides from the beginning, gosh, so many years ago. I love how you take the cream off the top of so many different curriculum and put it together in a way that's custom fit for your family. - Miette Allison*

I LOVE YOUR STUDIES. I HAVE AN 8 AND 5 YEAR OLD AND WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING THROUGH THE FOREST ANIMALS GUIDE. IT'S SO FUN. - LYDIA JENKINS

*I like all of these guides because they're simple but interesting and give just enough further resources (links, booklists, ideas) to be fun without being overwhelming, an important factor for us! - @thesunrisemama*

TRULY LOVE YOUR PRODUCTS; THEY ARE A GREAT FIT FOR OUR FAMILY. I LOVE HOW THE LESSONS ARE SO FLEXIBLE. THEY CAN BE SHORT (JUST READING AND COLORING) OR WE CAN GO DOWN A RABBIT HOLE FOR THE AFTERNOON. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR CREATING THEM! — KÀRIN MANCINI

# TESTIMONIALS

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*We did the Simple Studies Burgess Birds and it was our favorite homeschool study we've ever done! We have kids in 8th grade down to kindergarten and all my children enjoyed doing this study together. It's amazing to see each bird that they drew in their nature journal. I printed "how to draw" pages for my youngest sons so it gave them step by step instructions on how to draw each bird. They loved that. My young ones also loved the coloring pages! We were sad when the book came to an end. I would highly recommend this study and you can make it work with a variety of ages.*

– Claire Jones

US HISTORY IS FINALLY STARTING TO BE INTERESTING FOR MY 7 YEAR OLD. THANK YOU FOR CREATING AN INTERESTING, AFFORDABLE WAY FOR YOUNG CHILDREN TO LEARN ABOUT US HISTORY! – SARAH W.

*My daughters and I started with Among the Meadow People and I truly appreciate your simple studies. They are enjoying them and sharing facts with family. They loved how God created the robin with a pocket of oil for when it rains. Thank you for serving the homeschool community with your time and talent. – Nicole M*

JUST FINISHED COURAGE. WE LOVED IT! IT WAS OUR FIRST STUDY AND NOW I WANT TO BUY THEM ALL!! -MAGGIE MILLER

*I'm officially obsessed with your studies. They've been a life-giving presence in our homeschool this year & I'm so grateful to have found them. – Hannah Connor*

I AM SO PLEASED WITH WHAT I FOUND! I AM PLANNING ON INCORPORATING 3 OF THE SIMPLE STUDIES IN OUR YEAR. THEY ARE SO CUTE!! AND ARE GREAT FOR MY BROOD-- 8, 6, 3.5 AND 14 MONTHS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION. – MARIA DOUGLASS

# CHECK OUT OUR OTHER PRODUCTS!

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