

KID BUY PRODUCTS

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Thursday, October 23, 2008

Review and Giveaway! Nature Discovery in My Backyard by The Little Environmentalists

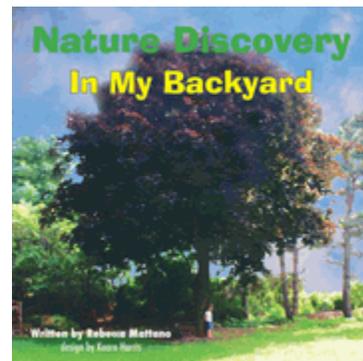


In keeping with my theme this week of trying to find ways to introduce my little urban babies to nature, I have a new book to tell you about: *Nature Discovery in My Backyard*.

This book is the first in a new series of environmental children's books. The book is written to provide a complete sensory experience as you explore your "backyard" with your children. Nadia who is nearly 3 enjoys the book because

it doesn't just explore common elements of nature like trees and leaves, but elaborates by showing pictures of different kinds of leaves and about seeing unusual animals like ground hogs. Well, at least animals we don't typically see in the city!

The illustrations are colorful, but not cartoony. They are softened images of a young girl exploring the trees and grass and flowers in her backyard. In the back of the book you'll find tips for going on your own nature discovery as well as tips for educators and a section of nature notes in the back about some of the plants, animals and insects introduced in the book.



The Little Environmentalists is a company created by a mother of two with an impressive resume. You can read more about Rebecca Matanno [here](#). She's an educator, environmentalist and a mom which makes her very aware of not only how important it is to educate our children about their environment, but she found a way to do it in a kid friendly format. Nature Discovery in My Backyard has become a tool for really discussing what we find as we wander the streets of our neighborhood here in Chicago. We may not have a lot of ground hogs and porcupines, but it doesn't keep us from exploring!

You can buy a copy of Nature Discovery in My Backyard on [The Little Environmentalists](#) website for \$6.95. As the company and book series is new, you'll find that a lot of the site is still under construction, but you can read more about the book, the author, and also download a Nature Discovery sheet as well.

51 comments

[judybrittle](#) said...

We go on hikes and scavenger hunts. It's a great way to find different types of leaves and rocks. Thank you!
judybrittle at aol dot com

[October 25, 2008 4:24 PM](#) 

[mrs.mommy](#) said...

we go on leave hunts and make leave crafts.. we have also gone rock hunting and have buckets of rocks and a rock garden

I love making fun things with the pinecones and branches they find
mrs.mommyATgmailDOTcom

[October 27, 2008 8:30 AM](#) 

[cdziuba](#) said...

We planted red flowers to attract the hummingbirds and they came this year! cdziuba@aol.com

[October 27, 2008 9:22 AM](#) 

[mverno](#) said...

make leave crafts

[October 27, 2008 10:34 AM](#) 

[drming](#) said...

Our family are nudist and naturalists so we spend allot of quality time outdoors taking hikes and exploring nature.

[October 27, 2008 1:36 PM](#) 

[Jenn S.](#) said...

We do tons of outdoor/nature crafts and go on a lot of hikes. My kids love to put masking tape around their arm (like a bracelet) where the sticky stuff is on the outside. They then decorate their bracelet with what they find on our walks.

[October 27, 2008 2:23 PM](#) 

[lisagee](#) said...

Just walk out back, see horses, all kinds of birds that you have to look up online to see just what they are..

[October 27, 2008 3:27 PM](#) 

[Stephanie](#) said...

We take walks everyday and listen to the wind in the trees, the birds sing, and the rabbits nibble!
tvollowitz at aol dot com

[October 27, 2008 5:25 PM](#) 

[reb](#) said...

We go for walks in the woods.

rebbi511 at peoplepc.com

[October 27, 2008 5:46 PM](#) 

[chromiumman](#) said...

we've got a huge park nearby

[October 27, 2008 9:49 PM](#) 

[cathyhall](#) said...

We aren't that lucky to live near woods or country side, but we sill make time for nature. We go to parks and do treasure hunts, looking for pine cones and different leaves.

We keep the treasure ina box and monthly, we'll get them out and paint them up and give them to my sons friends.

[October 28, 2008 12:11 AM](#) 

[idahomom](#) said...

We moved from Memphis to a small town in the Idaho Mountains so that we could enjoy our back yard.

[October 28, 2008 10:10 AM](#) 

[vmkids](#) said...

walks are are favorite

[October 28, 2008 10:32 AM](#) 

[kygirl](#) said...

We go on bug hunts and find the bugs and talk about what kind they are and what they eat and so on

[October 28, 2008 12:22 PM](#) 

[redron](#) said...

we look at nature all the time. we take hikes or just sit in the backyard and watch

[October 28, 2008 12:45 PM](#) 

[Armywife73](#) said...

We like to go on nature hikes.
abrockelman73[at]yahoo[dot]com

[October 28, 2008 12:51 PM](#) 

[Miss Kathy](#) said...

We love to play I Spy in the park!

[October 28, 2008 3:56 PM](#) 

[wigget](#) said...

we love going on bike rides. my youngest has discovered playing in dirt, much to my dismay....

[October 29, 2008 9:49 AM](#) 

[Kristie](#) said...

We like to go on walks and play in the backyard where we see all sorts of nature for them to experience.

khmorgan_00 [at] yahoo [dot] com

[October 29, 2008 1:20 PM](#) 

[justicecw](#) said...

We go on nature walks at the park near our house. thanks, justicecw@hotmail.com

[October 29, 2008 4:00 PM](#) 

[Alice H](#) said...

There's a garden near our home that we visit all the time - to discover what new flowers/plant life are there, and enjoy the changing seasons. Thanks for the chance! alicedemske at hotmail.com

[October 29, 2008 4:34 PM](#) 

[Sharon](#) said...

We love to walk everywhere...and her in MA have many wonderful parks, forests, the ocean...we walk and watch every chance we can.

thanks for contest!

[October 30, 2008 10:24 AM](#) 

[The Popes](#) said...

My daughter is only 20 months old, so we do a lot of listening for different animal noises and picking up rocks and sticks.

minnesotapeachy@aol.com

[October 30, 2008 12:49 PM](#) 

[Nicole](#) said...

we live in a conservation community. Next spring (when my son is a little older) i can't wait to get out and show him all the cool things in his "neighborhood". we have a family of rabbits in our backyard. there is a farm and pond just a quick stroller ride away.

[October 30, 2008 8:37 PM](#) 

[Kari](#) said...

We do a lot of activities near the lake (Ontario) since we live 5 miles from it.

[October 31, 2008 6:01 AM](#) 

[Jessie V](#) said...

we live on a lake, and every day, all year 'round, we go look at the lake, see what changes there are, and note them in a little notebook. my daughter is becoming a proficient nature artist. even in the dead of winter, there are still changes every day.

jessie [at] wanderingeducators dot com

[October 31, 2008 8:36 AM](#) 

[jceko77](#) said...

This past summer, we experienced nature as a family by planting flowers, planting a veggie garden, and watching caterpillars turn into butterflies

jceko77@yahoo.com

[October 31, 2008 2:04 PM](#) 

[Wendy](#) said...

We live in the city so we go to the park on long long walks! There are some really wonderful gardens in the city!

[October 31, 2008 8:08 PM](#) 

[jemmmers74](#) said...

We spend our whole summer, fishing , camping, going to the beach and hiking.

[November 1, 2008 11:43 AM](#) 

[GiltTrip](#) said...

We have a little creek that runs close to our house. The girls use it as their own nature preserve - catching tadpoles, tiny frogs and water bugs. This summer the came upon a crawfish! It was so cool to find something so unusual (for Connecticut) by chance. We research most finds on the internet before we put them back in the water. Too much fun!

[November 1, 2008 3:48 PM](#) 

[rosannepm](#) said...

Go out in the yard to find ladybugs and lightening bugs

[November 1, 2008 6:40 PM](#) 

[RE](#) said...

I'd love this for my kids! We often try and work in the yard together. Thanks!

[November 1, 2008 8:46 PM](#) 

[crystal](#) said...

We go on nature walks down to my in-laws pond & creek. My son feeds the fish in the pond & finds tons of creatures & gifts from nature in and near the creek.

Thanks!

ericbrooks75(at)yahoo(dot)com

[November 1, 2008 9:51 PM](#) 

[Think about it](#) said...

hikes, and climbing trees.

[November 2, 2008 1:59 AM](#) 

[wwe11](#) said...

We take walks in the park and look at all the things.

erma.hurttsbcglobal.net

[November 2, 2008 8:29 AM](#) 

[okbarbie5](#) said...

We love to walk along the park and look at pine cones and all the pretty Fall leaves.

[November 2, 2008 2:05 PM](#) 

[Candie](#) said...

Our family just returned from a two hour hike. We went along our river, creek, and downtown

[November 2, 2008 4:11 PM](#) 

[cathy](#) said...

we take a walk every evening after dinner. we are blessed to have a nature trail just a few blocks from our house

[November 2, 2008 4:46 PM](#) 

[tatertot374](#) said...

Thank you for having this. We like to take walks at the nature reserve nearby. I also like to have scavenger hunts in the backyard. It is so much fun! Thank you!

tatertot374@sbcglobal.net

[November 2, 2008 6:54 PM](#) 

[janetfaye](#) said...

I take my grandson for walks and teach him about nature. I talk to him about the trees and flowers and the weather.

Thank you!

janetfaye (at) gmail (dot) com

[November 2, 2008 11:25 PM](#) 

[purango](#) said...

Ww go on hikes in the woods. There is a nature park with animals nearby. They often have educational days where they present programs on animals and nature. garrettsambo@aol.com

[November 3, 2008 2:42 AM](#) 

[klp1965](#) said...

my son helps me in the garden he is learning all the different names of plants :)

[November 3, 2008 9:06 AM](#) 

[Brooke](#) said...

We live in a super urban environment, so our best way to experience nature is through the weekly farmer's market and our weekly CSA. The CSA is packed with dirt and bugs and it's a lot of fun to learn a lot about where our food comes from that way.

[November 3, 2008 9:53 AM](#) 

[Erica](#) said...

We go out in the yard or take a walk to the lake. We point out different living things we see. I try to get my step daughter to tell me the names of things. My 4 month old goes with us. You are never too young to appreciate nature.

babychooch (at) gmail {dot} com

[November 3, 2008 11:53 AM](#) 

[ldrnc2000](#) said...

We go to the local pond and look for tadpoles!

[November 3, 2008 3:17 PM](#) 

[Icetwofire](#) said...

My son and I go on alot of hikes in the desert and mountains, it is amazing how animals and adapt, thank you.

[November 3, 2008 5:04 PM](#) 

[photography.by.jacqueline.com](#) said...

5 days a week, my son and I take our dogs for a walk around our county lake. Because I am a photographer, he has his own camera that he takes along with us. He takes pictures of all the animals and bugs he sees and then we have to "google" some of them to find out what they are!

myers_photography@yahoo.com

[November 3, 2008 8:50 PM](#) 

[fancyfeet48](#) said...

We go on nature walks

[November 3, 2008 9:53 PM](#) 

[Heather](#) said...

Nature comes to our front door daily. We see lizards, raccoons, caterpillars and butterflies, possums, armadillos, frogs, etc, and we do go check them out. Otherwise, we see things on our weekly walks.

[November 3, 2008 9:58 PM](#) 

[lilyk](#) said...

I like to go hiking and camping.

[November 3, 2008 10:46 PM](#) 

[masonsgranny59](#) said...

We go on nature walks and fishing!

[November 3, 2008 11:25 PM](#)