



PRAIRIE STORMS

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AGES 4-8, LEXILE: AD 860

HARDCOVER ISBN: 9781607181293, \$16.95

PAPERBACK ISBN: 9781607181392, \$8.95

RESOURCES

1. 52-page Teacher's Guide: <http://www.sylvandellpublishing.com/bookpage.php?id=100>
2. Coloring pages of prairie animals:
<http://www.sylvandellpublishing.com/bookpage.php?id=100>
3. Book Videos <http://www.youtube.com/DarcyPattison>
Prairie Animal Sounds: <http://youtu.be/uaUirE0ed6Y>
Download the video at: <http://bit.ly/PrairieStormsWMV> or
<http://bit.ly/PrairieStormsMP4>
Kids Answer, "What is a rainbow?" <http://youtu.be/JcRGHYi9CGc>
27 Young Scientists from Arkansas answer the question, "What is a Rainbow?"
Storms: A Chant of Months: <http://youtu.be/M8AfzGptb50>
Teach the months of the year and typical storms of those months.
Email if you need other downloads of the videos: darcy@darcypattison.com
4. Arkansas Natural Heritage Resources
Series of 4 Prairie Posters:
<http://www.naturalheritage.com/education/outreach/communities/prairie.aspx>
5. Websites: www.prairiestorms.com
Sylvan Dell Publishing: <http://www.sylvandellpublishing.com/bookpage.php?id=100>
Darcy Pattison: www.darcypattison.com/about

COMMON CORE CORRELATIONS (www.commoncore.org/free)

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten ► Unit 1, A Colorful Time with Rhythm and Rhyme

How do animals see, hear, taste, touch, feel?

Look at similarities and differences in tongues, ears, noses.

Kindergarten ► Unit 2, Tell A Story, 1-2-3

Science: Animals and their needs (e.g., farm, pet, and wild animals; what animals need to live)

Compare/contrast farm and wild animals. Discuss what prairie animals need to live.

Kindergarten ► Unit 4, America: Symbols and Celebrations

Geography: United States—locate the prairies in the center of the United States.

Kindergarten ► Unit 5, The Great Big World

Science: Animal habitat preservation.

Example, Preserving prairies in Arkansas: <http://bit.ly/ARBakerPrairie>

Geography: Working with maps and globes – Locate the prairies in the US using maps in book.

Kindergarten ► Unit 6, Wonders of Nature: Plants, Bugs, and Frogs

Science:

Plants (e.g., what plants need to grow, and seeds, flowers, and the parts of a plant)

Study tall grasses, short grasses and prairie flowers)

Earth Day (e.g., pollution, recycling, conservation) Study conservation of prairie lands

Example, Preserving prairies in Arkansas: <http://bit.ly/ARBakerPrairie>

Seasons, use the month by month structure to study months and seasons.

Weather (e.g., local weather patterns and daily weather changes).

Discuss typical weather in your area. How is that the same or different from

weather on the prairies? How does weather change with the seasons or months?

FIRST GRADE

Grade 1 ► Unit 2 The Amazing Animal World

Science: Animals (e.g., habitats, unique adaptations, and the food chain)

Discuss which prairie animals are herbivores, omnivores, carnivores. What does each eat? For herbivores, what prairie plants would they eat?

Prairie habitat: What is a prairie? Where are prairies found in the U.S.? in the world?

How are animals adapted to live on the prairie?

Grade 1 ► Unit 4, Winds of Change

Science: Weather (e.g., wind and tornadoes). This is a go-to book for studying variety of weather patterns.

Grade 1 ► Unit 5, American Contributions

Geography: Study major landforms of the United States such as Appalachian Mountains, Rocky Mountains, Mississippi River and the prairies.

SECOND GRADE

Grade 2 ► Unit 1, A Season for Chapters

Geography: U.S. landforms (e.g., mountains, coast, plains OR prairies, hills, and deserts)

Science: Seasonal cycles

Grade 2 ► Unit 2, The Wild West

Geography: the western U.S., including the “Great Desert” or the prairies that separated the east and west.

History: American westward expansion (e.g., the steamboat, wagon trains, the Pony Express) and Native Americans (e.g., Sequoyah and the “Trail of Tears”). To understand these, students need to understand the U.S. prairies, and what it would mean to travel in this area during this time period.

Grade 2 ► Unit 3, Building Bridges with Unlikely Friends

Science: Animals (e.g., habitats). Birds, mammals, reptiles, etc.

THIRD GRADE

Grade 3 ► Unit 1, Stories Worth Telling Again and Again

Geography: U.S. geography (as related to Native Americans). Study the plains/prairies as background to understand the Native Americans and where they lived.

History: Native American Nations (e.g., the Bering land bridge theory, Southwest, Eastern “Woodland”). Study the plains/prairies as background to understand the Native Americans and where they lived.

Grade 3 ► Unit 2, Inspired by the Sea

History: Life on the prairie (e.g., related to *Sarah, Plain and Tall*).

Science: Animal classifications (e.g., amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals) and ecology

(e.g., interdependence, ecosystems, and environmental conservation), using prairies as example.

FOURTH GRADE

Grade 4 ► Unit 2, Literature Settings – Weather or Not

Geography:

United States/local geography (e.g., coastal areas, plains or prairies, mountains, etc.)

African geography (e.g., Sahara Desert, tropical rain forests, coastal plains or prairies, grassy flatlands, etc.)

Science:

Weather: (e.g., snow, fog, wind, cold and warm fronts, air movement, air pressure, effects of altitude on weather, hurricanes, tornadoes, etc.)

Meteorology and weather prediction (e.g., cloud formation, weather maps, weather stations, satellite maps, etc.)

Grade 4 ► Unit 3, Animals are Characters, Too: Characters who Gallop, Bark, and Squeak

History/geography:

Importance of animals in Native American cultures (e.g., Lakota Indians)

Role of animals in historical events, such as exploration (e.g., Lewis and Clark)

Science: Animals (e.g., horses, mice, and dogs, etc.) and their traits (e.g., classification, habitat, diet, form(s) of protection, enemies, length of life, domesticated vs. wild, etc.); veterinarians. Compare/contrast prairie animals with animals from other habitats.

Grade 4 ► Unit 5, Stories of the Earth & Sky

History/geography: Introduction to culture and life of Native Americans (e.g., Mound Builders, or Plains/Prairie dwellers)

FIFTH GRADE

Grade 5 ► Unit 3, Clues to a Culture

History/Geography: Where different Native Americans tribes lived (e.g., Great Basin and Plateau, Northern and Southern Plains, Pacific Northwest, etc.), and how the shelters, clothing, and artwork varied based upon geography.

Grade 5 ► Unit 5, Exploration – Real and Imagined

History/geography

Explorers (e.g., who they are, where/why they explored, etc.) Introduction to the prairies crossed by Lewis & Clark.

Geography of North and South America (e.g., fifty states, major oceans and rivers, prairies, etc.)

Grade 5 ► Unit 6, Coming of Age

Science: (*as an extension of The Secret Garden*): Plant structures and processes (e.g., vascular and non-vascular plants, photosynthesis, plant cell structures, classification, etc.). Study grasses as an example of plants, their deep root structure; compare/contrast short grass prairie species with tall grass species.

A School Visit With Darcy

Get students excited about books and reading...
invite an author to do a school visit!

Darcy offers three types of presentations:

- **Large group assemblies:** usually center on books, the writing and publishing process, and are suitable for K-8th grades.
- **Small group writing workshops:** involve classes up to 30 students and can be tailored to the needs of your group.
- **Teacher professional development** is another popular session, and can be tailored to your needs. Sometimes schools also want to do a session for parents to discuss the importance of reading.

These presentations can be combined, but they are limited to a maximum of four presentations per day. Darcy can divide her day between several schools that are close together.

Equipment: Microphone for large groups, as well as a Powerpoint projector/computer. Handouts for workshops and professional development which must be photocopied.

How To Schedule:

1. Coordinate with other classes (or schools or libraries), and decide what day works best.
 2. Contact author directly to schedule date, time and details.
 - Darcy Pattison, darcy@darcypattison.com
 3. Send letter home to parents announcing the author visit and offering them the opportunity to order autographed books for their children. (Form letter enclosed!)
 4. **Preorder books.**
 - Coordinate book sales with author.
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Darcy Pattison is the 2007 recipient of Arkansas Governor's Arts Awards for her work in Children's Literature. Darcy established the Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators Arkansas Chapter, and serves as a speaker for chapters throughout the nation. She is currently the Co-Chair of the Children's Program for the Arkansas Literary Festival. Published in eight languages, Darcy's other works include *19 Girls and Me* and *Searching for Oliver K Woodman*. Darcy is a writing instructor and resides in central Arkansas. For more information about Darcy, visit her website at www.darcypattison.com/books.