

The Good AND THE Beautiful

MY THIRD  
NATURE READER



THE GOOD AND THE BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY

BY JENNY PHILLIPS & MAGGIE TAYLOR ENGER



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BOOK  
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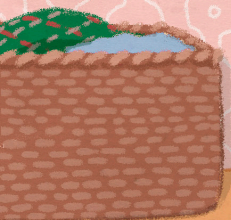
# KNOX ON THE HUNT



KN



Knox packs his knapsack with a camera, a pocketknife, and a snack. He kneels down and ties his shoes. He's ready to go on a hunt!





Knox hunts with his camera. He wants more knowledge of the plants and animals around him.





Click! His first picture is of the twisty knots on an ash tree. He does not know how the tree got those knots, but it looks so neat!





BOOK  
3

# OUR CREATOR'S WORLD



OR Can Say /ER/

Shout praise to my Anchor  
Who made the big trees,  
The lakes like glass mirrors,  
The stars, and the seas.









So whether I'm having  
My worst day or best,  
I sit in God's beauty  
And in Him find rest.



Book  
**9**

# FOREST ELEPHANTS



PH; TCH

The people at the orphanage know that elephants need to play and be loved. The elephant stretches on the ball while Ralph creates a graph to track the elephant's growth. Ralph is not there every day. The workers switch around so the elephant does not get too attached to a single person.





The elephant has been at the orphanage for two years now and is getting bigger. It learns things elephants do. It has an itch, so it rubs and scratches its back against the tree bark.



Joseph starts feeding the elephant things other than milk. Does it eat gophers or dolphins? No! It eats plants, bark, and fruit. Today it eats a patch of grass and carrots.





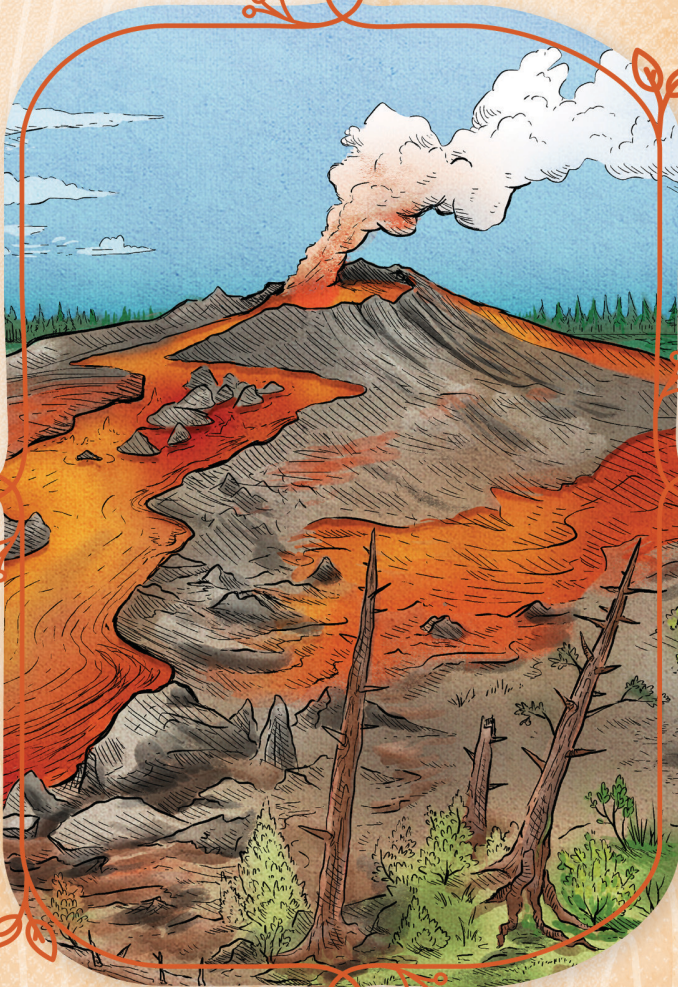
Finally, after four years, the elephant is ready to take care of itself, and it is brought back to the wild. Joseph and Ralph take photos as the elephant plods off with its herd.





BOOK  
15

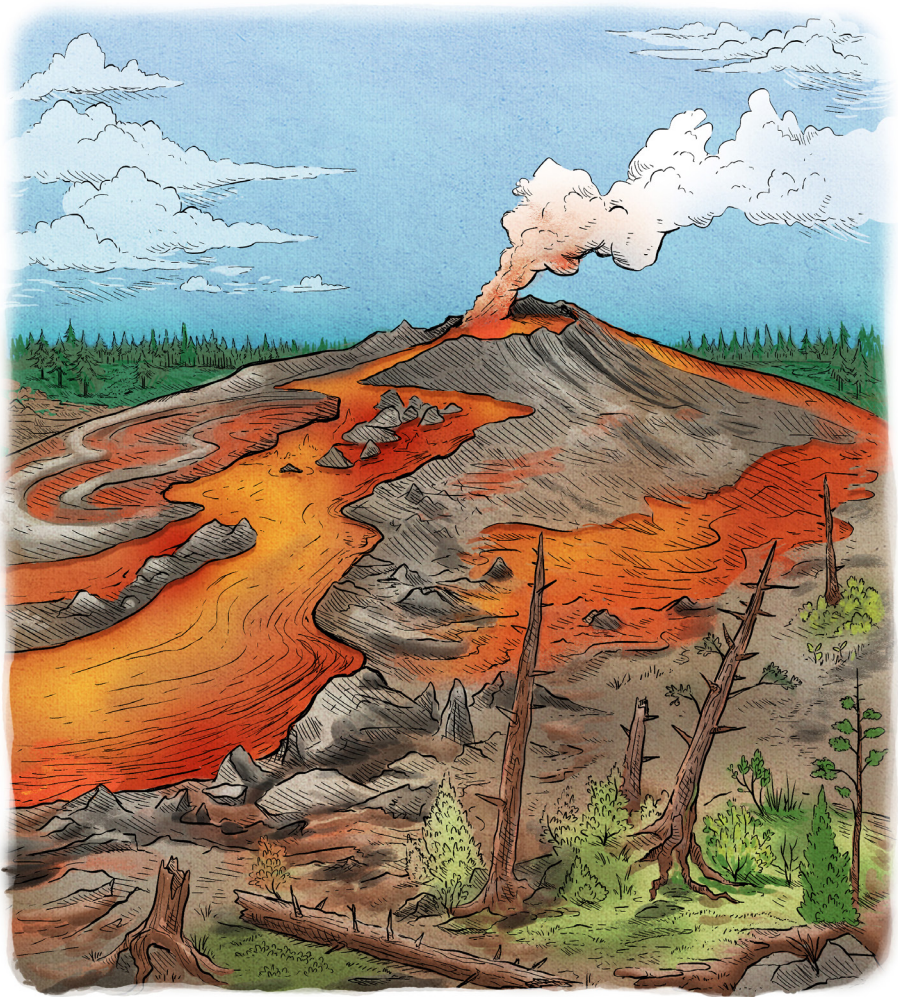
# VOLCANOES



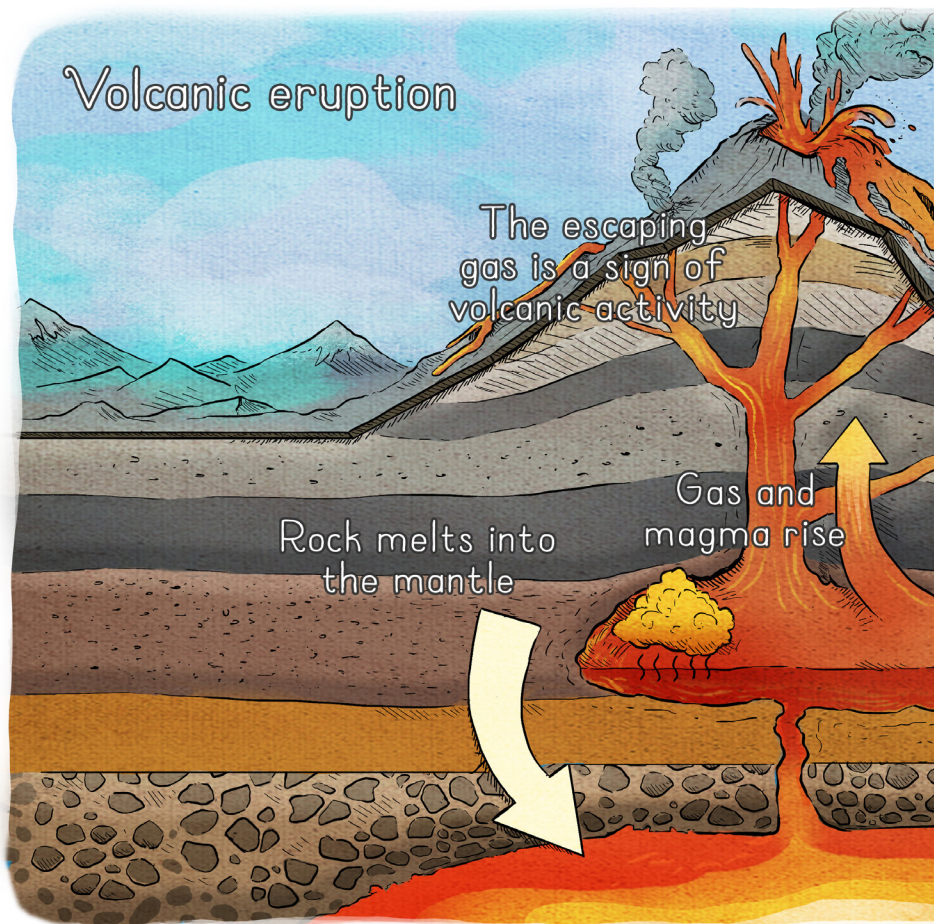
IE



This volcano is called a shield volcano. It is wider, and the sides are not as steep as the ones on a cone-shaped volcano. The lava from shield volcanoes is thin and runny. It flows farther down the mountain before it cools.

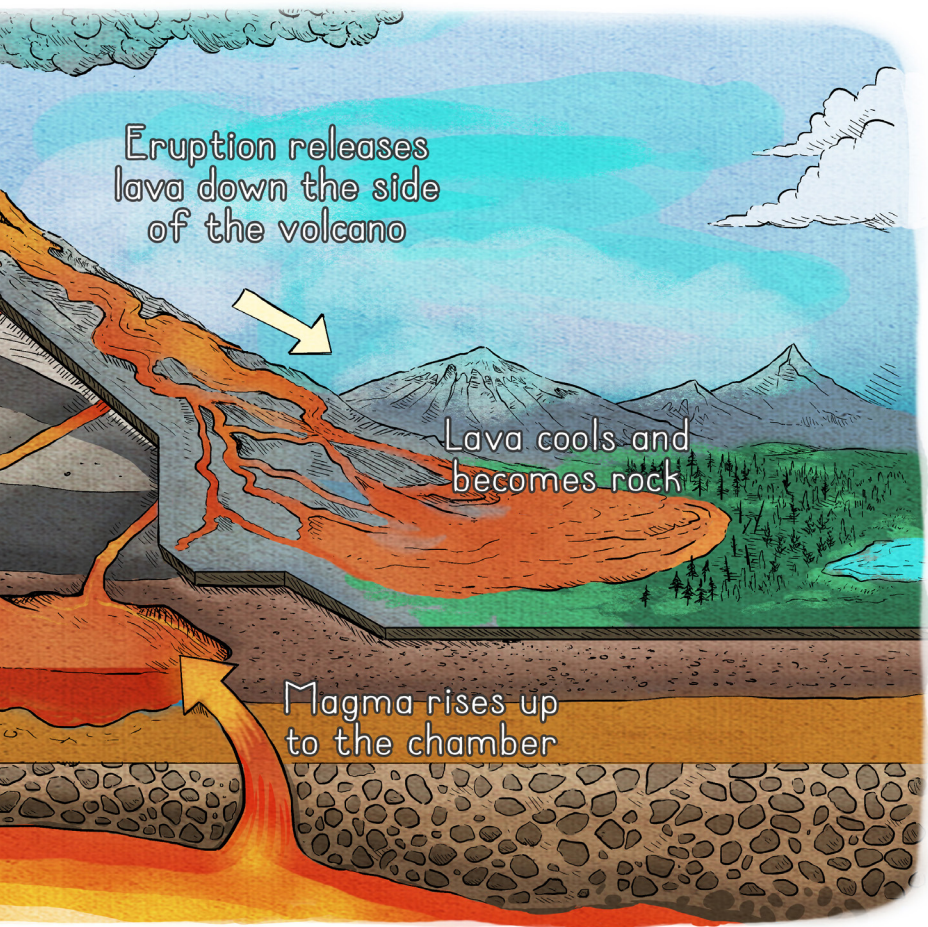


Did you know that magma and lava are not the same thing? Magma is the name for matter that is inside the volcano, and lava is what we call that material once it comes out of the volcano.





Magma is made up of melted rock, pieces of solid rock, and gas. Magma is hotter than lava, which cools as it leaves the volcano. Magma sits in the magma chamber inside the volcano until it erupts.



The opening of a volcano is called the crater. People who study volcanoes can spend only a brief time at the crater. It is very hot up there! They check the heat levels and retrieve samples to study. They wear masks or tie scarves around their faces to keep out the ash.





Volcanoes are beautiful but can also be scary. It is a relief to know that most people will never see a volcano erupt in person. And people who live near volcanoes have learned how to take care when the lava starts to flow.



BOOK  
**18**

# SEAHORSE



TI Can Say /SH/



Look closely. Something is hiding in the seagrass. It's a seahorse! Can you find it? Seahorses are terrible swimmers, so hiding in the grass is a good solution to stay safe. They can even change the color of their bodies to match the grass around them.

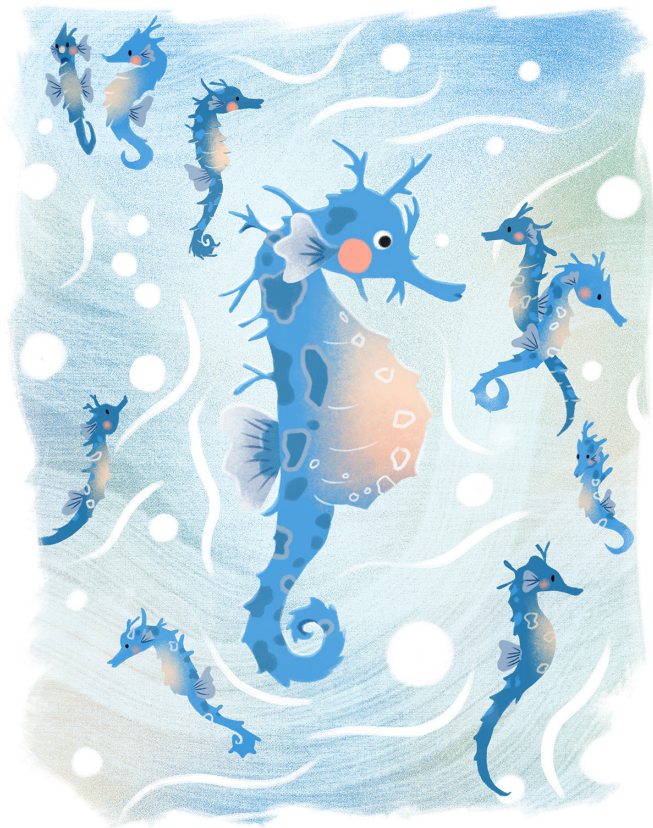


Don't be fooled. A seahorse isn't a horse at all. It's a fish! It uses gills to breathe and has a tough, bony body. Seahorses are the slowest fish, but they can move in all directions in the water. They can swim in a forward motion, but also backward, upward, and downward.





Do you know what happens before baby seahorses are born? The female gives the eggs to the male, and he carries the eggs in his pouch until they are ready to be born. More than one thousand seahorse babies, called *fry*, can be born at one time. Only a small fraction of the babies will live to be adults.



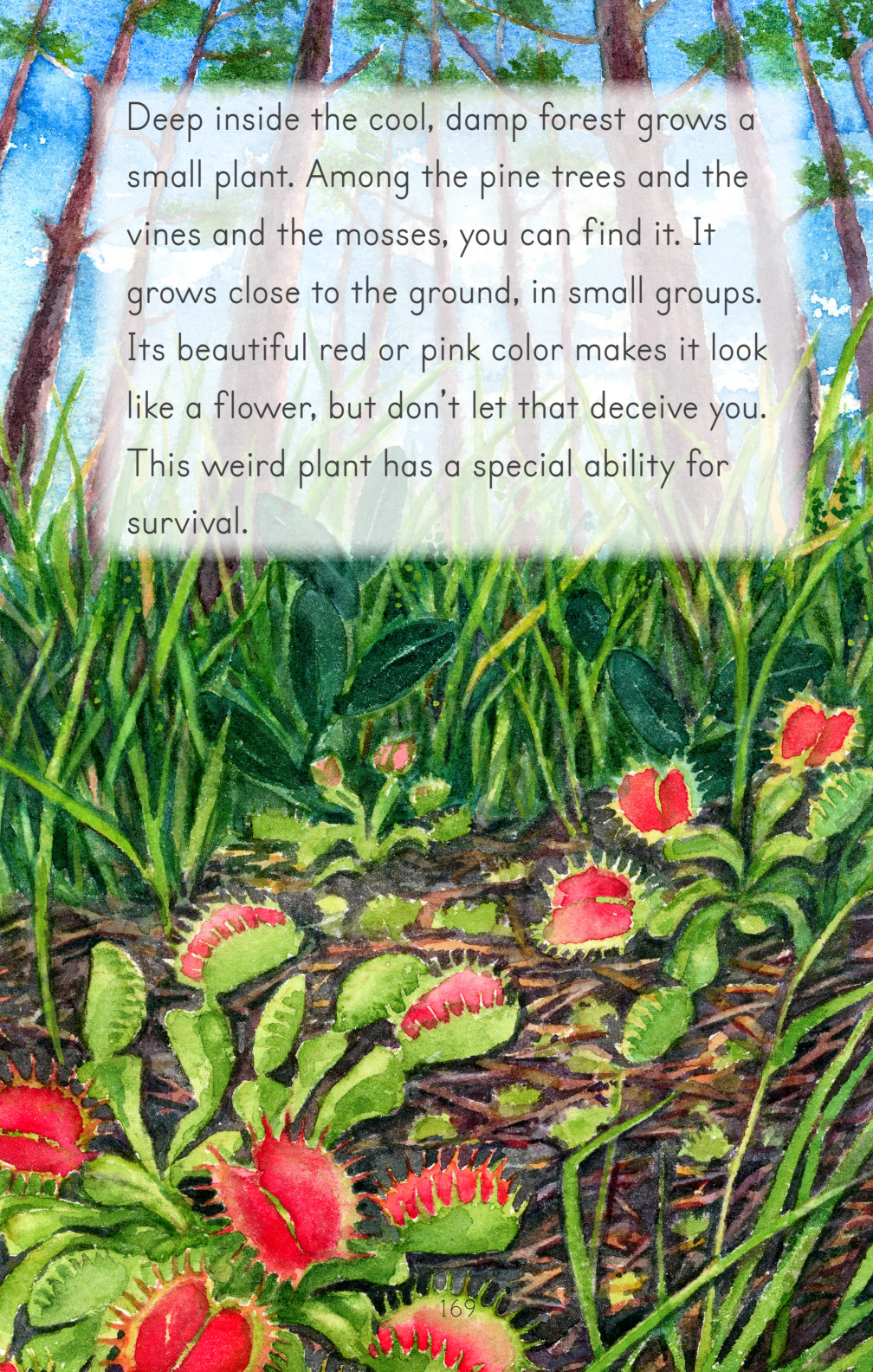
BOOK  
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# VENUS FLY TRAP



EL; AL

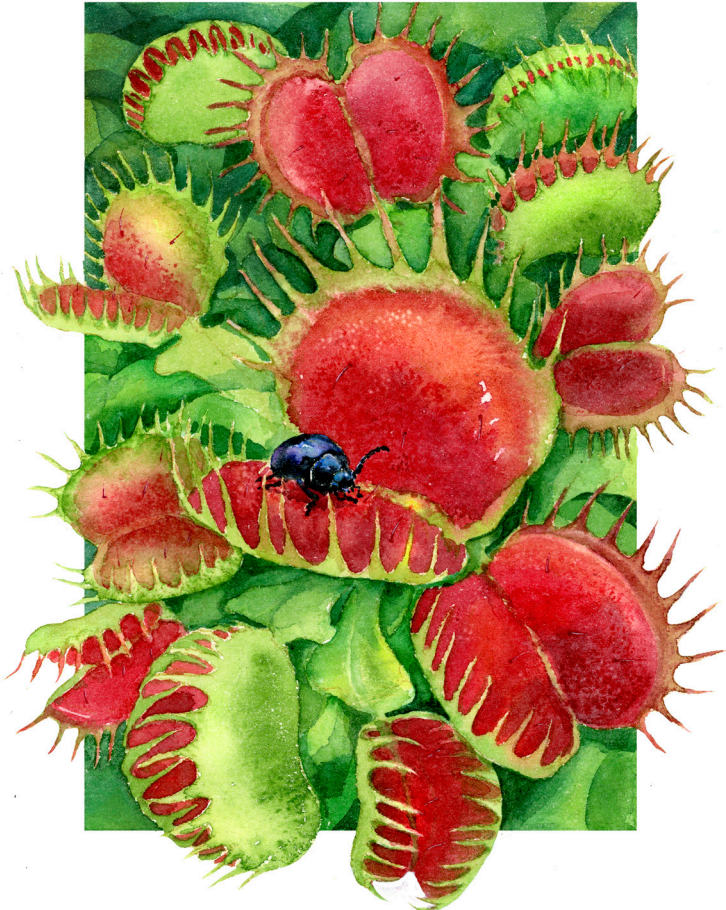




Deep inside the cool, damp forest grows a small plant. Among the pine trees and the vines and the mosses, you can find it. It grows close to the ground, in small groups. Its beautiful red or pink color makes it look like a flower, but don't let that deceive you. This weird plant has a special ability for survival.



It waits, still and quiet, in the soft sunshine for the arrival of its favorite food. After a few hours, it finally senses something; a small beetle is crawling across its sharp, green hairs. *Whoosh!* Quick as a blink, the plant closes its trap to seize the beetle. The Venus flytrap has caught its dinner.





Most plants make their own food from the sun. But some plants need more food and protein than they receive from just sunshine. In general, Venus flytraps will eat ants, beetles, spiders, and other insects. It can take around ten days for a plant to eat one insect.



Venus flytraps are smart plants. They know not to close their traps for things like raindrops or wind. If a Venus flytrap does accidentally close on something it can't eat, it can spit out that object from its trap. Each Venus flytrap produces white flowers with green veins every year to create new plants.





# MY THIRD NATURE READER

*My Third Nature Reader* includes 22 short books for beginning readers at a second-grade reading level. Each book focuses on one or two phonics concepts or a group of sight words.



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