

Berner, Jane, Minser, Sabrina & Presser, Helen Burkart. Curriculum Connections for Tree House Travelers for Grades K-4. Columbus, Ohio: Linworth Books, 2008. xx,170p. \$39.95. (ISBN: 1-58683-281-6)

A classroom teacher, computer teacher and teacher/librarian from Canterbury School in Ft. Wayne, Indiana collaborated to create this book. Their idea originated from a summer school literature based program. They developed four units: dinosaurs, Medieval England, ancient Egypt and pirates. Each unit is based on a Magic Tree House book and its accompanying research guide.

Because each unit is laid out in the same format, the book is very easy to use. The cross curricular activities address state and national standards and are extensive. The activities offer the teacher and/or librarian many choices, probably more than can be utilized. Bibliographies are divided into fiction, information, poetry, art and activities. The books listed in the bibliographies are linked to activities in a curriculum web which includes: fine arts, language arts, math, science and social studies. Multimedia resources, web resources and book resources are all annotated. Each unit has one poem at the end and only the ancient Egypt unit has a play which is very short. Work sheets and templates are included at the end of each unit. On the work sheets and templates it states, "Further reproduction prohibited" but on page ii it states, "Purchasing this book entitles a librarian to reproduce activity sheets for use in the library within a school or entitles a teacher to reproduce activity sheets for single classroom use within a school. Other portions of the book (up to 15 pages) may be copied for staff development purposes within a single school."

This book would be a valuable tool for an elementary through middle school library. It is noted that activities can be enhanced or altered to meet the learning needs of older students. The layout of the book also offers a way to develop units using other Magic Tree House books.

Sheila K.Fritze

Retired Librarian

Former Librarian at Eagle Valley Elementary School and Montrose High School