

Caroline Arnold

"Truth is often stranger than fiction and certainly just as much fun to write. . . . If the children who read my books are as excited about reading them as I am about writing them, then I feel that I have accomplished a great deal."



Caroline Arnold is the award-winning author of over a hundred books for young readers, including *Birds: Nature's Magnificent Flying Machines*—a Junior Library Guild Selection and included in Bank Street Books' Best Children's Books of the Year in 2004—and the ALA Notable Book *Dinosaur Mountain* (Clarion).

Caroline grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and spent her summers at a small camp in northern Wisconsin. It was there that she developed her love of animals and the outdoors, delighting in catching sight of deer leaping through the underbrush or a porcupine scrambling up a pine tree.

Caroline began writing books for children when her own children were small. After receiving her MA in art from the University of Iowa, Caroline planned on writing and illustrating her own books, but these days she is primarily a writer. She now uses her keen sense of observation to learn about her subjects, and she passes along her close-up views to children. Her books are well-received by educators and children. She has been awarded the Washington Post/Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award in 2005.

"There are so many different kinds of animals in the world that I could spend the rest of my life writing about animals and never run out of ideas. When I choose an animal for a book, I often pick endangered species such as pandas or cheetahs. The more we all know about these animals, the more we will care about saving them from extinction. Sometimes, as in my book about snakes, I pick an idea suggested to me by kids. I usually spend up to a year doing background reading on the subject of a book. Then I make trips to the zoo to make my own observations of animals.... After I have all the information I need, I sit down to write the book. It takes me about two months to finish the manuscript for one of my animal books."

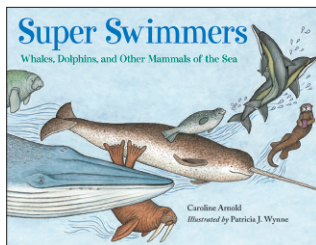
"My hope is that if kids fall in love with the animals in my books, as I do when I write about them, they will be concerned for the animals' future and want to do what they can to protect the animals and the places where they live."

In addition to writing, Caroline spends much of her time reading, gardening, and traveling. She visits many elementary schools, telling children about her books and encouraging them to read and write. Caroline also teaches in the Writer's Program at UCLA Extension School.

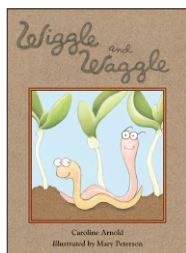
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A winner.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

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“An attractive introductory book on ultrasound and infrasound in the animal kingdom.”

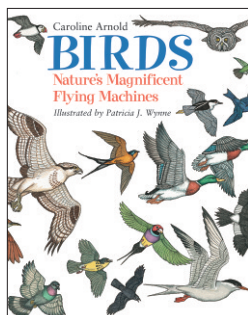
—*Booklist*

Who Has More? Who Has Fewer?

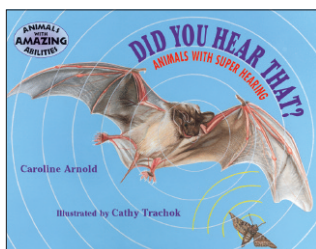
Who Is Bigger? Who Is Smaller?

“These ingenious concept books fold into their own bright little slipcase. Read them one way, and you move from smaller to bigger, fewer to more. Turn the book around the other way, accordion-style, and everything begins to move the other way again. . . . Arnold’s images are elegantly simple. . . . The books are child-size, lightweight, and thanks to the slipcover, easily portable. They’re a perfect choice for cribs, car seats, and strollers.”

—*Boston Sunday Globe*



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Classroom Visits and Talks with Teachers

In the class:

Caroline spends the day at a school and makes three or four presentations in an auditorium or library setting. She shares with the children how she started writing, shows slides of her books and research, and demonstrates the steps in the making of a book. If there is time during the day she will also visit classrooms, meet with groups of young writers, and sign books. For school visits longer than one day, Caroline will do classroom writing workshops, each designed to be appropriate to the age of the students.

With teachers:

Caroline’s talks and workshops with teachers, librarians, and parents focus on her books and how they can be used to reinforce learning in related areas. She provides handouts and often shows slides sharing ways that students have used her books in the past. Because each situation is different, Caroline tailors each presentation to the needs of the occasion.

To arrange a visit and presentation by Ms. Arnold, visit her online at www.carolinearnoldbooks.com or call Charlesbridge at (800) 225-3214, ext. 122.