

About the Author & Illustrator

Nancy White Carlstrom is the author of more than 50 books for children, including the popular Jesse Bear books (Simon & Schuster) and the best-selling *Does God Know How to Tie Shoes?* (Eerdmans). Nancy and her family live in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Tim Ladwig has illustrated a growing list of award-winning books for children, including *Psalm Twenty-Three*, *The Lord's Prayer*, *Morning Has Broken*, and *Silent Night: The Song and Its Story* (all Eerdmans). Tim and his family live in Wichita, Kansas.

Visit us online at
www.eerdmans.com/youngreaders

What Does the Sky Say?

Written By Nancy White Carlstrom • Illustrated by Tim Ladwig

Hardcover ISBN: 0-8028-5208-4 • \$17.00

8 1/2 x 11 • 32 pages • All Ages

Full-color illustrations throughout

Contact Eerdmans for rights information

To order ***What Does the Sky Say?***, call 1-800-253-7521 or

E-mail: sales@eerdmans.com

If you have suggestions for using *What Does the Sky Say?* with children, please send them to us at the address below.

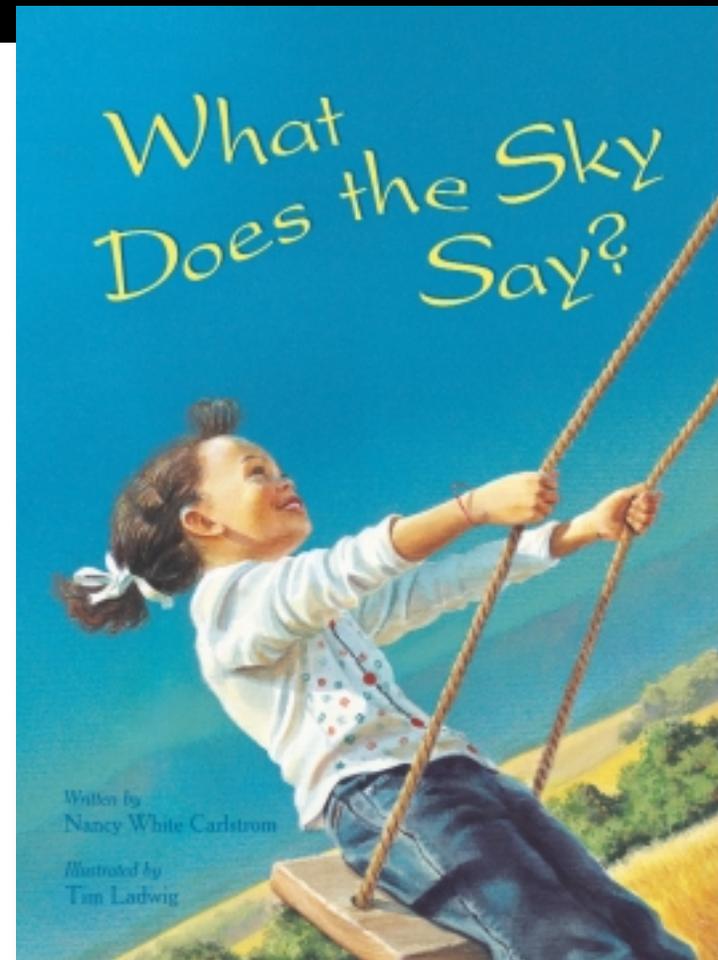


EERDMANS BOOKS
for Young Readers
Grand Rapids/Cambridge

An imprint of Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Eerdmans Books for Young Readers
255 Jefferson Avenue SE • Grand Rapids, MI 49503

An Eerdmans Books for Young Readers Discussion Guide



What does the sky say on a winter night day, or on a Saturday night, or when the rain beats on its chest, or its mouth is full of moon?

In *What Does the Sky Say?* a child watches the sky in changing seasons and in all kinds of weather and learns to listen to its voice.

What Does the Sky Say?

Written by Nancy White Carlstrom • Illustrated by Tim Ladwig

While Reading

What Does the Sky Say? is a harmony of imaginative text and extraordinary illustrations that inspires readers of all ages to participate in the opportunities for joy and learning each day offers. While reading, think about how the poetry of the text and the emotion of the illustrations come together to demonstrate the rhythm of the seasons and the changing moods of the child.

Discussion Topics

The Sky • Why did God create the sky? Who owns it? What type of sky makes you feel the power of God? How would you describe the different moods of the sky to a person who is blind? What can you do to take care of the sky? What kinds of things would hurt the sky? What kind of sky makes you feel scared? What kind of sky makes you feel peaceful and safe?

Weather • What is your favorite kind of weather? What do you like to do in your favorite kind of weather? What kind of weather bothers you? What do you do when you do not like the weather? Do rainy or cloudy days make you feel sad? Why? Why not? How does a beautiful sunset make you feel?

Seasons • Discuss the changing seasons. How do the changes make you feel? Does it snow where you live? If so, what do you like to do in the snow? If not, what do you think snow would be like where you live? What things would be different? What are some signs of spring and fall? How can you tell that those two seasons are different?



Beyond My Backyard • How big is the world? Is there enough space for everyone? What can we do to make our world better? How can we help take care of it?

Activity Suggestions

- Draw a picture of your favorite activity for each season. Be sure to include yourself in the picture.
- Go through magazines and catalogs. Find pictures of the types of clothes you would wear in different kinds of weather. Using the pictures, make a rainy day or sunny day collage.
- Draw a picture of the prettiest sky you have ever seen.
- Drizzle glue on a large sheet of paper and use cotton balls to make clouds. Use chalk to finish your picture.
- Look for poems about weather. Put them together and make a booklet. Illustrate each poem in your booklet. Write your own poems to add to the collection.
- Write down as many words you can think of to describe the sky.
- Make a graph of the different kinds of weather (i.e., sunny, cloudy, rainy, snowy, windy, foggy) for each month of the year. Notice the changes in the weather from month to month.
- Check the weather page in the daily newspaper for the area forecast during the course of one week. Record it.
- What types of foods do you eat in the summer that are different from what you eat in the winter? Have a “summer day” meal in the winter or a “winter day” meal in the summer.
 - Make a list of activities (i.e., recycling, walking to the store) that will help take care of the world.
 - Get a group of neighborhood friends together and clean up your neighborhood one Saturday afternoon.

