

Roxie Munro

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PROPOSAL

Title: *North Pole, South Pole: A Year of Animals*

Author/illustrator: Roxie Munro

Ages: 3-6 (grades PreK-1)

Format:

A 24-32 page nonfiction informational STEM board book. Teaches subjects like time/months/seasons, geography, weather/climate, animal life/nature, ecosystems/biomes/habitats, more. Dummy attached. Paper dummy available.

[Also available in classical picture book format with introduction, maps, more interior text, and back matter for older demographic (6-12; or grades 2- 5). Could also be turned sideways so that the spine is at the top of the book and it opens vertically.]

Description:

Board book opens from bottom up (spine is at the top of book cover). It shows the North Pole (at the top of the world) on all upper (top) pages and the South Pole images on the bottom half of the spread, thus echoing the way that the North Pole and South Pole are situated. On each vertical spread, the Arctic (top) and the Antarctic (lower illustration) ecosystems are shown with lush, dramatic, realistic illustrations and pithy text. Almost wordless.

The book starts in January with a solitary Arctic fox pouncing on a seal hiding under the ice in the dark of the Arctic night. The bottom illustration has the bright Antarctic summer with a Leopard seal in action. Turn the page and, in February, you see a ring seal peering out of his breathing hole in the ice, and in the Antarctic, a giant Albatross flying over the sea. Then, in March at the North Pole, a glimmer of light on the horizon and the mama bear, out from her den, walks across the ice with her two cubs. In Antarctica, it's still daylight, with humpback whales cavorting. In April in the Arctic, walrus are lounging around, while way down south Adelie penguins are building their nests. The next month, May, sees Puffins out and about in the north, and that month, in the Land of the Midnight Sun where it's getting darker, you might see Weddell seals. In June, narwhales socialize in the North, and Emperor penguins huddle over their eggs in the dark cold Antarctic. Beluga whales swim by in July in the Arctic, and fur seals hang out on the Antarctic ice floes. August brings a snowy owl out in

the North, while way down in in the south seas Orcas team up. Reindeer start huge many-mile migrations in September in the North, and chinstrap penguins meet to mate down south. Bearded seals prepare for winter in October, now dark in the Arctic, while a huge blue whale arrives to spend the summer in Antarctica. In November, the pregnant mom polar bear makes her den in the dark, and the birds arrive at the South Pole for the summer. In December, the North Pole is dark and cold and very quiet, but the Antarctic is full of life - many flying birds, big whales, 18 penguin species, 6 kinds of seals, and other creatures, enjoy the Antarctic summer.

Back matter: A spread or two of fun facts on both ecosystems and their creatures. Maybe a map.

Note: Munro's recent nature/ecosystem/STEM books have received 5 starred reviews:

Rodent Rascals (2018; 21 species of rodents by size; Starred reviews in *Publishers Weekly*, *Kirkus*, and *Booklist*);

Dive In (2020; on coral reef creatures; unfortunately came out the same month as the pandemic shutdown in spring 2020; Bank Street Best Book of 2021 List);

Anteaters, Bats & Boas (about the Amazon rainforest and its creatures; Starred reviews in *School Library Journal* and *Booklist*). ALA's *Booklist* chose *Anteaters, Bats & Boas* as one of the TOP TEN Science & Technology books for 2021. *American Scientist* designated *Anteaters, Bats & Boas* one of the top 12 STEM Books for Children in 2021.

More recent books (both, Holiday House) include *Lizards at Large* and *A Day in the Life of the Desert* (on The Nature Generation's GREEN EARTH BOOK AWARD 2024 Recommended List).

Competition:

There are several books focusing on just polar bears or penguins (plus fictional stories). Most of the below are paperback and/or "survey" books.

[Who Lives Here? Polar Animals](#) by Deborah Hodge (Kids Can Press, 2008)

[Amazing Arctic Animals](#) by Jackie Glassman (Penguin Paperback, 2002)

[Arctic Animals](#) (Speedy Publishing, 2014)

[All About the North & South Poles \(Habitats\)](#), by Christine Gardeski (Capstone, 2014)

[North Pole, South Pole: Pole to Pole a Flip book](#) by Michael Bright (Words & Pictures, 2020). A "survey book," browseable nonfiction with simplified cartoon-y illustrations. No unifying theme or point-of-view.

Marketing:

Roxie Munro is an award-winning nonfiction author with a long track record. She prepares and executes lively highly-illustrated programs about the book for school visits and conferences, online or in person. She appears at many children's book festivals including Chappaqua, for which she did the poster in 2019.

Roxie Munro's Studio Newsletter (targeted mailing list of 1,950 teachers and librarians) is sent out quarterly. She does a lot of social media (see end of Bio for links: Facebook [5 pages total]; Pinterest; Twitter (X); BlueSky; Threads; dedicated YouTube channel; Instagram, LinkedIn, and more [[PublishersMarketplace webpage](#), Amazon Author page, Goodreads, etc]). Munro has an extensive professional website with reviews, activities and free downloadables, school and conference visit info, videos, etc. She creates a dedicated webpage for each of her recent books, with videos,

interviews, free coloring sheets to download, activity guides, reviews, etc. Munro creates bookmarks for appearances, sending one for each child in the class at school visits and library talks.

Munro also has half a dozen online programs based upon her books. There will be new videos and Powerpoint/Keynote programs on the book made for educators, students, and for other appearances on the research, content, and the book's creative process. A short lively book trailer with visuals, sounds and music will be created. It will be premiered on [KidLit TV](#), published on [Munro's YouTube Channel](#), put on her website, offered to the publisher, and presented extensively on social media (all of Roxie's book trailers are featured on *Shelf Awareness* as "Trailer of the Day"). Munro is an Advisory Board Member of KidLit TV and can guarantee at least one other feature, besides the trailer Premiere - a Read Aloud, an author interview with Rocco Staino, and/or a Ready Set Draw! episode.

Bio/Awards:

Author/Illustrator (www.roxiemunro.com)

Roxie Munro has published more than 55 nonfiction and concept books, many using "gamification" to encourage reading, learning, and engagement. She has also created 12 interactive apps and all of the [KIWi Storybooks](#) (giant Kids Interactive Walk-in Storybooks). Her books have been translated into French, Italian, Dutch, Chinese, and Japanese. Education: University of Maryland, College Park, MD; The Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD; University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI (BFA in Painting); Ohio University, Athens, OH (Graduate Fellowship/Painting) and a Yaddo Resident Fellowship in Painting, Saratoga Springs, NY. Munro has done editorial work for the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *New Republic*, Associated Press, CBS, others, and has had fourteen *New Yorker* magazine covers published. She lives in midtown Manhattan in New York City, and has a studio in Long Island City, just across the East River.

Munro's art is in numerous public, private, and corporate collections, including her children's book art in the following specialized collections: the New York Public Library; the Zimmerli Museum (solo show, Roger Duvoisin Gallery), Rutgers University, NJ; The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA (solo show); Portland Children's Museum, Portland, OR; Kerlan Collection, University of Minnesota (Minneapolis, MN); De Grummond Children's Literature Collection, University of Southern Mississippi (Hattiesburg, MS); National Museum of Women in the Arts (Washington, DC); Barnes & Noble (New York, NY); Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD; Mazza Museum, University of Findlay (OH); New York University (New York, NY); Dell Children's Medical Center, Austin, TX, and many more.

For articles on and interviews with Munro: <https://www.roxiemunro.com/articlesinterviews.html>

Book Awards (selected) and Book Clubs:

The Inside-Outside Book of New York City: *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book Award; *TIME* Magazine's Best Children's Book of the Year; NCTE Books That Invite Talk, Wonder, and Play; Library of Congress Children's Literature Center Books for Children List ***Anteaters, Bats & Boas***: Starred reviews: *School Library Journal*; *Booklist*; ALA's *Booklist*: one of the TOP TEN Science & Technology books for 2021; *American Scientist*: one of the top 12 STEM Books for Children

Dive In: Bank Street College Best Books of 2021

Rodent Rascals: Starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *BookList*, *Publishers Weekly*; Cybils Award

Nominee in Nonfiction; Bank Street Best Book of the Year List for STEM

Masterpiece Mix: Bank Street Best Books of 2018; *Wall Street Journal's* Best New Children's Book

EcoMazes: 12 Earth Adventures: Starred review, *School Library Journal*; CYBIL Nominee; *Smithsonian*: Great Science Books for Children

Busy Builders: Cook Prize Silver Medal for STEM Bank Street Center for Children's Literature

Hatch!: Children's Book of the Month Club; CBC "Go Green!" Summer Reading List; CYBILS Award Nominee for Nonfiction; Eric Carle Museum Best Book List; Outstanding Science Trade Book for Students K-12, National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) & Children's Book Council (CBC); Society of School Librarians International Honor Book Award; Bank Street College Best Books, with Outstanding Merit; Arkansas Diamond Primary Book Award Finalist

Christmastime in New York City and **Blimps:** *New York Times* Best Children's Books List

Blimps: NSTA-CBC Outstanding Science Trade Books for Children; *New York Times* Best Picture Book of the Year

Market Maze: *Kirkus* Starred Review; Reading Rockets (WETA) Summer Reading List 2015

Gargoyles, Girders & Glass Houses: Magnificent Master Builders and **Crocodiles, Camels, &**

Dugout Canoes: Eight Adventurous Episodes: CBC Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of Social Studies

The Inside-Outside Book of Washington DC: IRA/CBC Books Means Business List; *Horn Book* Star; NCSS-CBC Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies

Mazescapes: *School Library Journal* Starred Review; *Parenting* magazine Pick of the Month; Scholastic Book Club

The Inside-Outside Book of Libraries: *School Library Journal* Starred Review; *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year; *Smithsonian* Notable Books for Children; American Booksellers Pick of the Lists; *Horn Book* Guide Starred Review; Finalist: Nevada Young Readers Award; Rhode Island Children's Book Award nomination; Lasting Connections, ALA; Texas Reading Club; *San Francisco Sunday Examiner & Chronicle* "Editor's Choice"; Bank Street College Best Book Choice; Children's Crown Award Nominee

Feathers, Flaps & Flops: Fabulous Early Fliers: *School Library Journal* Starred Review; *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year; Center for Children's Books Best Book of the Year List

Doors: *Child* Magazine Best Book of the Month; *Horn Book* Best Summer Reading List; Children's Book of the Month Club; Bank Street College Best Children's Books of the Year Selection; Tumblebooks Pick; Best New Book selection, *Scholastic Parent & Child*

Ranch: 2006 NAPPA (National Parenting Publication) Family Honors Award; CBOM Club Selection; Texas Reading Club 2009

Rodeo: Ten Best Texas Books of the Year Choice, *Houston Chronicle*; Finalist, Texas Institute of Letters, Friends of the Austin Public Library Award for Best Children's Book

Mazeways: A to Z: 2008 Edition of Bank Street College of Education's Best Children's Books of the Year; Chicago Public Library Children's Books for Year Round Giving List

Inside-Outside Dinosaurs: Kansas National Education Association Reading Circle Recommendation; ReadKiddoRead: Ultimate Summer Reading List 2010

Amazement Park: *Washington Post* "Best Books for Boys" pick; *Horn Book* Summer Reading List; "Reading Rockets" Summer Vacation List; Children's Book of the Month Club

Gargoyles, Girders & Glass Houses: Magnificent Master Builders: Bank Street College Best of the Year List

Wild West Trail Ride Maze: Bronze Medal, Interactive Children's Books (IPPY, Independent

Publishers)

Other book awards include American Bookseller Pick of the Lists, *Booklist* and *Publisher's Weekly* starred reviews; NYPL: 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing; works from *The Inside-Outside Book of New York City*; *The Inside-Outside Book of Paris*; *The Great Bridge-Building Contest*; and others chosen for The Original Art Exhibit, Society of Illustrators, NYC.

Book Clubs, selected:

Children's Book of the Month Club: *Hatch!*; *Inside-Outside Dinosaurs*; *Amazement Park*; *Doors*; *Circus* and *Ranch*

Scholastic Book Clubs: *Mazescapes*

Texas Reading Book Club: *Ranch*

Science Book Club: *Desert Days*, *Desert Nights*

Social Media:

WEBSITE: <http://www.roxiemunro.com/>

KIDLIT TV (selected videos): <https://www.kidlit.tv/?s=roxie+munro>

X, formerly TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/roxiemunro>

THREADS: <https://www.threads.net/@roxiesstudio>

BLUESKY: [@roxiesstudio.bsky.social](https://www.bsky.social/@roxiesstudio)

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/RoxieMunroStudio>

INSTAGRAM: <https://www.instagram.com/roxiesstudio/>

PINTEREST: <https://www.pinterest.com/roxiemunro/>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/roxiemunro/videos>

PUBLISHERS MARKETPLACE PAGE: publishersmarketplace.com/members/roxiemunro/

BLOG: <http://roxiemunro.wordpress.com/>

SCHOOL TUBE CHANNEL: [schooltube.com/channel/roxie_munro_author/](https://www.schooltube.com/channel/roxie_munro_author/)

AMAZON PAGE: [amazon.com/author/roxiemunro](https://www.amazon.com/author/roxiemunro)

For articles on and interviews with Munro: <https://www.roxiemunro.com/articlesinterviews.html>



