

Synopsis

Berries, apples, melons and grapes; oranges, grapefruits, bananas--yum! This scrumptious picture book, a companion to *The Vegetables We Eat*, offers youngsters an inviting, information-packed cornucopia of favorite fruits. Gail Gibbons combines a clear, simple text with her signature illustrations to present fruit facts galore: the parts of fruits, where and how they grow, harvesting, processing, where to buy them, and how to enjoy them as part of a healthy diet. Once again, Gibbons proves "a master at creating factual books through which young readers can explore details of nature at an accessible and engaging depth."

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #90,829 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in *Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Farming & Agriculture* #33 in *Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Botany* #38 in *Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Diet & Nutrition*

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

K-Gr 3 *Gibbons*, the author of *The Vegetables We Eat* (Holiday House, 2007), now turns her attention to fruit. She begins by stating the importance of incorporating it into a healthy diet, the difference between annual and perennial varieties, and various ways to consume them (fresh, juices, sauces). The author provides details about how fruits grow: on plants, bushes, trees, and vines. Each section contains an informative, eye-catching heading; succinctly presented text; and delightful, cheery watercolor illustrations. Gibbons depicts examples of fruits that grow on different kinds of vegetation (for instance, pineapple plants, cherry trees), provides labeled cutaways of their parts, and describes how they are harvested. Readers learn the differences between wild and

cultivated berries and what parts of various fruits are planted to produce more. The text also briefly covers large industrial farms and small fruit growers, fruit processing and transportation, and the fresh produce available in stores and farm stands. Kids will learn some surprising facts (for instance, olives are fruits), and a trivia section at the end may encourage further research. Stoke children's enthusiasm by pairing this useful overview with April Pulley Sayre's rousing *Go, Go Grapes!: A Fruit Chant* (S. & S., 2012). VERDICT A charming addition to nutrition and food units. —Marianne Saccardi, Children's Literature Consultant, Greenwich, CT --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Gail Gibbons grew up writing stories and drawing pictures to fit the words, and wishing she lived in the country. After graduating from the University of Illinois with a bachelor of fine arts degree, she became involved in television graphics. This led her to work on a children's TV show, where her desire to write and illustrate children's books was rekindled. Eventually Gail became a full-time writer and moved to rural Vermont, where she could have a garden and as many pets as she wanted. Gail has written more than 140 books and has made countless visits to schools. The feedback she gets from children is invaluable and often inspires ideas for future projects. Gail and her husband, Kent Ancliffe, have a dog named Wilbur and two cats, named Miles and Davis. They live in Vermont in a passive solar house that Gail's husband built and on an island off the coast of Maine.

This is an awesome book that can grow with your child and teach a variety of important facts about some of the foods they see and eat. There is a lot of information that can be used in a lot of ways, at different comprehension levels. I ordered this book, and its companion book "The Vegetables We Eat" for primary school lesson plans. One look through this book and my mind was whirling with all the different activities and learning approaches possible. It is bright and colorful, with pictures and information to keep your interest, at any age! I LOVE THEM BOTH!

Kids loved the book!

Good book- filled with important information and great things, but the pages tend to be a little 'busy'

Great for nutrition!

Gail Gibbons never disappoints! The Fruits We Eat begins with a topic so important to young children: healthy eating and fruits are part of that. The book walks readers through the life cycle of fruit from pollination to harvesting and shipping. This book has endless ways to be used in the classroom:

- Introducing students to fruits, trying them and then writing a persuasive review on which fruit is best and why.
- Classify how fruits are classified based on how they are grown (plants, bushes, vines or trees)
- Comparing and contrasting cultivated vs. wild annual vs. perennial sweet vs. tart fresh vs. canned/frozen
- Using a flow chart or timeline from pollination to harvest
- Understanding circle graphs and measurement
- Using diagrams and labels to teach
- Adding a facts page at the end of All About Books!

I love how Gail Gibbons can write an informational text and use illustrations versus photographs to teach the reader. Young writers mostly draw their illustrations before they learn to use photographs. This helps students truly understand text features when they can use them correctly in their own writing and Gail Gibbons models this so effortlessly. This book teaches the reader about fruits/plants/growing cycle but can be used also as a mentor text to teach reading and writing skills.

5 stars

We eat so many different types of fruits. Sometimes just parts of the fruit, sometimes the whole thing, sometimes frozen or fresh. You can eat fruits raw or dried or frozen, or prepare them in all sorts of ways by cooking them. But have you thought about where all of this delicious fruit comes from? This book will tell the story of all sorts of fruit from start to finish! Fruit plants grow in different climates, and in different ways. We learn which fruits grow in the ground, in vines, in trees and on bushes. Fruits can be grown at home or on a farm, and can be found in the wild in nature of course. We learn the parts of fruits and the seasons they grow, how to pick or harvest. Then we follow the process for how the fruit leaves the farm, gets sorted and washed, packed and shipped and delivered to stores for us to purchase. There are suggestions for great ways to eat to keep your body healthy, how much fruits veggies grains and proteins you need, all based on USDA recommendations. This is a bright and colorful illustrated book by author Gail Gibbons, and is a wonderful first glance for young children into where the fruit on their table comes from and how it gets there. Even as adults you'll appreciate insight into the inner workings of growing fruits, farming techniques and much more. Next time you shop for fruit you should pick up a copy of this book to learn more about what you're eating! Read more at www.diapers-and-daydreams.com !

Fun, science-y book! A little long for my preschooler, but even I learned something!

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