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# Zoo In The Sky: A Book Of Animal Constellations





## Synopsis

This award-winning book capturing the glittering light show of the constellations is now available in paperback. Take an illuminating ride through the starry night sky with National Geographic's Zoo in the Sky! Little Bear and the Great Bear in the Northern Sky; the scaly dragon winding his long tail; the Great Dog chasing the Hare in the Southern Sky; all are beautifully rendered in Christina Balit's vibrant art, studded with shiny stars, which perfectly illustrates Jacqueline Mitton's rich text. Awards include: Parent's Guide to Children's Media Award Parent Council Award REVIEW(S): "A visually dynamic introduction to the animal constellations." —Booklist "Mitton offers poetic, abbreviated legends of the nighttime sky, while Balit's paintings, highlighted by shimmering silver stars, give visual meaning to the text." —Kirkus Reviews "This is an attractive introduction to astronomy.... [T]he simple poetic descriptions will capture the attention of preschoolers and early elementary-age children alike. A brief explanation of stars and constellations rounds out this lovely and unusual offering." —School Library Journal

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 750 (What's this?) Paperback: 32 pages Publisher: National Geographic Children's Books; Reprint edition (October 24, 2006) Language: English ISBN-10: 0792259351 ISBN-13: 978-0792259350 Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.1 x 8.4 inches Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (59 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #43,807 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Astronomy #808 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works #2781 in Books > Children's Books > Animals Age Range: 6 - 9 years Grade Level: 1 - 4

#### **Customer Reviews**

We check out many library books each week and I try to get onto and review them so that I have a record of my impressions of each. I want to make note of those I didn't like; and then there are

some, like this stunning volume, I want to make sure I don't forget exist! I can see us checking this book out over and over as my child (now almost 4) gets older and continues with homeschooling. This is a wonderful book and if you are shopping for something that will encourage your child to enjoy the wonders of nature, a book to take along on family camping trips and nature walks; if you want to teach your child ancient stories of the skies, expose them to different cultures; or you are looking for literature which will inspire your storytelling and help you raise a creative imaginative child -- this is the book for you!! Buy it (and I will, too).

I give this book 5 stars based on my son's enjoyment of it. I first saw this book at our Nature Center, and he so enjoyed it that I bought him a copy. I truly believed it would be too old for him (he's 3 1/2) but he adores it. I think because we go to the planetarium often he is able to really make the connections between what we see at the planetarium and in the book. The illustrations are absolutely beautiful and the information is very well presented. We also have 2 other of Ms. Mitton's books. While at first glance they may seem too advanced for the preschool crowd, I can testify that the preschoolers I know (my son and his classmates) really love these books and go back to them over and over. I highly recommend Ms. Mitton's books.

I bought this book and a Night Sky Star Wheel as a gift for my young grand children. I have been active with astronomy for well over 20 years. The book is terrible if in any way trying to relate an animal constellation to any actual constellation in the sky. That is by itself or even trying to use it with a star wheel. For example, the book has a creative drawing of The Great Bear and in part reads "Two bright stars across her back point straight across to Polaris, the North Star." Neither the 'two bright' stars nor Polaris are identifiable. There is no way to see or even imagine "the Big Dipper" within the pictured Great Bear or get any other celestial reference. To me, the whole purpose of the book. Zoo in the Sky, while relatively inexpensive, is of high quality materials printed in China. It is not even entertaining for under 12 and not nearly informative enough for over 13.

My son really enjoyed this book because he loves animals. It explains, in simple terms, the various constellations. The illustrations are beautifully done and very engaging.

I looked over the book after I received it and was so satisfied that children of any age could learn so much about the star constellations. I gave the book as a gift to my five year old granddaughter who loves to look up into a dark night with me to view the stars and Jupiter too. It is complex enough for older children and as an adult, I learn from it too.

Review by Sherry North, Author, Because You Are My BabyWith captivating artwork and just the right amount of information, this book is a wonderful introduction to the constellations. I took my 3-year-old son to the science section of our local bookstore and let him pick out one book, and this is what he chose. He made a great choice, because he asks to see it again and again, and we both enjoy reading it. The star maps at the front and back are very helpful for finding the actual constellations in the night sky - transforming a reading activity into a real-world activity that captures the imagination of preschoolers.

I am so happy with this purchase! We bought this book for our niece. She has a telescope and is fascinated with stars. This is an awesome book for introducing constellations and teaching about the different stars. I would definitely recommend for any kiddos that have an interest in the sky! (Kids ages 4 and 6)

This book has nice pictures. Just minimal information though. I was hoping for more historical information on the story of the stars.

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