

Field Guide List

Birds

1. Basic Texas Birds: A Field Guide, Mark W. Lockwood, University of Texas, ISBN-10: 0292713495
2. Birds and Other Wildlife of South Central Texas, Edward A Kutac and S. Christopher Caran, University of Texas, ISBN-10: 0292743157
3. Birds of North America – A guide to Field Identification, Chandler S. Robbins, Bertel Bruun, and Herbert S. Zim, Golden Guides from St. Martin's Press, ISBN-10: 1582380902
4. The Birds of Texas, John L. Tveten, Shearer Publishing, ISBN-10: 0940672634
5. Birds of Texas: A Field Guide, John H. Rappole and Gene W. Blacklock. Texas A&M University, ISBN-10: 0890965455
6. Birds of Texas Field Guide, Stan Tekiela, Adventure Publications, ISBN-10: 1591930456
7. Ducks at a Distance: A Waterfowl Identification Guide, Bob Hines, US Fish & Wildlife Service.
8. A Field Guide to the Birds of Texas, Roger Tory Peterson, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0395921384
9. Kaufman Field Guide to Birds of North America, Kenn Kaufman, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0618574239
10. The LaMaster Method of Waterfowl Identification, Richard LeMaster, Stackpole, ISBN-10: 0809248484
11. Local Birds of Central Texas, Local Birds Inc., www.localbirds.com
12. National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Birds-E: Eastern Region, National Audubon Society, Knopf, ISBN-10: 0679428526
13. National Geographic Society Field Guide to the Birds of North America, National Geographic, ISBN-10: 0792268776

The Texas Master Naturalist program activities are coordinated by Texas Agrilife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife. Texas Master Naturalist programs serve all people regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

14. Peterson Field Guides: Birds of Texas, Roger T. Peterson, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0395921384
15. The Sibley Guide to Birds, David Allen Sibley, Knopf, ISBN-10: 0679451226
16. Smithsonian Handbooks Birds of Texas, Fred J. Alsup, DK Adult, ISBN-10: 0789483882

Fish

1. Freshwater Fishes of Texas: A Field Guide, Chad Thomas, Texas A&M University Press, ISBN-10: 1585445703

Insects, Dragonflies and Butterflies

1. A Field Guide to Insects: America North of Mexico, Richard E. White, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0395911710
2. A Field Guide to Common Texas Insects, Bastiaan M. Drees, Gulf, ISBN-10: 0877192634
3. A Field Guide To Dragonflies of North America, Sidney W. Dunkle, Oxford University Press, ISBN-10: 0195112687
4. The Big Little Book of Butterflies, Jeffrey Glassberg, Sterling, ISBN-10: 1402717822
5. Butterflies of North America (Kaufman Field Guides), Kenn Kaufman, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0618768262
6. Dragonflies and Damselflies of Texas and the South-Central, John C. Abbott, Princeton University Press, ISBN-10: 0691113645
7. Field Book of Insects, Frank E. Lutz, G. P. Putnam, ASIN: B000GP4SKC
8. The Life Cycles Of Butterflies, Judy Burris, Storey Publishing, ISBN-10: 1580176178
9. National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Butterflies, National Audubon Society, Knopf, ISBN-10: 0394519140
10. Peterson First Guides Caterpillars, Amy Bartlett Wright & Roger Tory Peterson, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0395911842
11. Peterson Field Guides Insects, Donald J. Borror, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0395911702
12. Simon & Schuster Guide to Insects, Dr. Ross H. Arnett, Fireside, ISBN-10: 0671250140

The Texas Master Naturalist program activities are coordinated by Texas Agrilife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife. Texas Master Naturalist programs serve all people regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

13. Texas Bug Book: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, Howard Garrett, University of Texas, ISBN-10: 0292709374

Mammals and Tracks

1. Animal Tracking Basics, Jon Young and Tiffany Morgan, Stackpole Books, ISBN-10: 0811733262
2. Animal Tracks of Texas, Ian Sheldon, Lone Pine Publishing, ISBN-10: 1551052482
3. National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mammals, National Audubon Society, Knopf, ISBN-10: 0679446311
4. National Audubon Society Pocket Guide: Familiar Animal Tracks of North America, John Farrand, Knopf, ASIN: B0018MW516
5. The Mammals of Texas, David J. Schmidly, University of Texas Press, ISBN-10: 0292702418
6. The Tracker's Field Guide: A Comprehensive Handbook for Animal Tracking in the United States, James C. Lowery, Falcon, ISBN-10: 0762739819

Plants, Flowers

1. American Nature Guides Wild Flowers, Pamela Forey, Dragon's World, ISBN-10: 1850283702
2. American Wildlife & Plants: A Guide to Wildlife Food and Habits, Alexander C; Zim, Herbert S; Nelson, Arnold L Martin, Dover Publications, ASIN: B000H7CX1U
3. Edible Wild Plants Of The Prairie, Kelly Kindscher, University Press of Kansas, ISBN-10: 0700603255
4. A Field Guide to Southwestern and Texas Wildflowers, Theodore F. Niehaus, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0395936128
5. A Field Guide to Texas Wildflowers, Campbell Loughmiller, University of Texas, ISBN-10: 0292712863
6. Know Your Grasses, Barron S. Rector, Texas AgriLife Extension, Pub. B-182
7. Native Texas Plants: Landscaping Region by Region, Sally Wasowski, Gulf Publishing, ISBN-10: 0891230777

The Texas Master Naturalist program activities are coordinated by Texas AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife. Texas Master Naturalist programs serve all people regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

8. Plants Of The Texas Coastal Bend, Roy L. Lehman, Texas A&M University Press, ISBN-10: 1585444081
9. Rare Plants of Texas, Jackie M. Poole, Texas A&M, ISBN-10: 1585445576
10. Texas Range Plants, Stephen L. Hatch, Texas A&M, ISBN-10: 0890965218
11. Texas Trees: A Friendly Guide, Patty Leslie, Corona Publishing, ISBN-10: 0931722675
12. Texas Wildflowers: A Field Guide, Campbell Loughmiller, University of Texas Press, ISBN-10: 0292712863
13. Wild Orchids of Texas, Joe Liggio & Ann Orto Liggio, University of Texas Press, ISBN-10: 0292747128
14. Wildflowers of Texas, Geyata Ajilvsgi, Shearer Publishing, ISBN-10: 0940672731

Snakes, Amphibians, Reptiles

1. Amphibians and Reptiles of Texas, James R. Dixon, Texas A&M University Press, ISBN-10: 0890969205
2. A Field Guide to Texas Snakes, Alan Tennant, Publishing, ISBN-10: 0877192774
3. A Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians of Eastern & Central North America, Roger Conant, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0395904528
4. A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians, Robert C. Stebbins, Texas A&M University Press, ISBN-10: 0890969205
5. Peterson Field Guide: A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern & Central North America, Roger Conant, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0395904528
6. Simon & Schuster's Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of the World, Massimo Capula, Fireside, ISBN-10: 0671690981
7. The National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Reptiles and Amphibians, National Audubon Society, Knopf, ISBN-10: 0394508246

The Texas Master Naturalist program activities are coordinated by Texas Agrilife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife. Texas Master Naturalist programs serve all people regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Trees

1. Texas Trees, Howard Garrett, Taylor Trade Publishing, ISBN-10: 0891230769
2. Texas Trees & Wildflowers, James Kavanagh, www.waterfordpress.com, ISBN-10: 1583550984
3. Texas Trees: A Friendly Guide, Patty Leslie & Paul W. Cox, Corona Publishing, ISBN-10: 0931722675
4. Trees of North America, Alan Mitchell, Thunder Bay Press, ISBN-10: 1571458778

General

1. Ecology Of Western Forests (Peterson Field Guide), Kricher & Morrison, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 039546742X
2. A Field Guide to Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians, Ellen Sue Turner, Gulf Publishing, ISBN-10: 0891230513
3. Geo-Texas: A Guide to the Earth Sciences, Eric R. Swanson, Texas A&M University, ISBN-10: 0890966826
4. Healing Plants: A Medicinal Guide to Native North American Plants and Herbs, Ana Nez Heatherly, Lyons Pr, ISBN-10: 1558215085
5. Peterson Field Guides: The North American Prairie, Stephen R. Jones, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-10: 0618179291
6. Roads of Texas, Bob Phillips, Mapsco, Inc, ISBN-10: 1569664218
7. Roadside Geology of Texas, Darwin Spearing, Texas A&M University Press, ISBN-10: 1585445703
8. Texas Mushrooms, Susan & Van Metzler, University of Texas, ISBN-10: 0292751257
9. Texas Wildlife: An Introduction to Familiar Species, James Kavanagh, www.waterfordpress.com, ISBN-10: 1583552545

The Texas Master Naturalist program activities are coordinated by Texas Agrilife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife. Texas Master Naturalist programs serve all people regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Overview of Field Guides

These are designed to help identify wildlife, objects, or natural occurrences. Most are designed specifically to be carried into the field. They often utilize an easy-referencing system where you can easily distinguish one item from another.

It will typically include a description of the objects covered, together with paintings or photographs and an index. More serious and scientific field identification books, will probably include identification keys to assist with identification, but the publicly-accessible field guide is more often a browsable picture guide organized by family, color, shape, or other descriptors.

History

Popular interest in identifying things in nature probably were strongest in bird and plant guides. In 1902, Florence Merriam Bailey, wife of well-known zoologist Vernon Bailey wrote a Handbook of Birds of the Western United States which was arranged by taxonomic order and had clear descriptions of species size, distribution, feeding and nesting habits, resembling the modern field guide. From this point to the 1930s, many much more modern parts of field guides were tried out by Chester A. Reed and others such as changing the size of the book to fit the pocket, including color plates, and different subjects such as garden and woodland flowers, insects and dogs.

In 1934, Roger Tory Peterson, using his fine skill as an artist, changed the way modern field guides approached identification. Using color plates with paintings of similar species together - and marked with arrows showing the differences - people could use his bird guide in the field to compare species quickly to make identification easier. This technique, the "Peterson Identification System", was used in most of Peterson's Field Guides from animal tracks to seashells and has been widely adopted by other publishers and authors as well.

Also popular in the 1960s were the Golden Guides which expanded the range of subjects of what a field guide could address, including antique glass, wine, photography and hallucinogenic plants (often written by experts in their respective field - the latter was written by Schultes, a respected name in ethnobotany). This series was edited by Herbert Zim for Golden Press.

Today, each field guide has its own range, focus and organization. Specialist publishers such as Croom Helm, along with organizations like the Audubon Society, the RSPB, the Field Studies Council, National Geographic, HarperCollins, and many others all produce quality field guides.

Source: Adapted from Wikipedia, 2008.

The Texas Master Naturalist program activities are coordinated by Texas AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife. Texas Master Naturalist programs serve all people regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.