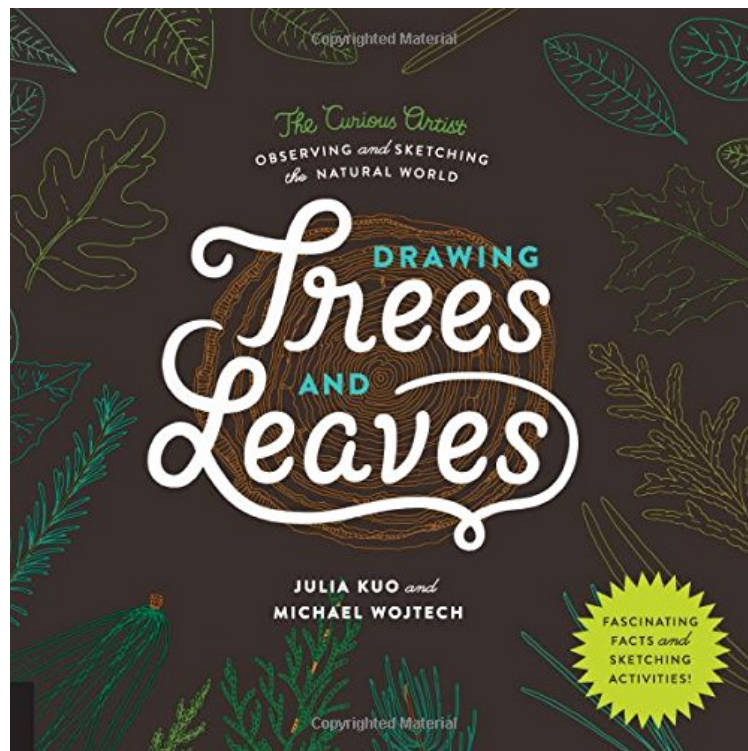


[Download] Drawing Trees and Leaves: Observing and Sketching the Natural World (The Curious Artist)

Drawing Trees and Leaves: Observing and Sketching the Natural World (The Curious Artist)

Julia Kuo, Michael Wojtech
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Julia Kuo, Michael Wojtech : Drawing Trees and Leaves: Observing and Sketching the Natural World (The Curious Artist) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Drawing Trees and Leaves: Observing and Sketching the Natural World (The Curious Artist):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Monhegan Monarch Good book. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful content but bad presentation By Parka[[VIDEOID:9a59082b19a0130a3c4d60b305a351ab]] This book is a collaboration between artist Julia Kuo and naturalist Michael Wojtech. I bought this book because of the beautiful illustrations by Julia Kuo. I love the line art and clean coloring style. It reminds me of Katie Eberts art from Fresh Made Simple: A Naturally Delicious Way to Eat: Look, Cook, and Savor. This is an educational book that talks about the form and function of trees and their related parts, such as roots, flowers, leaves, etc. It covers subjects like photosynthesis, which is a process of how plants make food, how trees reproduce, how they survive the weather and the part they play in the natural environment with other animals. There are also several drawing exercises. You'll get to identify and draw different types of leaves, bark structure, flowers, fruits, tree shapes and more. After going through the book, one can't help but understand and appreciate trees more. The book's really enlightening and informative. The only downside is the double page spread is presented like a vertical spread, so you have to turn the book 90 degrees to read. This applies to all the pages. It's tiring to read the book like this with one hand at the top and the other at the bottom, instead of the hands side by side. And

the worst thing is, that layout is unnecessary because most pages do not have art that go across the page gutter. I believe this layout was chosen because some trees can be drawn at full height to make their look taller, but that only happens for a handful of pages. Despite the layout, it's still a wonderful book because the content is great. If you like this book, do check out *Nature Anatomy* and *Farm Anatomy* by Julia Rothman. (See more pictures of the book on my blog. Just visit my profile for the link.) 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This book was a wonderful and informative read. By Lydia This book was a wonderful and informative read. The illustrations by Julia Kuo are absolutely gorgeous and I love the use of color and line work. It very much reminded me of both nature books and "How to draw" books I used to have as a child. I am so excited to take it with me come spring and do the drawing exercises outdoors! The only drawback and something another reviewer mentioned is definitely the book layout. I DO enjoy the way the tree illustrations are allowed to expand vertically (Especially for the breathtaking chapter title pages) but I think it is unnecessary to have this orientation through the entire book. OR, if it were to remain this way, at least to have the book bound differently - that would make it less cumbersome to read/handle. As an artist, I can see how the vertical layout might benefit drawing with a sketchbook and holding the book as a reference, but overall layout I feel that it could have been thought out a bit better (especially the cover orientation!)

Capture the essence of the forest with *Drawing Trees and Leaves*. Trees are a perennially inspiring subject for artists. Think of their beautiful multicolored leaves in the fall, or the way the snow settles on their branches in the winter. Start by learning how to identify trees and leaves, their benefit and life stages, the oldest trees, famous forests, and other fascinating aspects and phases of growth. Then, use this inspiration paired with charming prompts to draw the diverse beauty of these endlessly captivating and beautiful subjects. Flip this book open vertically; these are drawings of tall trees!

About the Author Julia Kuo grew up in Los Angeles and studied illustration and marketing at Washington University in St. Louis, where she has also taught illustration. (Most of this book was completed right by the lovely Forest Park in St. Louis.) Julia currently lives in and works out of Chicago for most of the year and Taiwan in the winter. She illustrates children's books as well as editorial pieces for newspapers and magazines. Her clients include ScienceFriday.com, the New York Times, Hachette Books, Simon Schuster, and Macmillan Publishers. Her illustrations have been honored in *American Illustration*, *CMYK* magazine, and *Creative Quarterly*. When she's not drawing, you might find her running around in a national park and looking at moss. See more of her work at www.juliakuo.com Naturalist Michael Wojtech earned his master's in Conservation Biology from Antioch University New England. His thesis became the foundation for his book *Bark: A Field Guide to Trees of the Northeast* (University Press of New England, 2011). A freelance writer, educator, photographer, and illustrator, Michael's work has appeared in *American Forests*, *Northern Woodlands*, and other publications. He presents lectures and workshops on the identifying characteristics, ecology, and beauty of trees for arboretums, schools, nature centers, museums, garden clubs, libraries, and other organizations, including the Arnold Arboretum, the Peabody Museum at Yale, and the Torrey Botanical Society. Michael strives to share the process of discovery - the keen observation, finding nuance and beauty in infinite layers, the evocation of multiple senses - and inspire the creative expressions and connections that flow from these experiences. He and his two daughters live in Williamsburg, Massachusetts, and regularly explore the forests of western Massachusetts. Learn more about Michael's work at www.knowyourtrees.com