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The Frog Scientist (Scientists In The Field Series)



Synopsis

The critically acclaimed *Scientist in the Field* book about how one boy's interest in backyard science inspired a career in scientific discovery. When Tyrone Hayes was growing up in South Carolina, he didn't worry about pesticides. He just liked to collect frogs. Tyrone's interest in science led him to Harvard University, and though he struggled at first, he found his calling in the research lab of an amphibian scientist. Meanwhile, scientists discovered that all around the globe, frogs were dying. The decline has many causes, including habitat loss and disease. Tyrone discovered that the most commonly used pesticide in the United States, atrazine, may also play a role. Tyrone tested atrazine on frogs in his lab at Berkeley. He found that the chemical caused some of the male frogs to develop into bizarre half-male, half-female frogs. What was going on? That's what Tyrone wants to find out.

Book Information

Series: Scientists in the Field Series

Paperback: 64 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #147,991 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #92 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Experiments & Projects #109 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Biology #110 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Reptiles & Amphibians

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 5 • Being raised in then strictly segregated Columbia, SC, couldn't keep a smart young African-American man out of college, even prestigious Harvard University. Floundering in an unfamiliar milieu, Tyrone Hayes caught the attention of a serious science professor who recognized the potential of this struggling student and became his mentor.

Turner's lucid text and Comins's clear color photos follow Hayes's developing career to his present respected place as a gifted member of the scientific community. Researching the effects of atrazine-contaminated water on vulnerable amphibians, he is surrounded by the "Frog Squad," a group of enthusiastic students pouncing on frogs in ponds or collecting careful data in the lab. Grinning from pierced ear to pierced ear (and that is a story in itself), the genial scientist nurtures his assistants, encouraging their enthusiasms while demanding serious work. Of the same sterling quality as Sy Montgomery's engaging *The Tarantula Scientist* (2004) or her exciting *Quest for the Tree Kangaroo* (2006, both Houghton), this new addition to a stellar series opens an upbeat window to the adult application of youthful enthusiasms. —Patricia Manning, formerly at Eastchester Public Library, NY

END --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Hayes comes across as both a dedicated scientist and a regular person, willing to work hard in pursuit of his scientific work yet quick to laugh and joke with his family and the graduate students he mentors. The result is one of the most compelling portraits of a scientific career the series has produced. Sharp, vivid photographs alternate between portrayals of the scientists at work in field and laboratory settings, as well as relaxing at lab picnics and at home and the frogs they study. The abundant images of many different frog species allow readers to observe in detail each animal's characteristics, including size, anatomy, and habitat."--Horn Book, starred review

"... lively volume ... Well organized and clearly written, the text goes into detail about the process of analyzing the chemical's affects on the frogs, but pulls back from specifics to show how the experiment fits into the larger picture ... Excellent color photos offer clear pictures of frogs and of this scientific team at work in the field and in the lab ... Throughout the book, Turner portrays Hayes as both a colorful personality and a dedicated scientist: the final chapter opens with a discussion of his four ear piercings and concludes with an overview of his research. A vivid, realistic view of one scientist at work."--Booklist, starred review

"... a nifty narrative that conveys science in action, offers some insight into environmental damage, and provides a vivid portrait of an energetic and charismatic (and hunky) young scientist who's clearly inspiring students to take an interest in the field. The visually appealing layout is thick with images of people, making it easy to envision the realities of biological work, and of frogs, from hopping to undergoing dissection ... useful as an introduction to the creation and execution of an experiment, and it will therefore be invaluable in science classes."--The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, starred review

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opens an upbeat window to the adult application of youthful enthusiasms."--School Library Journal, starred review

Delivery was perfect. I like the book and my son used it for his presentation in 5th grade.

I didn't expect this book to be so rich in information and wonderful pictures; it is not just a children's book! I heard Dr. Hayes speak on KPFA radio, and he was so dynamic that I wanted to read more about him. I am a frog fan, and now a Dr. Hayes fan! I was pleased to find out that my granddaughter attended a lecture of his at UC Berkeley, too.

Great book with lots of details. It was confusing for my 5th graders because of their lack of background knowledge.

Good book. If you're buying this as a readaloud, however, you should know that I had to reword and even skip a few little parts of it (and I can usually reword anything without having to skip).

Wonderful addition to science classroom and very multicultural.

Nice pictures, age appropriate for 7th grade, my son didn't hate it. It was summer reading requirement for school assignment, asked him how it was he said "okay" that's good with him.

Great book for my science class. Beautiful illustrations.

Great book! I work with a 5th grade after school and did a close reading with them using this book. Worked great!

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