

## Teaching Natural Sciences through East Asian Picture Books

Saturday, November 4, 2023 - 8:30 am to 2:30 pm

### A Professional Development Workshop for K-8 Colorado Teachers

This in-person workshop is aimed at elementary and middle school teachers interested in integrating picture books into science and/or social studies instruction. The workshop will focus on the teaching of the natural sciences and the cultures of East Asia in Colorado classrooms. The five books featured address specific Colorado standards in life science, earth science, and social studies. By using these specific picture books that deliver the content with accuracy, teachers will help students gain literacy and visual skills as they read and examine the materials.

**Course Format and Expectations:** The workshop will be conducted on Saturday November 4 at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. It will include introductions to the following books and topics:

***When the Sakura Bloom*** by Narisa Togo.

- Describes the blooming of the cherry blossom and its significance in Japanese culture.

***When Spring Comes to the DMZ*** by Uk-Bae Lee.

- Introduces students to the untouched Demilitarized Zone in Korea and its flora and fauna.

***A Big Mooncake for Little Star*** by Grace Lin.

- Illustrates the waning stages of the moon and the Mid-Autumn Festival in Chinese culture.

***Moth and Wasp, Soil and Ocean*** by Sigrid Schmalzer.

- Depicts the natural life of insects as a scientist in rural China works to establish best practices in farming.

***Kai the Dancing Butterfly*** by Crystal Z. Lee.

- Examines butterflies and their migratory pattern in Taiwan as well as the island's geography and indigenous cultures.

Use of these picture books will stimulate students' critical thinking abilities, enable them to learn complex science-related topics as they engage with thought-provoking illustrations and gain knowledge of East Asia.

**Eligibility and Selection:** Colorado elementary and middle school teachers using picture books are invited to apply. Admission is selective, and priority will be given teachers who can incorporate the books into their classroom teaching. Enrollment is limited to 20 teachers; applications close October 1, 2023, or when full.

*Diversify your classroom readings  
and teach important natural science concepts through these five books!*

**Participation is free, with participants receiving:**

- Expert presentations;
- The five picture books;
- Resources for the teaching of the books;
- Morning coffee & tea and lunch;
- Discussion with content specialists and fellow educators;
- \$150 completion award and certificate of completion for 5 hours professional development contact hours.

Apply online at <https://tinyurl.com/TEAcourseregistration>.

For more information, contact Lynn Kalinauskas at [lyka3575@colorado.edu](mailto:lyka3575@colorado.edu).

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