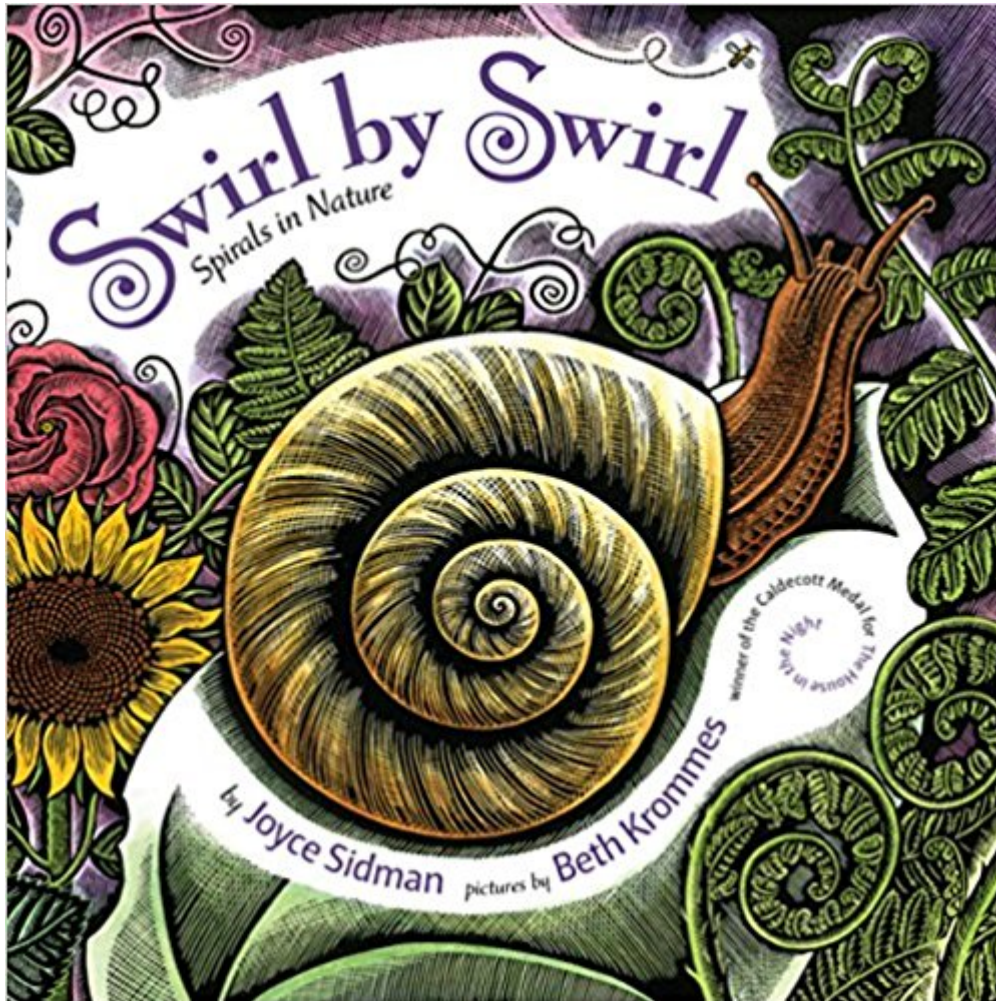




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Swirl By Swirl: Spirals In Nature



Synopsis

A Caldecott medalist and a Newbery Honor-winning poet celebrate the beauty and value of spirals. What makes the tiny snail shell so beautiful? Why does that shape occur in nature over and over again?—in rushing rivers, in a flower bud, even inside your ear? With simplicity and grace, Joyce Sidman's poetry paired with Beth Krommes's scratchboard illustrations not only reveal the many spirals in nature—from fiddleheads to elephant tusks, from crashing waves to spiraling galaxies—but also celebrate the beauty and usefulness of this fascinating shape.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 330L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (October 4, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 054731583X

ISBN-13: 978-0547315836

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 0.4 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 58 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #48,120 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Biology](#) #49 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Size & Shape](#) #198 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Poetry](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

"The open-ended quality of the verse and the visual nature of the subject create plenty of opportunities for the art. The striking scratchboard illustrations use black lines, shapes, and crosshatched shading on white backgrounds to create strong compositions, while watercolor washes add subtle warmth and brilliance. . . There are, of course, many school uses for this, but just reading it aloud at home will make the everyday fascinating."—Booklist, starred review "The observations, from a few words to a couple sentences, are tucked neatly into Krommes's gorgeous scratchboard spreads."—School Library Journal, starred review "Exquisitely simple and memorable."—Kirkus, starred review "From the endpapers that gather together all the

spirals depicted to the spiraling text on the title page verso, this book is elegantly constructed, and as poetry, picture book, or nonfiction, a success in every way."•The Horn Book,• "starred review" "This is one of those rare children's books that make you look at the physical world differently. . . spirals are beautiful• whether we see in them hints of infinity, the promise of unfolding potential, or the embodiment of mathematical perfection."• Publishers Weekly,• "starred review

Joyce Sidman• lives in Minnesota, where she looks for shapes in nature every day.
joycesidman.com• • • •

Wow, this book is absolutely incredible! I own 1,000s of children's books and great coffee table books with pictures, and I have to say: these illustrations blow so many books out of the water. Having "seen it all" so to speak, I am rarely as impressed as when I opened these pages. Yet not only are the illustrations vibrant, beautiful, and worthy of stares, but the content is also very well done. Simple but inspiring, informative, fun. Way to Go!!

I bought a couple of these to give to some kids we know, four children in all, all under the age of five years old. We heard back from the parents that the children loved the book and were more interested now in investigating math in the garden. Mission accomplished, I'd say! I heard about the book on a library blog and they did not steer me wrong. The illustrations are lavish and beautiful. Highly recommended for kids who like math, nature, flora and fauna.

honestly - the images and the graphics in this book are just stunning. this is MY new favorite kid's book right now + it's teaching our 4 year old to observe patterns in nature. we went through sea shells we recently found and he picked out the spirals. we went to our community garden & observed how flowers open up. just melts my heart making me think about how eye-opening this book has already proved itself to be & we've only had for a couple of weeks. LOVE IT!

We bought this for the gorgeous illustrations that is definitely has. There isn't much of a story, but the words are lovely. The font is just a basic Helvetica though and for the aesthetically minded, that can take away from the story. Still a great buy and we're happy to own more from this illustrator!

Swirl by Swirl truly is a perfect merger of words and pictures. The pictures show so clearly what the

text describes. I appreciated the fact that the different animals are labeled. This is a book I enjoyed sharing with my students. It was short enough that I didn't get bogged down reading it, but there is enough detail that we had things to talk about. This book makes a great read-a-loud for a larger group as well as one-on-one. I highly recommend this book.

Of the animals' homes. Great for learning about nature for city kids who have no access. It's an informative and beautifully illustrated read.

I am really glad I purchased this book for my child. The content is great. The ability to look closer and really notice the world around us (even to locate the swirl pattern) is an excellent skill for children to learn. The images are so detailed that you can stay on each page for a considerable bit of time talking with your children about what they see. You could even read the book outside with your child or go outside with them for a walk after and help them notice things more closely.

I have a student who loves snails, so I had to get this after being smitten by the author's book, 'Ubiquitous'. It is just precious and really provides a gentle segue into the world of math. It would be a wonderful addition to a class library, or an inspiring gift for any child who loves nature.

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