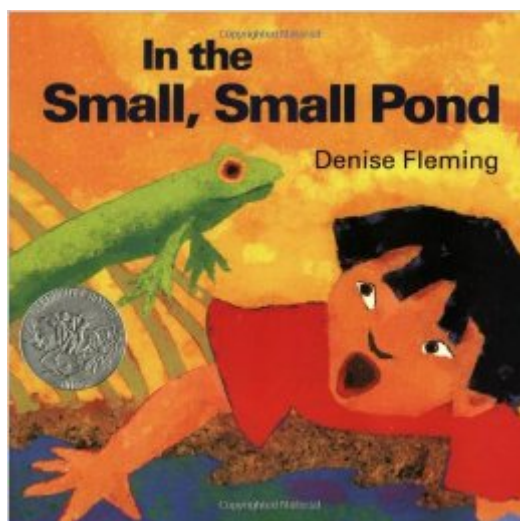


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# In The Small, Small Pond



## Synopsis

Denise Fleming's book gives young readers a frog's-eye view of life in a pond throughout the seasons. *In the Small, Small Pond* is a 1994 Caldecott Honor Book.

## Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Henry Holt and Co. (BYR); Reprint edition (October 15, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805059830

ISBN-13: 978-0805059830

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.2 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (25 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #39,810 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Seasons](#) #67 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment](#) #729 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 4 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

I like Denise Fleming's *In the Small, Small Pond* because she brings back memories now of when I was a young child and was learning to read. I can remember this particular book and its wonderful illustrations. To look at her pictures and read the action words on each page is like really being there. I can imagine the sound of a firefly's wings hovering and the sight of minnows rushing away when something disturbs the water. Her choice in words and pictures together, make this book very easy to understand and hard to forget. I like Fleming's work in *The Small, Small Pond* because she bases her picture book from a frog's perspective. I think this is a wonderful idea for younger children. It may answer a child's questions about, "What are animals thinking?" This type of response is good for children because it stimulates the mind into wandering, why? Denise puts such a large amount of time in effort into what she does to prepare for a story as well as what she does to make the illustrations come alive. Her careful planning and creative ideas make her books very insightful. I think Fleming contributes to children's education very well. She shows areas such as science and nature in her books. I believe that since she puts so much time and effort into her

planning, then authentically contributes to a child's education. In children's literature, she opens the door for imagination. Her illustrations are done by pulp-painting and she is very willing to give ideas and instructions on how to do them yourself. I think this idea is great because it can be inspiration to children who want to be writers or illustrators. She shows there is more to illustrating a story than simply throwing together words and matching them with pencil and crayon drawings.

My years spent in library school prepared me for all kinds of requests I would receive on that glorious day when I would become a children's librarian. I learned how to do reference interviews with five-year-olds and incorporate a fuzzy white mouse puppet into a preschooler storytime. I learned the best way to read "Bark, George" to screaming hoards of children and what to do when a toddler throws up onto your carpet. I learned all of that but there were some things I didn't learn that would have been useful to know. Take ponds, for example. They're nice enough. Looking at them though you would have no idea that when you sit at an information desk in a children's room, one of the top requests you receive is, "Do you have any books on ponds?". Such questions always leave me a little stunned. You want books on ponds? Really? Why? I've never gotten a convincing answer to that question. All I know is that if I were to make a children's library from scratch, you can bet your bottom dollar that the pond and wetlands portion of the non-fiction section would be gigantic. Now sometimes people ask me for pond books and they want fiction. Picture books, to be specific. When that happens I can breathe a sigh of relief. Thanks to Denise Fleming and authors like her, there is no shortage of pond-related material out there. And when it comes to toddler storytimes, "In the Small, Small Pond" is a fine fine choice. As with most Fleming picture books, we follow a particular animal from page to page in this story. In "Barnyard Banter" (a book this story has a close feel to) it was a duck. In "Lunch" it was a mouse. Here, it is a frog. After making a jaw-droppingly elegant leap past an awestruck child, it glides into the pond towards a series of small adventures.

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