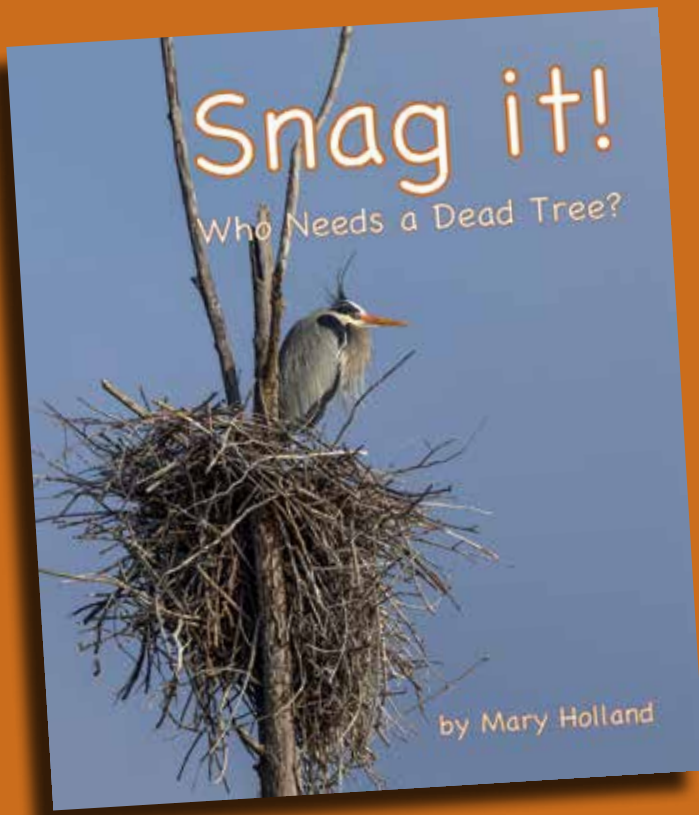


Snag It!

Who Needs a Dead Tree?

What are snags and why are they important? Dead or dying trees, called snags, provide a place for animals to nest and raise young, sleep (roost), perch watching for prey, hide from predators, find food, and even to hibernate. Learn how a variety of animals rely on snags for their survival.



Also available in Spanish:
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- JNF037040 Science/Nature Trees/Forests
- JNF051150 Science/Nature Zoology

Thema codes:

- YBC: Children's Picture Book
- YNNT: Plants and Trees
- YNNB4: Wildlife & Habitats: Forests
- 5AF: 5 plus

The For Creative Minds interactive, educational section includes:

- Pileated-Woodpecker Food and Nest Holes
- Which Animals Use Snags?
- How Might These Animals Use Snags?
- Nests in Snags
- True or False?

Keywords/Phrases

- Importance of dead trees in forests
- Wildlife and dead trees
- Children's books on nature
- Educational nature books for kids
- Snag trees and wildlife
- Animal habitats in forests
- Nature photography children's books
- Forest ecosystem education
- Benefits of dead trees for animals
- Habitat suitability
- Ecosystem interactions
- Forest ecosystems

About The Author

Mary Holland is a naturalist, nature photographer, columnist, and award-winning author with a life-long passion for natural history. After graduating from the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources, Mary worked as a naturalist at the Museum of the Hudson Highlands in New York state, directed the state-wide Environmental Learning for the Future program for the Vermont Institute of Natural Science, worked as a resource naturalist for the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and designed and presented her own "Knee-High Nature Programs" for libraries and elementary schools throughout Vermont and New Hampshire.

Her other children's books with Arbordale include *What's Inside?*, *Animal Myths*, *Animal Homes*, *Animal Tracks and Traces*, *Otis the Owl*, *Ferdinand Fox's First Summer* (NSTA / CBC Most Outstanding Science Trade Book and Moonbeam Children's Book Award), *The Beavers' Busy Year*, *Yodel the Yearling*, *Animal Ears*, *Animal Skins*, *Animal Noses*, *Animal Tails*, *Animal Eyes*, *Animal Legs*, and *Animal Mouths* (NSTA / CBC Most Outstanding Science Trade Book). Mary's book *Naturally Curious: a Photographic Field Guide and Month-by-Month Journey Through the Fields, Woods and Marshes of New England* won the 2011 National Outdoor Book Award for the Nature Guidebook category. *Naturally Curious Day by Day* was published in 2016. Mary lives in Vermont. Visit Mary's blog at naturallycuriouswithmaryholland.wordpress.com.

Curriculum Connections (NGSS)

1-LS1-1: From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes: Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs. *Relevance: The book can be used to explore how animals use different parts of snags for their survival and how these adaptations can inspire human solutions.*

2. LS2.A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems: Plants depend on animals for pollination or to move their seeds around. Animals depend on plants for food and shelter. *Relevance: The book is about the many ways some animals rely on dead trees.*

3-LS2-1: Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics: Construct an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive. *Relevance: The book can be used to discuss how certain animals use snags and how these structures support different species, illustrating the concept of habitats supporting animal groups.*

3-LS4-3: Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity: Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all. *Relevance: The book provides examples of how different animals depend on snags, showing how specific habitats support the survival of certain species.*

4-LS1-1: From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes: Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction. *Relevance: The book details how animals use snags for nesting, roosting, and shelter, supporting discussions on the function of animal structures.*

5-LS2-1: Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics: Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers, and the environment. *Relevance: The book's discussion of snags can lead to an exploration of the role of dead trees in ecosystems, including their decomposition and how they support various forms of life.*

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