

BISON BOOKS

Buffa Buffalo by Bob Reese

FICTION

Easy Reader Age Range: 3-7 Interest Level: Pre-K – 1 23 pgs.

Buffa looks for his space in the outdoors.

Buffalo Wings by Aaron Reynolds **FICTION**

GREAT READ OUTLOUD PICTURE BOOK!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 3.3 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32 pgs. word count: 453

While searching for the perfect Super Bowl snack, Rooster comes across a recipe for buffalo wings and, before reading it completely, goes in search of what he believes is the missing ingredient.

Thathanka na wata – Buffalo in the Boat by Kayo Bad Heart Bull **FICTION**

Bilingual: English & Lakota **GREAT Read Aloud!**

Interest Level: K – 2 20 pgs.

Buffalo meets friends as he travels down the river in his bull boat. Each different animal joins buffalo, and they continue down the river until the surprise ending.

Buffaloes by Heidi Elston

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 1.2 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 24 pgs. word count: 108

Through simple text and photographs, beginning readers are introduced to the American bison, or buffalo.

Buffaloes Eat and Grow by Heidi Elston

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 1.4 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 24 pgs. word count: 128

Through simple text and photographs, young readers learn about the life cycle and eating habits of the American bison, or buffalo.

Buffaloes on the Prairie by Heidi Elston

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 2.1 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 24 pgs. word count: 194

Through simple text and photographs, young readers learn about the prairie habitat of the American bison, or buffalo.

Animal Lore and Legend: Buffalo by Tiffany Midge

Great Legends to Read Aloud!

Interest Level: Pre-k – 3 32 pgs.

A rare and welcome combination: American Indian legends paired with factual information on the habitats, species, food, characteristics, Indian names, and attendant spiritual qualities of owls and buffalo respectively.

Bison in American History by Norman D. Graubart 24 pages

Great pictures and timeline!

Interest Level: grades 3-5 24 pgs.

Concise and informative, this books examine why certain animals were-and still are-useful to people, be it for their strength, skins, or other bodily characteristics. The animals' impact on trade and industry are covered, as are their natural habitats and life cycles, but above all, this book establish links between these creatures and aspects of history.

Bison by Valerie Bodden

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 3.74 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 24 pgs. word count: 502

This book is a basic exploration of the appearance, behavior, and habitat of bison, which are shaggy beasts of the plains and woods. Also included is a story from folklore explaining why bison have humps.

Grandfather Buffalo by Jim Arnosky **FICTION**

GREAT READ OUTLOUD PICTURE BOOK!

Accelerated Reader book Level: 3.5 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32 pgs. word count: 447

When Grandfather Buffalo, the oldest bull of the herd, trails behind the group, he finds that he is joined by a newborn calf.

The Buffalo by Sabrina Crewe

EXCELLENT PICTURES & DRAWINGS!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 3.7 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32 pgs. word count: 902

This book provides a step by step introduction to the life cycle, physical characteristics, behavior, and habitat of a plains bison.

***The Buffalo Jump* by Peter Roop FICITION**

GREAT READ ALOUD PICTURE BOOK! GREAT ILLUSTRATIONS!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 3.8 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32 pgs. word count: 1559

Angry that his older brother is chosen to be the buffalo runner who lures the buffalo to their deaths, Little Blaze must overcome his resentment when his brother's life is endangered. Takes the facts on how Native Americans hunted buffalo before horses and made it real.

***The Wonder of Bison* by Rita Richie & Todd Wilkinson**

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 3.9 AR points: 0.5 Interest level: K-3 148 pgs. work count: 655

Text and photographs introduce an animal of the Great Plains that gave the early Indians food, clothes, shelter, and tools.

***Bright Eyes and the Buffalo Hunt* by Laura Hughes FICITION**

Great Read Aloud Picture Book! Excellent story & illustrations!

Written and Illustrated by 8 year old!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 3.9 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 28 pgs. word count: 1864

***Buffaloes* by Marianne Johnston**

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.1 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 24 pgs. word count: 790

Describes what buffaloes look like, what they eat, where they live, and how they have been treated by Native-Americans and other people.

Tatanka and the Lakota People

Bilingual: English & Lakota

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.2 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 40 pgs. word count: 645

With illustrations and text in English and Lakota, this book recounts the Indian creation myth about the origin of the Lakota people. Creation story of the Lakota in which Tatanka turned himself into a Buffalo and sacrificed his powers for the people.

***Buffalo Migration* by Rebecca Hirsch**

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.2 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: 4-8 32pgs. word count: 2638

Describes the life of the American bison, commonly called buffalo; discusses their migration, its purpose, and its route; and lists threats buffalo may face in their lives and on their migration.

Hidden Buffalo by Rudy Wiebe **FICTION**

Great Read Aloud Picture Book!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.2 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32 pgs. word count:1222

In this lyrical coming-of-age story, Governor General's Award-winner captures the anxiety of a boy who feels powerless to help his people, but who must speak his dreams if they are to survive. Kind and caring, Sky is a boy approaching manhood. After finding a buffalo-shaped stone, he dreams vividly about where the buffalo are grazing. The chief and his people are reluctant to make the journey but they do and they succeed in finding the herd.

The Buffalo Storm by Katherine Applegate **FICTION**

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.3 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32 pgs. word count:1221

Hallie isn't afraid of anything—that is, anything but storms, which she braves along with her grandmother, huddled beneath a special quilt. When her family joins a wagon train headed west, leaving her grandmother—and everything Hallie has ever known—behind, Hallie knows she will have to be braver than she's ever been before. But can she summon the courage to help a young buffalo stuck on a rocky ridge during a wild storm?

The Sioux: Nomadic Buffalo Hunters by Rachel Koestler-Grack

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.3 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32 pgs. word count:2170

This book discusses the Sioux Indians, focusing on their tradition of hunting bison.

The Moon of Falling Leaves: the Great Buffalo Hunt by Cary Ziter

Interest Level: 3-5 69 pgs. **GREAT DRAWINGS**

Depicts the central importance of the buffalo in the life of the Plains Indians by tracing a year in the cycle of hunting, herding, and deriving products and food from the buffalo.

The Legend of the White Buffalo Woman by Paul Goble

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.6 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32 pgs. word count:1148

A Lakota Indian legend in which the White Buffalo Woman presents her people with the Sacred Calf Pipe which gives them the means to pray to the Great Spirit. Explanation of pipes and where they come from.

Buffalo Music by Tracey Fern 32 pages

GREAT Read Aloud Picture Book!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.6 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-4 32 pgs. word count: 1518

The story of how one woman helped save the buffalo, inspired by pioneer Mary Ann Goodnight. When Molly first settled in Palo Duro Canyon in Texas in the late 1800s, millions of buffalo roamed the land. Molly lived and worked to their music. She stirred the fire to the huff-huff of buffalo breath clouding the chill dawn, swept the dugout to the thunder of hooves. Then different sounds filled the air—the boom and blast of rifles. Before long, the buffalo were gone. But Molly, as stubborn as the buffalo themselves, found a way to save the species. She adopted and raised orphaned calves, and gradually grew her own herd. Some were sent to Yellowstone National Park, where their descendants still roam today; others stayed in the canyon, where Molly could once again hear the music of the clatter of clashing horns, the bellowing of bulls, and the muffled thud of hooves. An evocative story of determination, conservation, and the ability of one person to make a difference.

The True Story of the Nickel: The Baby Buffalo who thought he was a dog

by Nancy Savage

GREAT Read Aloud and Awesome Illustrations!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.7 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 32pgs. word count:1958

True adventures of an orphaned bison calf raised by a park caretaker and his family in the Colorado Rockies. Learn how Nickel got his name and why he lost his horns in this hilarious, warm story about the friendly bison.

There Still Are Buffalo by Ann Nolan Clark

GREAT Read Aloud Picture Book!

Interest Level: ages 7-10 49 pgs.

A buffalo bull baby is born in the land of the Sioux and cared for by his mother, learns from the herd, and grows to become its leader.

The Buffalo are Back by Jean Craighead George

GREAT READ OUTLOUD PICTURE BOOK!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.9 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K- 3 32 pgs. word count:1633

This book is an illustrated story of the comeback of the buffalo from extinction in the United States, tracing their history in connection with the Plains Indians, cowboys, and Teddy Roosevelt.

Buffalo Song by Joseph Bruchac **TRUE STORY!**

GREAT READ ALOUD PICTURE BOOK!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 4.9 AR point: 4.9 Interest Level: 1-4 40 pgs. word count: 2990

This book tells the story of Walking Coyote, a Native American man who worked to save the wild buffalo from extinction in the late 1800s by building and caring for a small herd.

American Bison by Ruth Berman

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 5.2 AR points: 1.0 Interest Level: 4-8 48 pgs. word count: 4246

This book describes the physical characteristics, habitats, diet, and life cycle of bison. Great science info.

American Bison: A Scary Prediction by William Caper

Great up to date facts and ends on positive note! Awesome photos!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 5.3 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: 4-8 32 pgs. word count: 1860

This book profiles the history and decline of the American bison, highlighting the efforts of William Temple Hornaday in the late 1800s and early 1900s to save them from extinction.

Buffalo by Phyllis Perry

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 5.6 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: 4-8 48 pgs. word count: 2736

Describes the physical characteristics, behavior, and habitat of buffalo. Quick read but lots of info. Interesting tid bits in side bars of pages.

Where the Buffaloes Begin by Olaf Baker

GREAT READ OUTLOUD PICTURE BOOK!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 5.7 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: K-3 48 pgs. word count: 2868

After hearing the legend retold by the tribe's oldest member, Little Wolf hopes to someday witness the beginning of the buffaloes at the sacred lake.

Thunder on the Plains by Ken Robbins

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 5.7 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: 4-8 36 pgs. word count: 1646

A brief introduction to the history of the American buffalo and how it was almost hunted into extinction.

They Came From the Bronx by Neil Waldman

GREAT READ OUTLOUD PICTURE BOOK! Great illustrations!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 5.8 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: 4-8 32 pgs. word count:1911

A Comanche grandmother and her grandson wait for the arrival of a herd of buffalo in this story based on the efforts of the American Bison Society to reintroduce bison to Oklahoma.

Buffalo by Beverly Brodsky Poetry

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 5.8 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: 4-8 37pgs. word count: 2443

This book presents paintings and tribal song-poems that express the buffalo's essential and sacred role on the Plains

The Buffalo Nickel by Taylor Morrison

Great Read Aloud and awesome illustrations!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 6.0 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: 2-5 32pgs. word count:1877

This book is a biography of the sculptor of the buffalo nickel, who grew up in the Dakota Territory where Sioux children were his playmates, buffalo robes were his blankets, and the town whittler was his teacher.

Following the Great Herds: the Plains Indians and the American Buffalo

by Ryan P. Randolph

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 6.1 AR points: 0.5 Interest Level: 4-8 24 pgs. word count: 1469

This book details the effects of westward expansion on the Plains Indian Nations who followed the seasonal migrations of buffalo herds. Concise reading right to the point.

Thunder Bear and Ko: The Buffalo Nation & Nambe Pueblo

by Susan Hazen-Hammond **TRUESTORY**

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 6.4 AR points: 1.0 Interest Level: 3-6 32 pgs. word count: 4991

The book focuses on eight-year-old Thunder Bear, who will one day lead his people, and his grandfather and father, who have taken on the responsibility of caring for and protecting the bison and educating their community in traditional practices. After joining the fight to save a group of buffalo living on state land from hunters, they welcomed five rescued animals into their thriving herd. Information about celebrations, costumes, and the uses of the buffalo is incorporated throughout. This thoughtful exploration into one group's culture and their environmental recovery successes will be useful for cultural-studies units.

Buffalo Hunt by Russell Freedman

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 6.4 AR points: 1.0 Interest Level: 4-8 50 pgs. word count: 6595

Examines the importance of the buffalo in the lore and day-to-day life of the Indian tribes of the Great Plains and describes hunting methods and the uses found for each part of the animal that could not be eaten.

Buffalo Sunrise: The Story of the North American Giant by Diane Swanson

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 6.5 AR points: 2.0 Interest Level: 4-8 58 pgs. word count: 9567

Readers are introduced to the world of the buffalo, sharing fascinating details about this remarkable animal. Readers will learn, for example, that: * The buffalo is surprisingly agile -- moving on tiptoe as it picks its way along narrow ledges * Buffaloes sometimes go swimming just for fun * "Buffalo birds" warm their feet in the thick fur on a buffalo's back * The birth of a white buffalo is considered a miraculous event * The buffalo nearly disappeared from our planet a hundred years ago -- but was saved just in time. Factual information along with legends and anecdotes are included.

The Bison and the Great Plains by Dave Taylor 32 pages

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 6.9 AR points: 1.0 Interest Level: 4-8 32pgs. word count: 7040

Book covers physical characteristics, behavior, and life cycle of bison. It focuses on calving & breeding season. It highlights other animals in the prairie ecosystem and the predators of bison.

Back from the Edge: the American Bison by Lynn M. Stone 45 pages

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 7.0 AR points: 1.0 Interest Level: 4-6 48pgs. word count: 5610

Describes the history and near extinction of the American bison or buffalo and its preservation today, mainly in parks and preserves. Includes 19th-century black-and-white reproductions depicting the overzealous hunting that led to the species' near extinction. Concentrates on its historical importance to Native Americans. Has a good discussion of both the animal's behavior and wildlife conservation efforts.

Saving the Buffalo by Albert Marrin

Awesome Source of Information!!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 7.1 AR points: 2.0 Interest Level: 4-8 128pgs. word count: 14086

This book explores how the buffalo nearly became extinct and was then saved, examining the natural forces and people, both Native Americans and settlers, that played a critical role in the story of this American symbol.

Buffalo and the Indians: A Shared Destiny by Doroty Hinshaw Patent 80 pages

GREAT photos and panintings!

Accelerated Reader Book Level: 7.4 AR points: 2.0 Interest Level: 4-8 96pgs. word count:10193

Weaving social history and science, this book discusses how European settlers slaughtered the buffalo almost to extinction, breaking the back of Indian cultures. It also describes how Indians today are reviving their cultures and restoring the buffalo.

Bison by Melissa Gish

Age Level: 9& up pgs. 46

A look at bison, including their habitats, physical characteristics such as their shaggy coats, behaviors, relationships with humans, and threatened status in the world today. Include side bar fast facts.
