

For Immediate Release

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And...The Eureka! Award Goes To...The Forest in the Trees

Rocklin author Connie McLennan receives a silver award for her debut picture book

Mt. Pleasant, SC (October 22, 2019) -- On Saturday, *The Forest in the Trees* by local author Connie McLennan was honored with a silver honor as part of the 2019 California Reading Association Eureka! Awards. This curated list celebrates outstanding nonfiction for children and students.

The Forest in the Trees introduces readers to some of the world's tallest trees through cumulative rhyme. As readers follow along high into the canopy, the text introduces the mosses, lichens, bugs, and birds that call this ecosystem home. Additional facts on each page share interesting tidbits about the many discoveries' scientists found in the canopy. The artwork paints a lush green landscape filled with life and is based on the information collected by the few botanists that saw the forest with their own eyes.

McLennan has illustrated many picture books about the sea, one on the rainforest, and several books featuring nature. The redwoods were a perfect inspiration for her first foray as an author. Having lived near these mammoth trees all her life, the research of the canopy sparked her imagination. The nonfiction text is complimentary to McLennan's artwork, and special illustrations compare heights and give readers a close-up look at bugs and berries.

The full list of gold and silver honor books will be published in an upcoming edition of *The California Reader*. This list assists teachers and librarians across California in finding outstanding nonfiction recommendations for young readers. The Eureka! Awards include a diverse selection for students of many ages and interest levels.

Local readers can meet McLennan and get a signed copy of her award-winning book on November 16th from 4-6 pm at the Rocklin Branch Library. Here she will be showing original illustrations and talking about the mysterious canopy habitat.

The Forest in the Trees is available from local booksellers in hardcover (ISBN 9781643513508, \$17.95) and Spanish paperback (*El bosque sobre los árboles*, 9781643513522, \$11.95). Digital editions include English (9781643513539, \$6.95), Spanish (9781643513546, \$6.95), and multilingual eBook with audio and word highlighting (9781643513577, \$12.99). Request a copy from local booksellers, online retailers, or Arbordale Publishing.