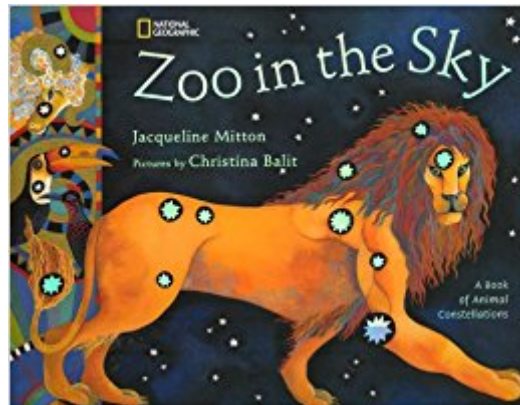




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# **Zoo In The Sky: A Book Of Animal Constellations**



## Synopsis

This award-winning book capturing the glittering light show of the constellations is now available in paperback. Take an illuminating ride through the starry night sky with National Geographic's Zoo in the Sky! Little Bear and the Great Bear in the Northern Sky; the scaly dragon winding his long tail; the Great Dog chasing the Hare in the Southern Sky; all are beautifully rendered in Christina Balit's vibrant art, studded with shiny stars, which perfectly illustrates Jacqueline Mitton's rich text. Awards include: Parent's Guide to Children's Media Award Parent Council Award REVIEW(S): "A visually dynamic introduction to the animal constellations." #151;Booklist "Mitton offers poetic, abbreviated legends of the nighttime sky, while Balit's paintings, highlighted by shimmering silver stars, give visual meaning to the text." #151;Kirkus Reviews "This is an attractive introduction to astronomy... [T]he simple poetic descriptions will capture the attention of preschoolers and early elementary-age children alike. A brief explanation of stars and constellations rounds out this lovely and unusual offering." #151;School Library Journal

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0750 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: National Geographic Children's Books; Reprint edition (October 24, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0792259351

ISBN-13: 978-0792259350

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 73 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #27,484 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in [Books > Children's Books](#)  
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in [Books > Children's Books](#) > [Science, Nature & How It Works](#) #1673 in [Books > Children's Books](#) > [Animals](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

People have always looked up at the stars in wonder, seeking patterns in the sky. This gorgeous picture book, published by the National Geographic Society, introduces children to the

constellations that are named for animals--Leo the Lion, the Great Bear and Little Bear, and many more. Christina Balit's striking paintings showcase each constellation against a deep blue background--animals or fantastical beasts positioned in the dark night sky, with the individual stars, metallic and iridescent, superimposed upon them. Each image is accompanied by a short, engaging, often dramatized description of the group of stars and the legends surrounding it, written by distinguished astronomer and writer Dr. Jacqueline Mitton: "Charging through the zodiac, here comes the Bull. Head down, horns thrust forward, Taurus is ready to toss the twins. But they are safe, always on the other side of the Milky Way." The front and endpapers are star maps that show the actual constellations of both the southern and northern skies. Mitton also offers a brief introduction to the constellations and two pages of related discussion on astronomy at the book's end. A lovely choice for anyone interested in the mysteries of the night sky. (Click to see a sample spread. Text © 1998 Jacqueline Mitton. Illustrations © 1998 Christina Balit.) (Ages 6 to 10)

--Marcie Bovetz --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

PreSchool-Grade 3-Mitton highlights the animals represented in the zodiac by superimposing shiny metallic stars to outline the constellations on colorful and lush paintings of the creatures. The effect is visually stunning, although the shape of the constellation is not always easily discerned against the visual activity of the background. Celestial maps on the endpapers provide clarifying references, however, and with a little study, the shapes in the paintings begin to emerge. This is an attractive introduction to astronomy, and can be used as an entree to disciplines such as mythology or folklore. In addition, the simple, poetic descriptions will capture the attention of preschoolers and early elementary-age children alike. A brief explanation of stars and constellations rounds out this lovely and unusual offering. Donna L. Scanlon, Lancaster County Library, PA Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Wow such beautiful illustrations! We bought this book for a friend's son to take on a camping trip and we were very impressed with how beautiful the book was. I almost kept it for myself! Great read also, we all had a lot of fun reading this book, for the children and adults! Also very informative! Loved it!

I am so happy with this purchase! We bought this book for our niece. She has a telescope and is fascinated with stars. This is an awesome book for introducing constellations and teaching about the different stars. I would definitely recommend for any kiddos that have an interest in the sky! (Kids ages 4 and 6)

Awesome book with great pictures and descriptions. Shiny Metallic Silver Stars my kid loves the pictures. At 17months anything I read to him sounds cool. ;) But as an early primer for astronomy it is great.

Love this book! Beautiful illustrations and short narratives about the constellations for young learners. Also recommend "Seeing Stars" by Dandi Daley Mackall as a first intro to constellations for Preschool-Kindergarten. It is out of print so look for used copies. My book review is there.

Kids loved the book and so did I. I like having kids create their own constellation for the sky and this was a good springboard to show what constellations are. Loved it!

Very nice descriptions on each page but the pictures gave NO reference points for a child to look up in the sky and find the patterns. Donated to public library rather than giving to my grandson...not worth keeping on his book case. Animator should redo to match quality of descriptions.

We bought this for our nephew because he was very fascinated by stars. He really enjoyed the book and learning more about constellations. He was 6 when we bought it for him.

Gift for our 4 year old Granddaughter to enhance the telescope she got. She enjoyed the book as a story. With some parental help she will be able to relate stars in the sky to the book info.

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