



The Fruits We Eat

By Gail Gibbons

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Berries, apples, melons and grapes; oranges, grapefruits, bananas--yum! This scrumptious picture book, a companion to *The Vegetables We Eat*, offers youngsters an inviting, information-packed cornucopia of favorite fruits. Gail Gibbons combines a clear, simple text with her signature illustrations to present fruit facts galore: the parts of fruits, where and how they grow, harvesting, processing, where to buy them, and how to enjoy them as part of a healthy diet. Once again, Gibbons proves "a master at creating factual books through which young readers can explore details of nature at an accessible and engaging depth."

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

K-Gr 3—Gibbons, the author of *The Vegetables We Eat* (Holiday House, 2007), now turns her attention to fruit. She begins by stating the importance of incorporating it into a healthy diet, the difference between annual and perennial varieties, and various ways to consume them (fresh, juices, sauces). The author provides details about how fruits grow: on plants, bushes, trees, and vines. Each section contains an informative, eye-catching heading; succinctly presented text; and delightful, cheery watercolor illustrations. Gibbons depicts examples of fruits that grow on different kinds of vegetation (for instance, pineapple plants, cherry trees), provides labeled cutaways of their parts, and describes how they are harvested. Readers learn the differences between wild and cultivated berries and what parts of various fruits are planted to produce more. The text also briefly covers large industrial farms and small fruit growers, fruit processing and transportation, and the fresh produce available in stores and farm stands. Kids will learn some surprising facts (for instance, olives are fruits), and a trivia section at the end may encourage further research. Stoke children's enthusiasm by pairing this useful overview with April Pulley Sayre's rousing *Go, Go Grapes!: A Fruit Chant* (S. & S., 2012). VERDICT A charming addition to nutrition and food units.—Marianne Saccardi, Children's Literature Consultant, Greenwich, CT

About the Author

Gail Gibbons grew up writing stories and drawing pictures to fit the words, and wishing she lived in the country. After graduating from the University of Illinois with a bachelor of fine arts degree, she became involved in television graphics. This led her to work on a children's TV show, where her desire to write and illustrate children's books was rekindled. Eventually Gail became a full-time writer and moved to rural Vermont, where she could have a garden and as many pets as she wanted. Gail has written more than 140 books and has made countless visits to schools. The feedback she gets from children is invaluable and often inspires ideas for future projects. Gail and her husband, Kent Ancliffe, have a dog named Wilbur and two cats, named Miles and Davis. They live in Vermont in a passive solar house that Gail's husband built and on an island off the coast of Maine.

Users Review

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Fanny Rutledge:

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