Nobody Particular: One Woman’s Fight to Save the Bay – written and illustrated by Molly Bang. Diane Wilson lived as a commercial shrimper and a mother until she discovered that she lived in one of the most polluted counties in the United States. She launched a campaign against one of the largest chemical companies in the world and succeeded in getting the Bay cleaned. An exciting true story about the courage of ordinary people. Ages: 5 – 10.


Water, Water, Everywhere – by Cynthia Overbeck Bix and Mark Rauzon. Water’s vital role in the life of our planet vividly portray the ways in which waves, rivers, and glaciers shape the Earth. Stunning photographs interspersed with poetic, informative descriptions of what water is and why it is important. Ages 4 – 8.

Wave – by Suzy Lee. Wordless picture book: spare charcoal and acrylic illustrations tell all. A little girl comes to the ocean with her mother. She plays, teases and dances at the water’s edge, learning the motion of the ocean. Ages 2 - 4.

This list prepared by Julie Olsen Edwards, Director of the Children’s Peace and Anti-bias Library at Cabrillo College, Department of Early Childhood Education, Room 1508. 831.479.6354

A Lot of Otters – by Barbara Helen Berger. As otters wrestle, roll, and cavort on the water, they make such a commotion of light that Mother Moon finds her lost child. Ages: 2 – 5.


A River Ran Wild – by Lynne Cherry. The death and rebirth of the Nashua River in Massachusetts. The story of the Nashua people and English settlers who lived off the Nashua river, and how it slowly became so polluted it was ecologically dead, how it was revitalized starting in the 1960’s so that it again runs fresh and wild. Beautifully illustrated with water colors. Ages: 7 – 10.

A Salmon for Simon – by Betty Waterton and Ann Blades. A young contemporary Haidu boy goes fishing and hopes to catch a salmon. After hours of fishing, he doesn’t catch anything. So, he decides to dig for clams. While doing so, an eagle catches a salmon ... and then something surprising happens! Ages: 4 – 8.

All the Water in the World – written by George Ella Lyon and illustrated by Katherine Tillotson. A rollicking, gorgeous tribute to water and a celebration of water’s journey through the world. Gorgeously illustrated it shows water’s precious value to all living things. Ages: 4 – 8.

At the Beach – by Huy Voun Lee. Xiao Ming enjoys going to the beach, where his mother teaches him how to make Mandarin Chinese characters by drawing pictures in the sand. Ages: 4 – 7.


Life – by Cynthia Rylant and Brendan Wenzel. Art and text blend beautifully to proclaim how wondrous life is, even when there are hard times. “In every corner of the world, there is something to love... and something to protect.” Ages: 3 – 8.

Meadowlands: a wetlands survival story – by Thomas Yezerski. Gorgeously illustrated book tells the story of the Meadowlands swamp area of New Jersey from the early days when the Lenni Laenape live along its shores, through its desecration by pollutants and construction, to its revival through community effort. It is a prime example of the connection between loving nature and taking care of the natural world. Ages: 5 – 10.