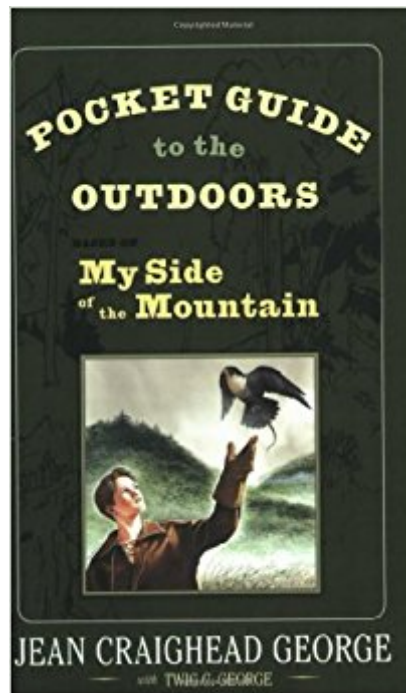




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# Pocket Guide To The Outdoors: Based On My Side Of The Mountain



## Synopsis

Generations of readers have escaped into the woods with *My Side of the Mountain*, the story of a city boy named Sam who learns to live in the wild. Now, Newbery winner Jean Craighead George offers an easy-to-follow guide for fans who want to live the adventure?just like Sam. Learn how to start a fire, build a shelter, catch a fish, identify useful plants, and much more. Hands-on activities are perfect for backyard campers or an afternoon stroll through the park. Illustrated with black-and-white drawings and packed with activities, naturalist trivia, and practical wilderness tips, this entertaining and informative handbook is your guide to outdoor fun.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0860 (What's this?)

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Dutton Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (September 17, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0525421637

ISBN-13: 978-0525421634

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #38,523 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Camping](#) #20 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Survival Skills](#) #678 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 5  
•This survival guide is the book to read before a wilderness adventure. In short, clearly written chapters, it provides practical tips about ways to enjoy nature and includes information about building shelters, starting fires, making a fishing line and cleaning a fish, outdoor cooking, identifying animal tracks and edible and poisonous plants, and the basics of orienteering. Safety is always considered. Drawings and clearly labeled sketches help with identification. A companion to Jean George's *My Side of the Mountain* (Dutton, 1988), the book includes excerpts from the novel.  
•Christine Markley, Washington Elementary School, Barto, PA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Jean Craighead George was the preeminent nature writer for children. She is the author of *My Side of the Mountain* and *Julie of the Wolves*, and her work spanned 50 years. She died in May 2012 at age 93.

This isn't a comprehensive guide to the outdoors, but it's a good start. The guide gives you a few basics on a wide variety of topics. The information that is presented is true, and instructions are complete enough to follow. While some books in this genre were written years ago by people who had no concern for protecting the environment, the author does, on occasion, remind the reader that we need to be aware of what we're damaging when we cut branches and gather wild foods. I was eager to try some of the things I found, and curious to learn more. Now I'm excited about attending a primitive skills expo that's coming up soon. I actually used the book's excellent guide to knot tying in a little project I did today, replacing the drawstring on a hooded jacket. I tied off my work with clove hitches, using the illustrations in the guide. I didn't give the book 5 stars, because if I were going to carry one book into a wilderness existence, I would choose one that included more skills.

My son loves it. He has even made a list of things to do this summer that are all things from this book.

This book complements the book my grandson read as part of a Novel Project in the fifth grade. He enjoyed the novel, *My Side of the Mountain* very much by the same author and I thought he could extend the experience by having the *Pocket Guide to the Outdoors* to learn more about what it takes to survive. The pocket guide has a list of items for a basic survival kit, pictures of useful plants, instructions on fishing, cooking, how to build a fire and many other helpful ideas for having an adventure outdoors. I decided to include this guide with a starter survival kit for my grandson's 11th birthday. He was very excited and happy when he opened the gift and saw the book, he immediately identified the fact that it was written by the same author as his novel.

George is a phenomenal author.

I bought 2 of these books. They were gifts for my grandsons. I have not read the book. But the boys are thrilled with it. Their ages are 11 and 12. They both love the outdoors and we go to the river as often as possible. I got lots of hugs and squeals of delight when I gave them their books. I would

recommend this for all boys and girls who enjoy being outside.

Fun book. I camp a lot and learned a few things reading this.

I purchased this book to go along with the study I am doing with my boys (ages 8 &9) on "My Side of the Mountain". We love it! Although owning "My Side of the Mountain" is not a requirement to enjoying this book, it is a WONDERFUL resource to use in conjunction with the book. There are lots of pictures to help go along with what we are reading about in the book. The chapters are divided up into topics and not necessarily in story order with the main text. Chapters include: Camping, Shelters, Fire, Water, Fishing/Roadkill&Bugs, Outdoor Cooking, Edible Wild Plants, Poisonous Plants, Medicine Plants, Useful Knots, Animal Tracking, Birdsongs, Falconry, Hiking & Trailblazing, Finding Your Way, Outdoor Fun, Outdoor Safety, and Recipes. The author has mastery of these subjects by having lived these out in her own life, however, the book is NOT an exhaustive look at these subjects. For kiddos (and some adults) this book gives the perfect amount of information to begin the journey of exploring and surviving the Great Outdoors. Lots of details are given without getting too involved in each subject. It has been a great find for us and has been a lot of fun to see which topics appeal to each of my kiddos.

Gradson loves it

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