

## BOOK REVIEW

### The Florida Water Story

Review by Richard P. Wunderlin

In this book for children ages 10-14, Peggy Lantz and Wendy Hale tell the story of the water cycle and its intricate interdependence with Florida's natural systems. Abundantly illustrated with line drawings by Jean Barnes, the book is divided into four sections: wetlands, coastlines, coral reefs, and oceans. The wetlands chapter introduces the water cycle, Florida's seasons, the aquifer, and the characteristic plants and animals in freshwater swamps, marshes, rivers, lakes, ponds, sinkholes, and springs. The coastlines chapter discusses the plants and animals of beaches, estuaries, salt marshes, and mangroves. Although animals are emphasized, material on plants is nicely interwoven. The section on swamps describes orchids, airplants, and the hand fern. Sea oats, prickly pear, and Spanish bayonet are discussed in the section on dunes, and the three types of mangroves are nicely portrayed in the mangrove forest discussion. Scientific terms are explained at the bottom of the page on which they are introduced and in a glossary at the end of each chapter. The book is an excellent introduction to the importance of water to Florida's diverse environment. ✨

*The Florida Water Story: From Raindrops to the Sea.* Peggy Sias Lantz & Wendy A. Hale. Call FNPS, (727) 856-8202, for Subtropical Trader price. Published by Pineapple Press; 1-800-PINEAPPLE; [www.pineapplepress.com](http://www.pineapplepress.com). Hardcover. \$19.95.

ABOUT THE REVIEWER: Dr. Wunderlin is a well-known botanist and FNPS Director at Large.