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The Tree Lady: The True Story Of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed A City Forever



Synopsis

Unearth the true story of green-thumbed pioneer and activist Kate Sessions, who helped San Diego grow from a dry desert town into a lush, leafy city known for its gorgeous parks and gardens. Katherine Olivia Sessions never thought she'd live in a place without trees. After all, Kate grew up among the towering pines and redwoods of Northern California. But after becoming the first woman to graduate from the University of California with a degree in science, she took a job as a teacher far south in the dry desert town of San Diego. Where there were almost no trees. Kate decided that San Diego needed trees more than anything else. So this trailblazing young woman singlehandedly started a massive movement that transformed the town into the green, garden-filled oasis it is today. Now, more than 100 years after Kate first arrived in San Diego, her gorgeous gardens and parks can be found all over the city. Part fascinating biography, part inspirational story, this moving picture book about following your dreams, using your talents, and staying strong in the face of adversity is sure to resonate with readers young and old.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 760L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

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Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (41 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #27,848 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) [#10 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Gardening](#) [#13 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Forests & Trees](#) [#47 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Women](#)

Age Range: 5 - 10 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 5

Customer Reviews

I love this book. But I cannot possibly be perceived as unbiased, since it was written by my father. I love how it is a book about possibilities and about following your dreams even if those dreams are

different than society's expectations of you. I love the illustrations, with historical details set just right. The book took several years to come to fruition. It started as a student exercise in a writing seminar. And now, it's a fun and encouraging book about a woman who made her world a better place. My dad encouraged me to enjoy reading (thanks, dad!) and I encourage you to enjoy reading this book. But when I read it, I get a special experience. I hear my daddy reading it to me, in his special book voice. I wish I could share that with you all, because it makes me feel so good, so warm and secure, enchanted with the story as it unfolds. If your family gets some portion of that wonder, then, I think, my dad's hopes will have been fulfilled. I love you, Dad!

The story of the tree lady is a true, motivational tale about how one person can make a positive difference. It presents a lesson to demonstrate how a good idea, coupled with hard work and determination, can be transforming. This book is beautifully illustrated!

This is a brief biography of Kate Sessions, a female teacher in the 1800s who had an interest in science and nature, unusual for the time period. This describes her education, move to San Diego and her subsequent search for trees that would grow well in this region, along with her influence of the tree planting of Balboa Park in time for the World Fair in San Diego. The writing is all appropriate for preschool or early elementary age students, and the illustrations are just beautiful. This is a 5 star read for us, and especially applicable as it relates to our home city.

As a San Diegan, I was interested in the subject matter. As a grandmother, I was happy to see the excitement my grandchildren, ages 6 and 9, had when reading the book.

This is a great story of a California woman who not only changed San Diego but also was a pioneer for women in science. Kate Sessions' story is told in a celebratory (not preachy) way and the illustrations are great.

Was the perfect gift for a 4 year old neighbor and it is a good historic story about the importance of trees for each clean breath of air, our psychological well being and cooling off a hot community without electricity. Hoped the whole family enjoyed the read, because they need a bit of coaching about the environment and what they could do to be great stewards

I bought this for a tree unit we are doing in homeschool, as well as to learn more about this "tree

lady" who lived in San Diego. We have been to Balboa Park many times and always admire the trees. It was nice to learn a little about the history of how they came about to being there.

The Tree Lady tells the story of Kate Sessions, who transformed a barren city park in San Diego into a place of beauty by planting trees which could grow in that area's desert climate. I found the book well-written and informative. It would especially be good for young girls, as the book points out that young Kate followed her dreams and pursued a career in science at a time when young women were discouraged from entering a scientific field.

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