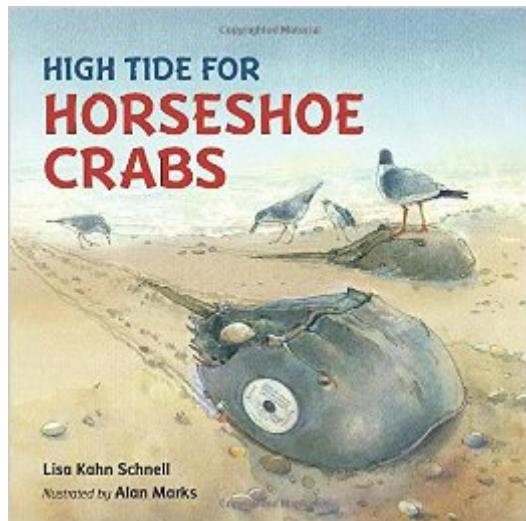


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# High Tide For Horseshoe Crabs



## **Synopsis**

Dual-layered text introduces the life cycle of the horseshoe crab, with a focus on the annual mass-spawning event at Delaware Bay.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: AD930L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge (April 14, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1580896049

ISBN-13: 978-1580896047

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 0.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #256,665 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #184 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Biology #216 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Zoology #481 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Marine Life

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## **Customer Reviews**

With both of my grandchildren ages 5 and 17 months on their 60 something Nami's lap, we all 3 enjoyed this educational as well as fun story on Horseshoe crabs. Its truly a book for the young and the old as I too learned a lot about this creature I knew very little about. The format of the book is excellent with two well chosen words introducing the topic on that particular page. The illustrations are beautiful and kept my Grandchildren engaged. We had just visited our local aquarium the day before and saw the horseshoe crab exhibit and reading this book with them was a terrific followup.

HIGH TIDE FOR HORSESHOE CRABS by Lisa Kahn Schnell is an informational picture book exploring the migration of horseshoe crabs to the shores of Delaware Bay. Lisa Kahn Schnell begins each two-page spread with a short, active sentence that highlights the key idea. Next, she tells the story of coastal ecology and migration using age-appropriate details. This combination is effective for a read-aloud experience. Designed for ages 3-7, this well-written science narrative is effective in

sharing accurate scientific information as well as the passion of scientists and naturalists. The book concludes with detailed science information, a map, and additional information sources including website suggestions. Alan Marksâ™ illustration beautiful illustrations combine ink lines with watercolor. The front and back endpapers contain a nicely labeled diagram of a horseshoe crab. Marks tells the story of the horseshoe crabs using the spectrum of nature colors. From shorebirds to scientists, Marks realistically portrays the storyâ™s characters and coastal setting. Librarians will welcome this informational picture book title into their science collections. With the themes of coastal ecology, animal migration, life cycles, and scientists-in-the-field, the book provides numerous opportunities for science standards connections. For lots of photos of horseshoe crabs, do a Google Images search at [images.google.com](http://images.google.com). To learn more about the author, go to <http://lisakschnell.com/>. To learn more about the illustrator, go to <http://www.marksonpaper.co.uk/>.

I was lucky enough to stumble upon author Lisa Kahn Schnell at a local Barnes & Noble several months ago when she was there meeting with kids, sharing knowledge about horseshoe crabs, and signing her books. If you've ever vacationed along the Delaware Bay, chances are you've seen shells of these marvelous creatures. This book tells the story about their importance in the ecosystem, including how we need them for certain medicines. It helps show children that we're all part of a delicate system, and that we all have a place and deserve to be treated with respect. I had the opportunity to be a "citizen scientist" several years ago with Delaware Riverkeeper, helping with the annual, vitally important horseshoe crab count. I was delighted to see the book also talked about these citizen scientists, and I hope it inspires some children and their parents to go out and help collect science and learn more about horseshoe crabs, red knots and other shorebirds, and to learn to make positive change, protecting some of our most precious species.

Summary: Every spring, millions of horseshoe crabs flock to the shores of the Delaware Bay. As they have done since before the time of the dinosaurs, the crabs lay their eggs in the sand. Meanwhile, flocks of different types of shorebirds make their way to these same shores as they migrate to the Arctic. They are hungry and weak on their arrival, and the horseshoe crab eggs are packed with fat and protein. They feast on the eggs, sometimes doubling their body size in just a few weeks. Many eggs remain, though, buried in the sand until the birds have continued on their way. Then, tiny crabs the size of ladybugs hatch and swim into the sea. People come from all over to watch and study this chapter in the lives of the horseshoe crabs and the birds. Pros: Having spent many summers in Cape May, New Jersey, I often saw the remains of horseshoe crabs on the

beach. I never suspected the fascinating story behind these ancient looking creatures. This book makes science accessible to even the youngest students. The story is clearly written and beautifully illustrated, and the end material gives more interesting information. Readers will want to study the close-up drawings, complete with informative labels, on the end papers. Cons: I didn't really understand the page that simply said, "It's happening!" which seemed to connote an exciting event that wasn't quite clear to me.

This is one of the most well-written and beautiful books I have read to my grandchildren in a long time. The fascinating journey of the horseshoe crab is expressed with descriptive vibrant and dynamic words that flow from page to page. My one year old, listens to the verbs which highlight the process and reacts to the carefully drawn illustrations -- while the two and a half year old is engaged in the dramatic voyage and experience of the crabs...This should be a Caldecott nominee. Both author and illustrator have captured the essence of a scientific miracle and transformed it into language meant to capture the curiosity of a child and peak the interest of any adult reading this to their children or grandchildren.... I highly recommend this and hope the author continues to add to the series.... Who knew horseshoe crabs had so much spirit.....

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