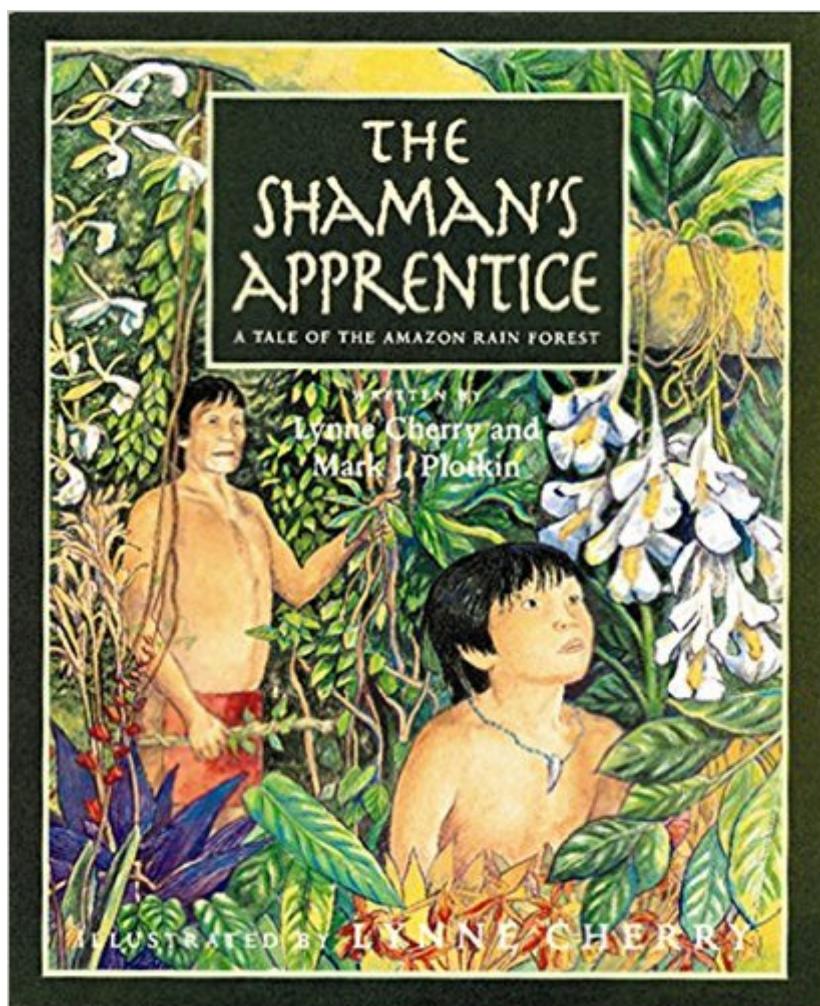


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# The Shaman's Apprentice: A Tale Of The Rain Forest



## **Synopsis**

For thousands of years, in the jungles of the , shamans have passed their wisdom of the medicinal values of rain forest plants from one generation to the next. The Shaman's Apprentice tells the story of a Tirio Indian boy who dreams of one day being the tribal shaman, and how he and his people learn the importance of their own knowledge about the healing properties of the rain forest.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 960 (What's this?)

Series: Reading Rainbow Book

Paperback: 36 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (April 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152024867

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #596,810 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #139 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Forests & Rainforests #187 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Central & South America #3307 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Ages 5^9. The author of The Great Kapok Tree (1990) takes us back to the rain forest, this time teaming up with ethnobotanist Plotkin. Together, they present a story in which a lesson about medicinal herbs is brought to life through young Kamanya, who dreams of becoming his tribe's next shaman. Kamanya spends his time following the current shaman into the forest and learning the secrets of the plants. But local plants can't cure the new diseases brought to the area by strangers, and the pills the strangers bring with them cause the indigenous people to lose faith in the ability of their shaman. Eventually a woman named Gabriella, who comes to study the properties of the rain forest plants, restores the tribe's faith. The lush illustrations make the story a visual pleasure. Even the endpapers are rich in detail, picturing some of the rain forest plants and noting their uses. Like

other books Cherry has worked on, this one, which is based on a true story, is a unusual addition to rain forest literature. It will be useful not only for story hours but also as a springboard for classroom discussion for older children as well as younger ones. Helen Rosenberg --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Cherry's watercolors are filled with flora and fauna and reveal her appreciation for this environment and its people." -School Library Journal

I had to laugh at the reviewer who said "a very young child doesn't need to be seeing graphic rears and breasts" - especially considering the fact that, well, MY very young child sees MY breasts up front and personal on a regular basis every single day. But anyway, I digress, somewhat. There really ARE no "rears" graphically displayed - there are a couple of vary vague side views peeking out from long loin clothes, and I never saw anything i recognized as a breast, unless it was, perhaps, the pudgy chest of an older indigenous man. This book is beautiful - we first saw it in the local library and I bought it in the marketplace on the spot. It's the kind of truth and the kind of story I want my daughter reading from a very young age (and honestly? I want her to know that 'rears and breasts', in the right, natural context, are exactly that - NATURAL!). The artwork is beautiful.

I was first attracted to this book by the cover art. It depicts a scene with an older man and a young boy looking around the rainforest with wisdom and awe. As it sub-title states, A Tale of the rain forest, I was not misled. This is a fiction book yet the information is accurate. It displays the plants and tribal life in a typical ian village.The illustrations were colorful, realistic and related to the text. On the inside front and back cover pages are drawings of ian plants. These drawings give the name of the plant and its medicinal use. As an adult, I found that interesting and, as a teacher, I was able to use these pages with my students to teach about rain forest plants.The story follows a young ian boy who when first introduced is lying sick in his hammock. After he is visited by the tribe's medicine man - the shaman - he recovers from his fever. The boy learns from the shaman, from visits from white missionaries, and from his own people. The story is interesting and does stay on point - the importance of protecting the healing plants of the earth.This book is appropriate for grades 1-4. Many teaching activities can be found within the pages of this book. For example, matching the plants pictured in the front of the book to the plants illustrating the dialogue pages. Younger children would like to find and identify the animals shown throughout this book.I would recommend this book to parents and teachers.Thomas Sandusky, author of Gracie the glass tree frog

## GREAT

Loved using this book to help my boys (8 and 10) understand the true history of medicine. My kids are visual learners, so even at their ages, it helps to have books on their reading levels, which still include pictures. Also, our family uses a number of natural healers to help our autistic son, which has made us quite the "alternative" family in our community. This book demystifies the world of herbal remedies and hands on healing in a way that anyone can easily understand and appreciate. I noticed a shift in my children's attitudes about being the "alternative" family. It is an objective story, based on history.

Discovered this on Prime's streaming video of Reading Rainbow, circa 1983. My child loved the show and asked for the book. It's his new favorite; he's saving it to pass down to his children. If that's not 5 stars, I don't know what is.

Great book - was on Reading Rainbow a long time ago. Wonderful intro to the movie and to the issues.

This is one of the best kids books that I have seen for a long time. I can't recommend it highly. I only wish I still had kids that I could share it with. I suspect that most adults would enjoy it also, and might be moved to read more of Plotkins books.

I was not the book I expected!

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