



Natural History Pictures
for a Living Education
Tommy Smith's
Animals



NATURAL HISTORY PICTURES FOR A LIVING EDUCATION

TOMMY SMITH'S ANIMALS



CHARLOTTE MASON BEEHIVE

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INTRODUCTION



Natural History Pictures for a Living Education is a unique picture book series designed to enhance and bring to life the wonder and beauty of the outside world for students and young people studying the natural phenomena of wildlife; flora and fauna; birds and beasts; etc. in their natural history lesson books. Derived from *History Pictures for a Living Education*, an extensive series created to bring history to life for students and young people studying the events of the past, *Natural History Pictures for a Living Education* differs in that each book is intrinsically related to a particular lesson book and consists of detailed pictures and photographs of the subject matter being discussed.

In this volume in the series, *Tommy Smith's Animals*, the content is dependant on the natural history reader of the same name, written by Edmund Selous, and assigned to Form I students learning within the boundaries of a Charlotte Mason education. Forty photographs are included ranging from the emerald green skin of a grass snake, to the exquisite hairstyle of a northern lapwing, to the miraculous development of a tiny tadpole into a fully grown frog. All subject matter covered in the natural history reader is visually represented in the pages of this book; no longer will mothers and teachers need to seek out photographs in advance of a lesson or lose time in trying to locate one during the short lesson at their disposal; no longer will students struggle from identifying a wood mouse from a harvest mouse due to a lack of exposure to an actual pictorial representation of the plant or beast being studied.

The pictures in this book are not meant to replace the exposure to real life specimens, but dealt with correctly should enhance the students' knowledge and understanding when out and about in the natural world. Their eyes shall be opened more widely, their attention to detail refined, their zest to seek out the objects of their education will be more pronounced. Nothing can be more important to the young naturalist than the knowledge he gains for himself whilst making decided observations in the field, but to ensure a full-bodied representation of the subjects in focus whilst reading from his lesson books, *Natural History Pictures for a Living Education* is curated to do just that.

Designed primarily—but not exclusively—for home educators using the Charlotte Mason philosophy of education, this book is intended for students in Form I using Mrs Buckley's Natural History reader as described above. For home educators using Charlotte Mason's method of reading and narration, it is advised that children make use of the book either during the reading as a way to focus their attention and develop accurate representations of the subject matter in their mind's eye; or as an aid to discussion after a reading. After the lesson text has been read the students should put the pictures away while they narrate so that their minds can work independently of any external material. For young students who are not reading their lesson books independently yet the book may be viewed by the child while they listen to the reading. If you find the pictures distract rather than enhance their learning, however, then you may wish to put the pictures to one side until the reading has been completed.

We sincerely hope you have a pleasant and engaging school year using this new resource. For more new and original content from Charlotte Mason Beehive or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us through our website at www.charlottesmasonbeehive.co.uk.

RACHEL E. NORTH

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Sample

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Sample



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No. 04.

Tadpole of the common frog just before metamorphosis. *Viridiflavus*, CC BY-SA 3.0
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