



# **The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World**

*Nancy Castaldo*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

# The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World

*Nancy Castaldo*

## **The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World** Nancy Castaldo

Something as small as a seed can have a worldwide impact. Did you know there are top-secret seed vaults hidden throughout the world? And once a seed disappears, that's it—it's gone forever? With the growth of genetically modified foods, the use of many seeds is dwindling—of 80,000 edible plants, only about 150 are being cultivated. With a global cast of men and women, scientists and laypeople, and photographic documentation, Nancy Castaldo chronicles where our food comes from, and where it is going as she digs deeper into the importance of seeds in our world.

## **The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World Details**

Date : Published February 23rd 2016 by HMH Books for Young Readers

ISBN : 9780544320239

Author : Nancy Castaldo

Format : Hardcover 144 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Science, Childrens, Middle Grade, Food and Drink, Food, Young Adult, Teen

 [Download The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your P ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World Nancy Castaldo**

---

## **From Reader Review The Story of Seeds: From Mendel's Garden to Your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World for online ebook**

### **Carrie says**

This is a beautiful book full of color photos, but more importantly, colorful accounts of "seed warriors" around the world who are intent on preserving the purity of the world's seed population for the future of our food source. In clear language and careful explanation and definition, Castaldo uses this book as an educational platform for kids -- it's a juvenile nonfiction book -- though certainly relevant and informative for adults. There is a lot of history here, as well as global economics and agriculture, but all very accessible. Looking at Mendel's study of genetics and then moving into 20th century crises like WWII (Nazis were as intent on stealing seeds as they were in stealing art) and bio-engineering, many individuals who have heroically defended seeds with their lives and livelihood are highlighted and extolled. There are seed vaults and seed libraries and an impressive 21st century movement to return to natural whole foods and natural means of creating them, as well as finding ways for crop equity around the world. The book ends with a Call to Action for steps average people can take to make a difference, as well as 5 pages of resources to learn more.

---

### **Brenda says**

Having read several pre-release reviews of this book, I gladly came across it at the library the other day. What an important little book about seeds in general and the biodiversity that is in our world. The author examines how this diversity has been and continues to be lost, and also profiles a few of the people who are trying to preserve the rapid diminishing of genetic diversity, especially in our food crops. She also gives ideas of how each person can do something to help. No matter what you think of GMO (genetically modified organism) vs. non-GMO seeds, this book will give you pause to think about what is really happening and the consequences (unintended or not) that will be visited on future generations.

---

### **Joan says**

I sometimes like the short books better because they are more precise. I feel like I should know some of the stuff on Mendel, but it was cool hearing about a Russian who started such an intensive seed bank during WWII, that people died defending the seed bank. I need to learn more about seed banks, as I saw a movie this year that featured them.

---

### **Edward Sullivan says**

Great information engagingly presented in a compact book appealingly designed and illustrated.

---

### **Tracy says**

I am a want to be gardener, I like the idea of growing my own food, but really can grow zuchinni and flowers. This book contains a lot of information about people who are trying to preserve the genetic information that plants have. It does not look favorably on genetic engineering. I am not sure if the author is against the idea of genetic engineering or the fact that the companies who are doing the engineering are exploiting the people who are using the seeds that have been genetically engineered.

I like the information about the people who are trying to save the genetic code of plans, but I felt like there were snippets of information, that did not flow together as a narrative.

---

### **Nancy says**

I found this book a compelling read. In the whole scheme of things, seed banks are probably much more important than "money" banks. My personal opinion is that this book and the science fiction book, The Windup Girl by Paolo Bacigalupi, should go hand in hand.

---

### **Iris says**

Interesting introduction to the topic. I wish it had included more of the science involved. But the book did make me want to go out and buy seeds to plant a garden of my own.

---

### **Kimberly Sabatini says**

The Story Of Seeds was a fascinating and inspirational read, unlocking the past while also giving us a glimpse into the future of our food. This easy to read text was loaded with unsung heroes, easily digestible information, passion, hope and a plan for the future. This should be a staple in all middle school and high school libraries.

---

### **Lynne says**

A pleasant excursion into the stories behind the little packages of life we depend on, called seeds. It's a great way to introduce younger readers (or the uninitiated adult reader) to seeds. It includes brief stories about the importance of seeds to humanity, and includes many aspects of developing new varieties of seed, long-term storage in high-tech seed banks, the differences between traditional seed selection and genetically modified seed (GMO), and some of the people who deserve to be known for their work with seeds.

---

### **Linda Owen says**

More about plant diversity and the danger posed to our food crops because of the loss of plants and seeds. There are shout-outs to people all around the world saving and storing seeds, others saving and sharing seeds

---

-- who knew some libraries shared seeds? Resources at the end. Timely and terrifying.

---

### **Tammy Mannarino says**

I'm not sure how they decided that this book was for "Young Readers" because it was plenty detailed and complex. Perhaps it was the inclusion of many pictures (which are awesome). I learned a great deal from this book about the existence and history of seed banks and people who lost their lives protecting them. I've previously read about the legal issues surrounding GMOs (copyrights and cross pollination) but this goes into some of the international impacts (e.g. Suicide rate of farmers in India). This was a great mix of history, and science with a touch of practical advocacy.

---

### **Mary says**

This was an interesting read, and a great introduction to the topic of seeds, crops and global farming practices. It would have been 5 stars for me, but I felt like there should have been more information and examples used in the book, or at least more of an in-depth discussion about the topics highlighted (biopiracy, GMO's, crop diversity, etc.) There were enough snippets of information to be compelling and enough to interest me in looking into the topic more on my own; I just would have liked to see a bit more included in this book.

---

### **Madeline says**

Great overview of principles and practices of seed saving/seed banks appropriate for middle grade-adult readers. I'll recommend it to high school gardeners and history buffs, as well as adults looking to learn a bit more.

---

### **Suzanne Artis says**

What an informative book! There is a seed crisis across the globe and seed warriors have been stepping up for decades to preserve seeds, some losing their lives to do so. Great explanations of genetic modification and other agricultural terms, while outlining practical ways to become a seed activist. Extremely enlightening and inspiring.

---

### **Laurisa Reyes says**

One of the most important books for young readers written in years. Not only was every page compelling and chock full of eye-opening details and information, but The Story of Seeds moved me to action. Every student, parent, and teacher ought to read this book--and then follow Castaldo's call to action. - Laurisa Reyes, Editor-in-Chief of Middle Shelf Magazine

---