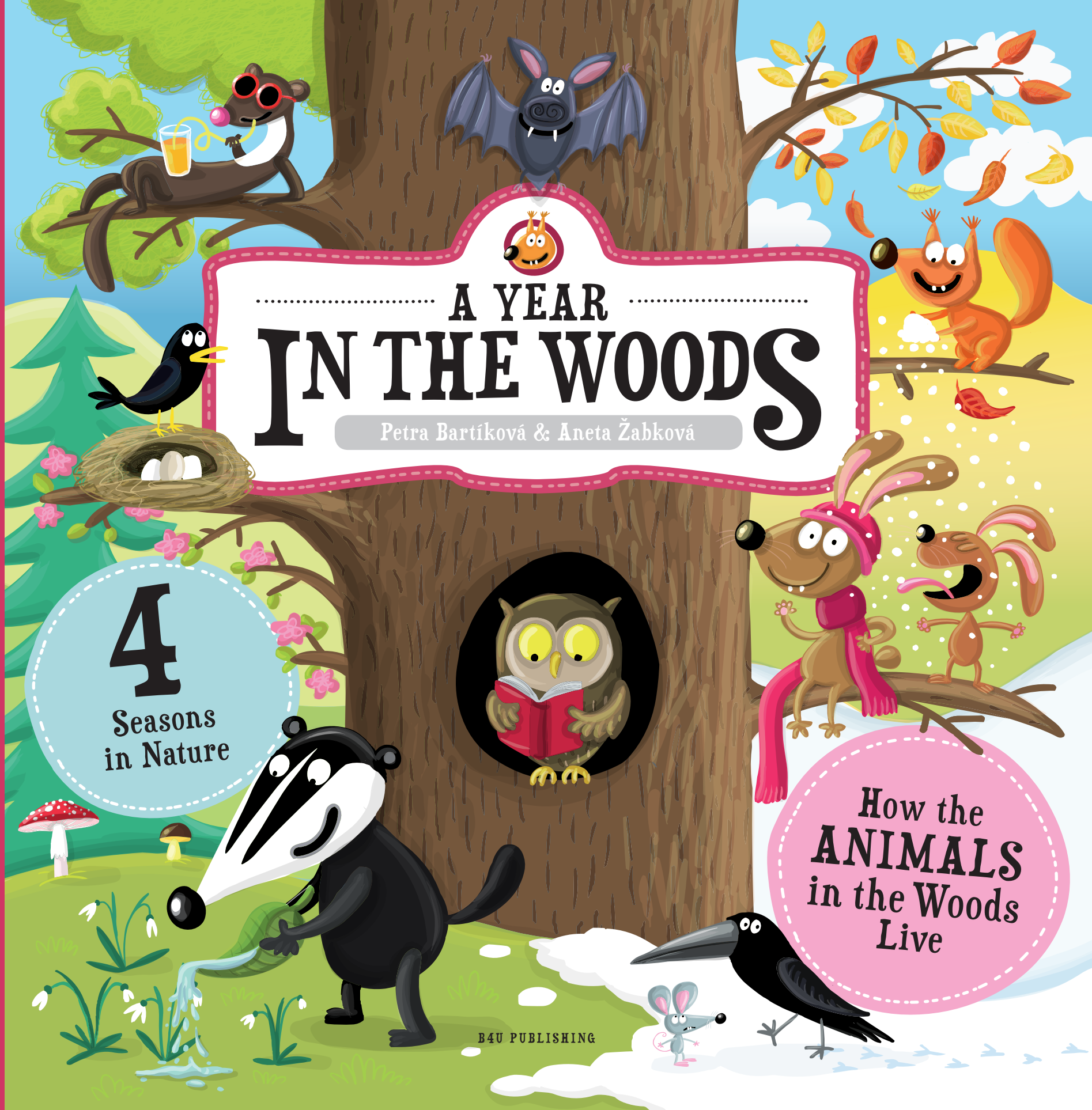




Petra Bartíková & Aneta Žabková

A YEAR IN THE WOODS



..... A YEAR .....  
**IN THE WOODS**  
Petra Bartíková & Aneta Žabková

**4**

Seasons  
in Nature

How the  
**ANIMALS**  
in the Woods  
Live

B4U PUBLISHING

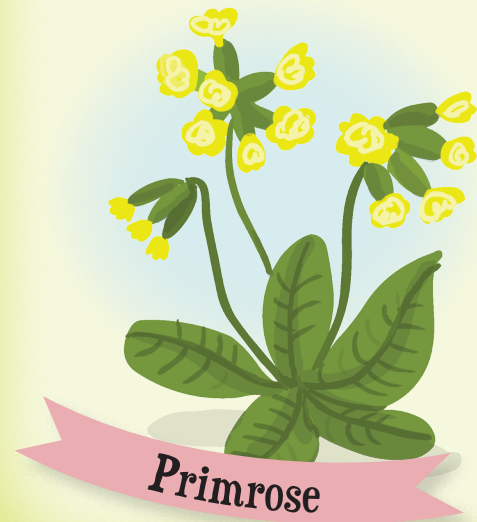


# WELCOME TO THE WOODS!

A squirrel is scrambling through the tree tops. She is jumping from branch to branch and observing from up high how the woods landscape is changing – in the spring, summer, autumn, and winter. You can observe nature in the woods too!



"Oink, Oink!" A striped squeaker is making noise in the bushes. Of course! It's spring, and the wild boar sows have offspring! And that's how it is in the forest each year. Spring, summer, autumn and winter are changing regularly. Each season is special somehow. Every season brings something new.



The year in the forest starts in March, because that's when spring starts and nature comes alive – the animals are awakening from hibernation and have their offspring, the trees are blooming, the violets are sprouting, and the storks are returning...

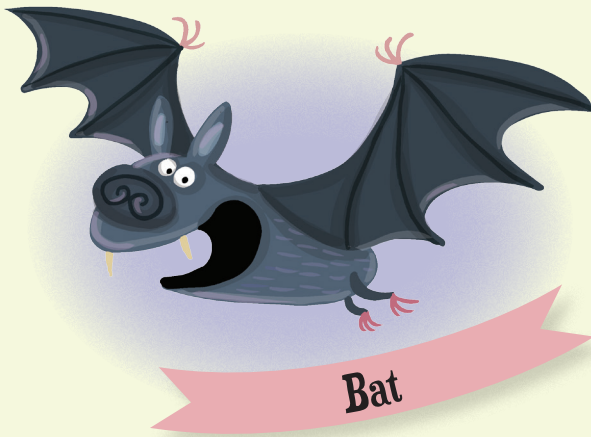


You might say to yourself that the violets sprout a little bit earlier where you live, or that most of the animals which hibernated almost the entire winter stretch and crawl out of their nests later.



I LOVE JUMPING AND I'M GOOD AT IT.

That's because the weather is different in different parts of the world. While there is still snow on the slopes in some places, somewhere else trees are blooming and animals' offspring are growing.



Observe them, and learn how to recognise animals by their tracks and trees by their leaves. Create animals from forest nuts and make herbals. Experience adventures in the woods! Have fun!





# SPRING

Frosts are less harsh. Snow melts. The weather is just what you need to get your garden back in shape. *Spring* is the best time to plant. And it's the best time to start your garden.

20.3.–20.6.

Frosts are less harsh. Snow melts and the days get longer. **Spring** is here! Trees grow new twigs and leaves and birds nest in the tree-tops. Animals awake from **hibernation** and most of them have **babies**.



# March 3.

Hurray! It's getting w

Hurray! It's getting warmer. The female wild boar gives birth, and storks return from Africa. What's that lovely smell? Violets bloom before the first day of spring, which is **20 March**.

HEEELP!

## Sows with their young



## Black stork

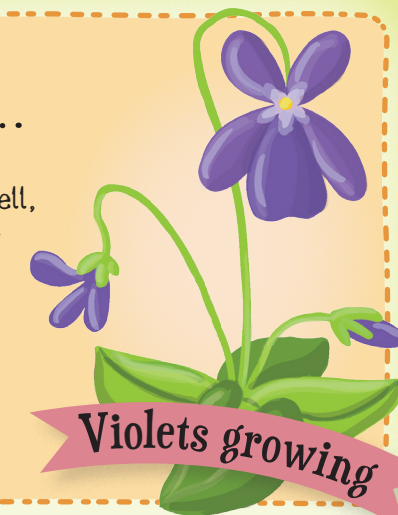
The lesser known, rarer friend of the white stork is one of the most mysterious inhabitants of the forests and rocks. It builds its nest high in the treetops. When no one's watching, it wades about in pools, where it looks out for fishes and frogs.

## Storks returning



## Violet

Not only do violets have a beautiful smell, they can be used as medicine to fight colds and flu.



## Wild boar

If you spot the sow in the woods with her striped piglets, slowly back away. Extremely protective of her young, she will attack anyone who so much as looks at them.

Make a

# PERISCOPE

for observation of wild animals





# April 4.

Maple, beech, ash . . . more and more of these trees are coming into bloom. April is known for its showers and cold spells, but also for its bouts of sunshine. Thanks to the rain, the green grass grows like crazy. Hungry beasts find this grass very tasty!



Polecats mating

## Viper

As soon as the rocks on the edges of woodland begin to warm up, vipers appear on them. Unlike the grass snake, the viper is venomous. But it won't hurt you unless you annoy it.



A viper basking in the sun

## A cuckoo laying an egg



## Cuckoo

How cheeky is that?! Instead of building its own nest, the cuckoo lays its eggs in the nests of others. Then its chicks throw out their foster-siblings; but if they let them stay, they'd be pretty difficult to live with, of course.

## Polecat

Shush! Polecats mate in April. Is it true that they stink? Well, when the female gets angry, she sprays her enemy with a foul-smelling liquid that she keeps hidden under her tail.



Birds singly sweetly

## Why does a snake stick out its tongue?

That one's easy – it uses it to smell with. Having stuck its tongue out, it wiggles it about. On drawing the tongue back in, it senses the location of its prey or enemy.

# May 5.

May is the month of flowering, fragrant meadows and birdsong. The sun is pleasantly warm, the oaks and rowans of the forest are in bloom, and the copses are decorated with forget-me-nots. And what are those things rising in the grass? The first edible mushrooms!

## Forget-me-nots in bloom

## Forget-me-not

A certain legend tells us that when God was naming the plants, he forgot about this sky-blue flower, and the flower cried out: „Don't forget about me!“ God pondered for a moment, then replied: „Yes, that's the very name for you – forget-me-not.“

## Thrush and blackbird

Thrushes are inconspicuous birds that blend in with their natural surroundings; they sing beautifully, however – as do blackbirds. Thrushes and blackbirds are known as virtuosi among birds.

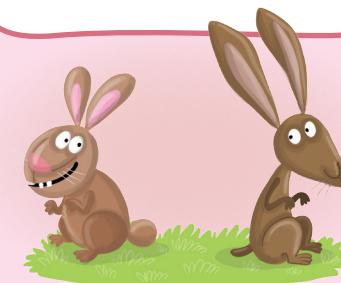
## St George

„Yummy!“ said a mushroom forager. The St George is one of the tastiest mushrooms there is. Just imagine – on the Iberian Peninsula, in Spain, the St George is known as the queen of mushrooms. People there think it tastes amazing!



The first mushrooms are growing

## A HARE & A RABBIT



Hares with their young

## Hare

Hares are born in March and May, and when young they are really cute. When they grow up, they sprint about the woods and fields like creatures possessed, often moving faster than city traffic.





# A YEAR IN THE WOODS

Petra Bartíková & Aneta Žabková

CRAFT ANIMALS  
FROM FOREST  
NUTS!



LEARN  
to distinguish  
animals by  
their  
TRACKS

**F**ind out how nature changes through all four seasons – in spring, summer, autumn and winter. You will find out what grows and flowers and when, how the animals behave, the identity of a most mysterious inhabitant of the woods and rocks, what the marten does after dark, and why snakes stick out their tongues. With this book you can look inside a tree trunk and deep underground. You'll discover what a woodpecker's home looks like, what fox cubs play with in their dens and why the squirrel hides its nuts. You'll learn to distinguish animals by their tracks and trees by their leaves. Besides all this, you can **make your own herbarium** and a **periscope** so you can watch animals in the wild from a spring-time hiding place – you'll find the instructions inside. **So what are you waiting for? Off to the woods in search of adventure!**

Take a  
**LOOK INSIDE**  
a tree trunk

LEARN THE  
DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN HARE  
AND RABBIT!




**ILLUSTRATIONS**  
Have a great time with  
funny illustrations!

**FLAPS**  
Peek deep underground!

**BOOKLETS & FOLDOUTS**  
Craft and learn in the nature!



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