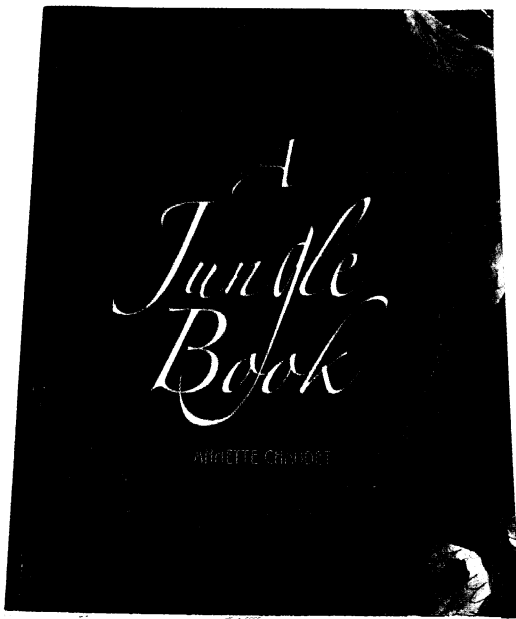




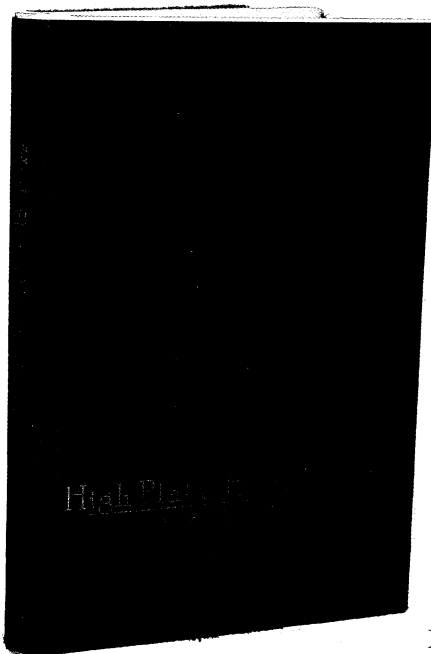
A Jungle Book

By Annette Chaudet

2008. Publisher: PrairieWinkle. 64 p.

“Join us in the African Jungle,” the animals invite in *A Jungle Book* by Annette Chaudet. Fifteen African animals tell brief tales of their lives in the jungle. Written in verse with brightly colored, large illustrations each animal’s description of itself is told with wit. A giraffe talks of his view at the top and wonders how the vertically challenged, like we humans, see where we want to go. The crocodile sympathizes with his prey, but informs us he simply wants to eat, it’s nothing personal. Or the rhinoceros who warns the jungle is not a zoo and encourages us to “keep on going,” a fine warning to not go near. Whatever the animal, young and old readers will enjoy reading these short verses about animals from far away! A fun, short read for the beginning reader to pick out rhyming words or the more practiced reader to discover new things, like a vulture circling on thermals, *A Jungle Book* is a great read-aloud. Annett Chaudet also wrote *The Nose Book* for children.

Beth Cook, Assistant Manager Youth & Outreach Services
Laramie County Library System



High Plains Horticulture: a History

By John H. Freeman

2008. Publisher University Press of Colorado. 270 p.

High Plains Horticulture: a History by John H. Freeman explores significant role that horticulture played in the development of communities in the High Plains portions of Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming since 1840. Freeman explores early efforts by settlers to supplement what edibles they found growing in the area and imported foodstuffs. He makes note of state and local encouragement for settlers to plant trees, usually in the way of some form of tax relief – if you planted so many trees your taxes were reduced by a certain amount of dollars. As the High Plains became more settled and more urban there was a definite shift from food production to community beautification. Freeman pays tribute, in this interesting history, to the perseverance of the people who came West seeking to make the area not only livable, but more like the Eastern homes they had left behind. As any of us who engage in horticulture today knows, we must learn to adjust to the many limitations of trying to grow things in this area. Whether it be wind, lack of water, poor soils, late or early frosts or snows or critters, this is definitely one of the most challenging places a person can chose to try to grow a garden. I call the High Plains “next year country” as you often hear avid gardeners speak of what their gardens will be like next year; this book recognizes that also. Anyone interested in gardening

or history should enjoy this book as much as I did.

Cheryl Anderson Wright, Administrative Assistant
Park County Library