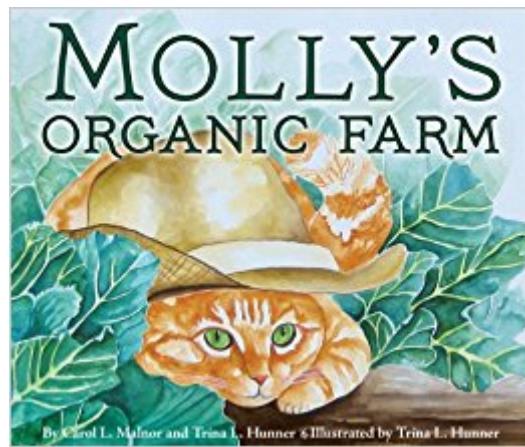


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# Molly's Organic Farm



## **Synopsis**

Whoosh . . . the wind blows open a creaky gate. Inquisitive and mischievous, a homeless little cat scampers through and suddenly finds herself in the wondrous world of an organic farm! Affectionately named "Molly" by the farmers who discover her, she romps, naps, and hunts among the vegetables. Seen through Molly's eyes, the reader discovers the interplay of nature that grows wholesome food. But what will happen to Molly when winter comes? Based on a true story, Molly will touch children's hearts while introducing them to plants and the key elements of growing food organically. Standards-based science concepts and activities at the end of the book expand the message of the story.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 680L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Dawn Pubns (March 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1584691670

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Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 0.1 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #748,801 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #99 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Gardening #9298 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## **Customer Reviews**

K-Gr 4  As an orange-striped stray explores a community farm, inviting text introduces the gentle-on-nature methods organic farmers employ to nurture a healthy growing environment and manage pests and weeds. Children will be charmed by the cat's-eye viewpoint, verdant watercolors, and staccato rhymes scattered throughout ("Catching whiffs./Molly sniffs"). Activity ideas and photos of the real-life Molly are appended. © Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

". . . The star of this appealing introduction to organic farming is a homeless cat that wandered into a northern California farm in 2005. . . Realistic watercolors provide a cat s-eye view of the farm with its big brown farmer boots, its sheltering leaves and its interesting animal life." --Kirkus Reviews (January 2012)

This book was purchased as an educational supplement to our "Good for You" outreach lesson from the museum. This book is beautifully illustrated and has an important story line that is told in a way that is interesting to students and parents alike. The standards based educational concepts identified at the end of the book can assist any parent in conversations with their children that will help them gain an understanding of the importance of good food and how it helps us. This is a wonderful and fun exploration for any family reading together. *Molly's Organic Farm*

This is a fun, beautifully illustrated book about a kitty named Molly and her antics in an organic farm. It gives children an introduction into organic gardening and rotating crops. My nine year old grandson really enjoyed this book and he said the following, "The book is a good way to get little kids into eating healthy foods. In the back of the book it tells about all the different plants, bugs, and animals you see in the book. At the very back of the book it shows the real life Molly that this story story was based on. I think everyone should buy this book to give them a good idea how healthy organic farming can be."

I bought this book as a gift for my grandchildren. I just read through it last night and thought it was really well done. Beautiful illustrations and a charming little story (based on true events) about a wandering cat that found a home in an organic garden. Even an educational experience for the children to learn about how their food is grown.

We got this book from the library, and decided to purchase it since we do organic gardening ourselves. Our daughter loves cats, and it helps her learn how to grow from the earth.

LOVE it thank you!!!

Very disappointed with this book. It is not about the kitty at all. It is an instructional manual on how to create an organic garden.

What is organic farming and how is it different from other kinds of farming? Molly is a homeless cat that is wandering around. One gusty spring day, she hears some loud noises. "Whoosh! Creak...CRASH!" A gust of wind swings a gate open, and Molly wanders into an organic farm. When she is discovered, the farmers adopt her. All through the growing season, Molly, and youngsters who read this book or have it read to them, learn all about different aspects of organic farming, such as composting, beneficial bugs, companion planting, crop rotation, animal helpers, and community farmers' markets. But what will happen to Molly when winter arrives with its cold weather and falling snowflakes? Based on the true story of a little cat which, in 2005, showed up at the small Mountain Bounty Farm in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains near Nevada City in northern California, spent the spring and summer socializing with the farmers, and then was taken in for the winter by co-author and illustrator Trina L. Hunner who lived adjacent to the farm, this charming book introduces youngsters to the concept of organic farming which controls pests, diseases, and weeds naturally, and uses no artificial chemicals, fertilizers, or pesticides. The educational pages in the back give more information about the various elements of an organic farm displayed in the text by Hunner and Carol L. Malnor, explain the parts of a plant, discuss the seasonal nature of a plant's life cycle, show how Molly used her five senses to explore the farm, and give additional ideas and resources related to the topic. It's a great nature lesson all wrapped up in a fun package!

MOLLY'S ORGANIC FARM is a splendid children's book. The co-authors/illustrator took inspiration from a real orange tabby named Molly and the organic, sustainable agricultural community in which our feline friend lived. The illustrations of Molly capture the familiar fluidity of a cat's movements. My particular favorite is the page which features a praying mantis in the garden with an smaller inset picture of Molly getting ready to pounce toward a rat. The content is cadenced and metric with rhyming couplets that make literature so accessible to emerging readers. The teacher or homeschooling parent will enjoy the addition of supporting activities that relate to plants, organic farming and environmental considerations. In fact, I purchased copies of this book for all of the young children in my extended family. My four-year-old niece, who also happens to have the name Molly, took her copy to her prekindergarten class. The class had been studying what it means "to grow." This book fit right into the lesson and the other students enjoyed listening to their teacher read it aloud.

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