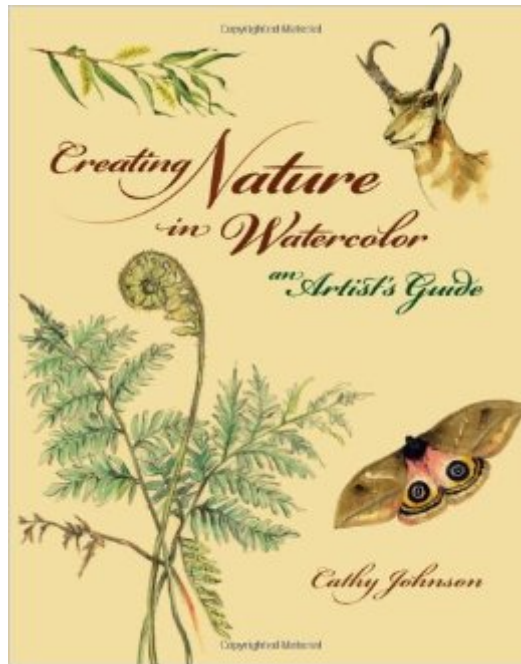


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# Creating Nature In Watercolor: An Artist's Guide



## Synopsis

Experience Nature with an Artist's Eye This guide is a rare opportunity to experience the joy of painting nature with Cathy Johnson, a beloved artist, naturalist and teacher. With lively instruction and an approachable style, Cathy takes you on an enjoyable hike through the great outdoors, showing you how to see and paint the wonders of nature in a whole new way. Open this unique guide and see how achievable and fun watercolor can be. With dozens of examples of her own work, along with 15 complete step-by-step demonstrations, Cathy shows you how to capture a range of environments. You'll explore the beauty of the open desert, the shady stillness of an old forest, the dancing cascades of a rushing waterfall, and much more. Habitats are arranged by chapter, featuring:

- Forests & Trees - with details covering leaves, bark, ferns, birds and seasonal changes
- Lakes, Rivers, Creeks & Ponds - including still water, reflections, wave patterns, fish and waterfalls
- Prairies, Meadows & Fields - with guidance for painting wildflowers, butterflies open ranges, farmland, prairie animals and more
- Mountains - including trees of western and eastern mountains, wildlife and indigenous plants and flowers
- Deserts - with specific instruction for painting desert plants, animals and more
- Humans in Nature - including canoes, campfires and fishing trips

Along the way, Cathy encourages you to sharpen your observation skills, experiment with new techniques and keep up the satisfying practice of carrying your sketchbook wherever you go. With Cathy's sound guidance, you'll learn to capture the beauty of nature as you never have before.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have just received Cathy Johnson's new book, "Creating Nature in Watercolor, an Artists Guide." I sat down and read it through, and found it felt like a beautifully illustrated letter from a good friend, who is encouraging me to join her in her love of nature and creating. The art work is superb of course, as I expected, since I already own several of her books, and recently took one of her wonderful Online Classes...and she has been drawing and painting for her whole life...but I also found much more in it than artwork. She not only shares many, many, many valuable techniques and tips...but they seem unique to her charming way of helping us out with some of the little things that become big things when you don't know how to deal with them. And she adds so many details and makes them all so interesting! Her 'personal relationship' with nature pulls the reader and artist into a close connection with creation and creating. It is a book for everyone...beginning and professional artists as well as all who appreciate nature. For me this is her best book....so far...:)

Cathy Johnson's newest book is a work of art in itself. The inside page design is simply beautiful. The illustrations by Ms. Johnson are very inspiring. And her tone is one of gentle encouragement ("yes, you can do this too"). I just received my copy recently and have already spent hours savoring it. Many of Ms. Johnson's books seem deceptively simple. One could quickly glance over her notes and paintings and then set the book on the shelf. The real value comes from taking her books, page by page, and actually DOING the exercises she provides. Pay attention to her teaching, follow her examples, and wonderful things will happen with your artwork. Creating Nature in Watercolor is a wonderful book and I am thankful that the artist took the time to create it.

I became interested in Watercolor through an online class given by Cathy Johnson almost one year ago. Now I am hooked! I purchased this book as well as several other of Cathy's books to learn more of what she has to teach. This book,(like all of Cathy Johnson's books) is easy to understand and very well illustrated. She keeps it simple yet her instruction is very thorough. Cathy is a very talented, patient and generous artist. She doesn't hesitate sharing her knowledge with others. Her books have helped me to learn many new techniques and have given me the inspiration to keep on painting. Thanks Kate!

Cathy Johnson's newest book, Creating Nature in Watercolor, is a most delightful read and it's filled with tips and techniques on appreciating nature and capturing your interpretation of that observation in watercolor. Whether you want to learn how to document botanical samples in a journal or compose an extensive landscape on a full sheet of watercolor paper, this book is a must have!

Cathy has a teaching style that encourages everyone to jump right in and have fun learning. This book contains short exercises as well as step-by-step lessons for painting landscapes. A beginner will find this book to be a tremendous start off point and a professional will find many useful tips and notes to help them progress in their treatment of nature and landscapes.

Having used 2 of Ms. Johnson's books before ("Creating Textures in Watercolor" and "Watercolor Pencil Magic-sadly out of print") I had great hopes for this new volume, and it does not disappoint. More than a collection of pretty watercolor studies to be admired - though it is full of them! - this book breaks down the process and tells you how to get the result you're looking for. Ms. Johnson even gives tips on the practicalities of capturing the uncooperative moving creatures of nature on paper! I have found something valuable on every page.

This is the lovely, helpful book that everyone has said it is, but I think people should know that North Light recently published Cathy's book "Painting Nature in Watercolor," which is this same book with added content about watercolor pencils. I bought both books without knowing that much of the content is identical. The only other significant difference is that "Creating" is hardcover and printed with texture to mimic watercolor paper--a little more nicely done. "Painting" is softcover and printed in the usual white paper way. Cathy's usual superb work, but I'm docking it a star for being a duplicate.

I found this newest Cathy Johnson book to be every bit as informative and entertaining as her many previous books. The artist's love of nature shines gloriously within these pages. Not only does she give clear and easily understood instructions to 'capture nature', she also inspires you! This book is both working text and entertainment.

About 124 pages of color (water color) reproduction pictures, beautifully done. The font used is nice however, it is about a 9 or 10 and it should be larger, so that you can glance back at the page for instructions or comments to read quickly and not have to focus in and interfere with your project. Looks like this book is about in its 12th printing.

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