

# LORGNETTE

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

## Author

Markle, Sandra

## Illustrator

## Reviewer

Martinez, Shan

## Pages

48p

## Price

\$33.32

## ISBN

978-1-7284-6795-5

## Publisher & Date

Millbrook, 2023

## Classification

Nonfiction (600)

## Grade Level

4-6

## Book Review: WILD INVENTIONS: IDEAS INSPIRED BY ANIMALS

Older readers will be fascinated by how some inventions are inspired by animals. Inventors look for solutions to problems, and sometimes they find their solution in the animal kingdom. This concept is called bio-inspiration. The author presents an animal and the special thing it has or does, and then she introduces a structure or an invention that is based on the animal adaptation. One example is the shark. Shark skin is made with denticles which protect it from barnacles attaching to the skin. The added weight of the barnacles would slow the shark down, but barnacles cannot attach to sharks. Water vessels of all sizes have always had the problem of barnacles covering the hull and slowing it down. The common solution was to pull the boat out of the water and scrape the barnacles off. One inventor noticed shark denticles, and after several years of testing, he invented a coating that mimicked denticles. He called it Sharklet. This book is full of unique and fascinating ideas that actually came from animals. The photographs and diagrams help communicate the narrative and provide curious readers with much to think about. Well done!

