

1.

Book Reviews

Backward Science

Author: Clive Gifford

Publisher: QED Publishing

Price: £12

Immersed in our current surroundings, technology and way of life, it can be easy to take all this for granted. But what would life be like without the comfort we are provided with through healthcare or the transport we depend on daily? From complex gadgets to simplistic items such as a toilet to use or paper to write on, all the technology in this book will leave you both thankful for a different aspect of your life and equipped with the historical stories of the people behind them.

Anatomicum Activity Book

Author: Jennifer Z Paxton

Publisher: Big Picture Press

Price: £10

The human body and its complicated composition can be hard to wrap your head around sometimes. However, this activity book combines the educational information of a textbook and the fun of a puzzle book. From labelling parts of the lungs to matching up internal systems, this book is a great way to bring fun into human biology. Filled with interesting facts about the human body and how it functions, this activity book is great for the whole family to enjoy.

Apollo 13 Owners' Workshop Manual

Author: David Baker

Publisher: Haynes

Price: £22

You couldn't find a more qualified person to write this Haynes manual: author David Baker isn't just any old physicist or engineer; he was actually here in NASA's mission control room in 1970, working on getting the crew of Apollo 13 safely back to Earth. He's also an award-winning journalist who's written well over 100 books on all facets of space science and exploration.

The World's Most Amazing Dinosaurs

Author: Various

Publisher: Sona Books

Price: £18

Providing an insight into the varied species that inhabited our planet over 65 million years ago, every page brings these long-extinct characters back to life. The illustrations not only show you what they might have looked like, but are filled with interesting annotations to explain the purpose of the dinosaurs' every feature. Surprising details of their colour, texture, internal organs and skeletal structure are presented through cutaway graphics alongside educated opinions from expert palaeontologists.

【1】Which book explores the inventions we encounter every day?

- A. The World's Most Amazing Dinosaurs.
- B. Apollo 13 Owners' Workshop Manual.
- C. Anatomicum Activity Book.
- D. Backward Science.

【2】Anatomicum Activity Book may appeal to those who

- A. are wondering what life was like in the past
- B. are doing research on space science
- C. are confused about the human body
- D. are curious about animals

【3】What can be learned about David Baker?

- A. He was one of the crew of Apollo 13.
- B. He knew the precise details of Apollo 13.
- C. He designed NASA's mission control room.
- D. He worked as an engineer until the year of 1970.

2.

Born on May 27, 1907 in Springdale, Pennsylvania, Rachel Carson became an avid explorer as well as reader, and took an interest in writing stories. By age 10, she had published her first story in St. Nicholas. She would often read this magazine, as well as many others that concerned the natural world. In 1925, she finished at the top of her class in high school in a class of 45 students.

Carson would go on to attend the Pennsylvania College for Women, which is known as Chatham University now. This is where she would end up pursuing the sciences, in this case biology. She would eventually attend Johns Hopkins University in 1929, continuing her studies in zoology and genetics.

Carson completed her Master's in zoology in June of 1932, and went to work at a local radio station. Here she would write educational broadcasts for a weekly radio show called Romance Under the Waters. This led her to her job at the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, and she became just the second woman to be employed by the bureau.

In 1951, Carson had her book The Sea Around Us published, which explains the complexity of the ocean to non-scientists. Carson wrote the book with poetry and science, and she intended to spark in her readers a sense of the fragility of the world's ecosystem. The Sea Around Us made Carson the voice of public science in America, an internationally recognized authority on the oceans, and established her reputation as a nature writer of the first rank.

In 1962, Carson became well-known when her most famous book Silent Spring was published. This book described the negative effects of pesticides on the environment. Her concern with pesticides dated back to the 1940s, but no one would take her seriously until this book was finally published. On April 14th, 1964, Carson passed away due to a heart attack but her work towards preserving the environment has continued to this day. Silent Spring was even republished in 1994 with an introduction from then vice-president Al Gore.

【1】What do we know about Carson's early life?

- A. She was a great fan of St. Nicholas.
- B. She worked part-time at a radio station.
- C. She pursued the sciences in high school.
- D. She moved to Springdale at the age of 10.

【2】According to the text, The Sea Around Us \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. is a science book for professionals