Rocket Science For The Rest Of Us

Synopsis

Want to understand black holes, antimatter, physics, and space exploration? Looking for a common sense guide to quantum physics that you can actually understand? Rocket Science for the Rest of Us is the book you're looking for! Get a grip on even the most mysterious and complex sciences with Ben Gilliland's guide to dark matter, exo-planets, Planck time, earth sciences, and more. You'll hear yourself saying, "I get it now!" again and again as you explore the fun graphics and clear explanations in Rocket Science for the Rest of Us. Whether you want to impress your friends with your knowledge of quantum physics, finally know what a black hole actually is, or just learn more about the universe that's all around us, Rocket Science for the Rest of Us breaks it all down so science and physics are easy to understand. You're not a rocket scientist? So what! That doesn't mean you can't understand it!

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Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Upâ "This eye-catching text, divided into four color-coded sections, introduces readers to the universe, space exploration, scientific theories, and the supersmall stuff that makes up the universe. The design is useful: the name of each section appears on the top left of each spread, and the title of the current entry appears on the top right. The coverage is broad (including everything from the status of Pluto as a planet to how we keep time to X-ray crystallography) and will keep readers engaged. The explanations are clear, even for challenging subjects, and the author often lightens

the tone with humorous asides and puns. For instance, he likens the iron-rich internal structure of Mercury to "a Ferrero Rocher chocolateâ |or Ferrous Rocher" and uses the concept of Elvis Presley and his fans to describe the way that particles gather around the Higgs boson. The layout is bright and image-filled. Often, numbered images are used to help elucidate complex processes, such as how the European Space Agency’s comet chaser probe Rosetta targeted its prey. Most of the spreads feature white text on a black background. Key phrases appear in boldface text. (Some of the smaller white text featured in annotations is difficult to read.) Boxed areas featuring text on nonwhite backgrounds are used to introduce and highlight concepts. VERDICT This book is certain to appeal to students studying science as well as armchair enthusiasts and would be a solid choice for libraries looking to supplement their science collections.â ”Maren Ostergard, King County Library System, Issaquah, WA

"Detailed diagrams are one of the book’s strongest points, as they provide the clearest explanations of difficult physics concepts." â ” Booklist

My 8 year old son is writing this review because he’s the one who read this book. I checked this book out at the library for him and he read it over and over, so many times that I had to buy the book for him. It must be pretty good since he read it so many times. When it showed up in the mail he dove right into it again. I like science, but there’s a lot of stuff in here that I didn’t know. Now I have been informed - there are 6 types of quarks, some of the quarks are opposite each other, and there are also supposed to be things called squarks. I thought he was making it up, but he showed me in the book where it talks about these things. Listening to him talk about rocket science is a nice break for us from having to pretend to be interested in Pokemon and Minecraft.This is his review:"My favorite part about this book is that it talks about quantum physics. Even though I still don’t understand what a squark is, I like reading about them. They’re really strange and weird. I also like that it talks about rocket science a lot, and that I now know that the earth can’t get sucked up by a micro black hole because they evaporate in less than an octillianth of a nano second. Now I don’t have to worry about that any more. I recommend reading this book if you want to learn more about quantum physics."The book says it’s for 8th grade and up, but it seems to be entertaining for anyone of any age who is a fluent reader and also interested in science.

ITem is fun read and educational too. Thank you

interesting format

The person I bought it for loved it! Said made their head swim with all of the facts and details

This isn’t a textbook; it’s like a really well illustrated anthology of extracts from a lot of "Scientific American" or Astronomy" magazine articles. Each topic is treated briefly, with one predominant theme, a few interesting sidebars, and a wealth of illustrations, most of which are helpful and all of which are interesting.As with science magazines generally, the difficulty level varies considerably. Some articles are interesting and perfectly understandable - say, the article on brown dwarf stars. Some sections are generally comprehensible, but don’t lead one to a firm and deep understanding - say, the article on using the inverse square ratio, apparent brightness and pulsing Cepheids to calculate star distances. Some bits I can’t say I ever really fully grasped - for example, the explanation of how galaxies positioned on an expanding space time bubble can appear to be travelling faster than the speed of light. Or the subtleties of supersymmetry.That said, there isn’t going to be an exam and I don’t try to pass as a cosmologist at dinner parties, so the real question is whether the book is interesting or fun. The answer there, for me, was yes. I learned a lot of new stuff and firmed up some things I already sort of knew. The sidebar factoids and the historical throwaway bits were interesting. Further, because developments in this field move quickly and usually aren’t widely reported, there were lots of new bits about areas I’d lost track of. (Example, it’s hard to keep track of all the new discoveries that come out the Hubble operations.)But of course there is a lot more here than just Big Bang cosmology. There are updates on the latest findings about the other planets in our solar system, an explanation of the demotion of poor Pluto, a discussion of the cutting edge of the search for exoplanets, a history of probes and explorers, the latest on colonizing Mars, a discussion of the effort to construct a unified field theory, an explanation of gravity lensing, an explanation of why glass is transparent, speculation on how a warp drive would work, and on and on.The upshot is that if you like to keep in touch with current developments in the field and like to learn about and think about such science topics, this book offers a lot of rewards. That’s especially the case here because this is a DK book, and as is the case with their destination guides a great deal of attention has been paid to pictures, illustrations, graphs and the like. The graphics run from "pretty" to very helpful and informative, and are nicely tied to the narrative. The topic lends itself to a visual presentation and DK has not skimped in that department.So, a happy find for a science minded browser, and a commendable attempt to present science "to the rest of us", without any of that corny "Dummies" filler. (Please note that I received a

free advance ecopy of this book in exchange for a candid review. Apart from that I have no connection at all to either the author or the publisher of this book.)

xmas gift

US Army Technical Manual, ARMY AMMUNITION DATA SHEETS FOR ROCKETS, ROCKET SYSTEMS, ROCKET FUZES, ROCKET MOTORS, (FSC 1340), TM 43-0001-30, 1981 Rocket Science for the Rest of Us Rocket Girl: The Story of Mary Sherman Morgan, America's First Female Rocket Scientist Firing A Rocket : Stories of the Development of the Rocket Engines for the Saturn Launch Vehicles and the Lunar Module as Viewed from the Trenches (Kindle Single) Rocket Science for Babies (Baby University) Make: Rockets: Down-to-Earth Rocket Science Wernher Von Braun: Space Visionary and Rocket Engineer (Makers of Modern Science) It's Not Rocket Science Rocket Science: 50 Flying, Floating, Flipping, Spinning Gadgets Kids Create Themselves Wine Isn't Rocket Science: A Quick and Easy Guide to Understanding, Buying, Tasting, and Pairing Every Type of Wine Rocket Fantastic: Poems Rocket Boys: The Coalwood Series, Book 1 Curious George and the Rocket Rocket Writes a Story How Rocket Learned to Read Bizzy Bear: Space Rocket Rocket Boys (The Coalwood Series #1) Rocket's Mighty Words (Oversized Board Book) Rocket to the Rescue! (Marvel: Guardians of the Galaxy) (Little Golden Book) Space Song Rocket Ride