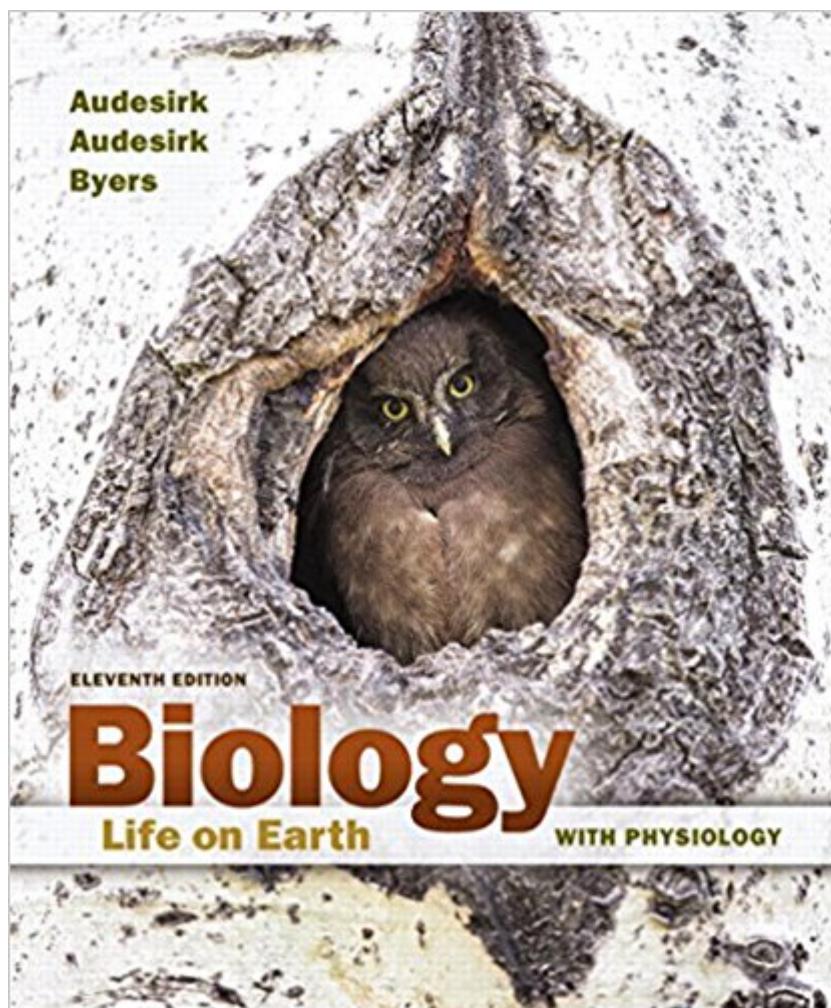


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Customer Reviews

TERRY AND GERRY AUDESIRK grew up in New Jersey, where they met as undergraduates. After marrying in 1970, they moved to California, where Terry earned her doctorate in marine ecology at the University of Southern California and Gerry earned his doctorate in neurobiology at the California Institute of Technology. As postdoctoral students at the University of Washingtonâ™s marine laboratories, they worked together on the neural bases of behavior, using a marine mollusk as a model system. They are now emeritus professors of biology at the University of Colorado Denver, where they taught introductory biology and neurobiology from 1982 through 2006. In their research, funded primarily by the National Institutes of Health, they investigated the mechanisms by which neurons are harmed by low levels of environmental pollutants and protected by estrogen. Terry and Gerry share a deep appreciation of nature and of the outdoors. They enjoy hiking in the Rockies, walking near their home in Steamboat Springs, and attempting to garden at 7,000 feet in the presence of hungry deer and elk. They are long-time members of many conservation organizations. Their daughter, Heather, provides another welcome focus to their lives.Â

BRUCE E. BYERS is a midwesterner transplanted to the hills of western Massachusetts, where he is a professor in the biology department at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Heâ™s been a member of the faculty at UMass (where he also completed his doctoral degree) since 1993. Bruce teaches introductory biology courses for both nonmajors and majors; he also teaches courses in ornithology and animal behavior. A lifelong fascination with birds ultimately led Bruce to scientific exploration of avian biology. His current research focuses on the behavioral ecology of birds, especially on the function and evolution of the vocal signals that birds use to communicate. The pursuit of vocalizations often takes Bruce outdoors, where he can be found before dawn, tape recorder in hand, awaiting the first songs of a new day.

I bought this textbook for my biology class (yay, gen eds!) and I was expecting it to be boring. It was. But at least it wasn't as miserable or confusing as many other textbooks I had the misfortune of reading. As far as textbooks go, this one is great. It's about average page length and chapter length. The pages are fairly sturdy and don't wrinkle as easily as a normal book's pages do. It has a nice, clean layout with lots of graphs and charts to help the visual learner. The information is always relevant to the chapter titles, and the content doesn't deviate much from other types of biology textbooks. A note for students whose classes may be asking for the 10th edition: this book is almost exactly the same. Some small sections are switched around, but the chapters are otherwise exactly the same and even in the same order. I really suggest you save yourself a couple hundred bucks

and buy this one instead. You won't be missing anything.

Biology, by Audesirk, Audesirk and Byers is a very good biology text book which could be used either for HS or college level courses. At just over 900 pages, it is not the most comprehensive tome available but adequate for general studies. Subjects covered are well worded but brief. The book is well illustrated with many full color charts, maps, drawings and photos. There is a concise glossary. This, the 2011 9th edition is not the very latest, however, it is still very new and is OK for general studies. And it can be bought for a very small fraction of the newer edition's selling price. This is a perfect book for any student or anyone wishing to know more about life on earth. It is much better than the book I had when in my college years.

As an undergraduate, I dreaded taking Biology. Science was never my strong suit and frankly, it bored me. Using this textbook, I took an introductory Bio class (with lab) over the summer. I did well and I actually retained the information. This book is set up in such a way that it incorporates real world incidents (blood doping, plagues, scientific discoveries) into the material to make it RELEVANT. I always questioned why I should even bother with science or math when I would never use it out in the real world, but that is infinitely not true. Sometimes people observe things without question. That's me... and thanks to this textbook, I am striving to not take things for granted.

This was the required text for my community college "General Biology" class. I found it to be an excellent and easy to understand textbook. Very readable. It had 2-3 times more material than was covered in the lectures, as well. Good explanatory sidebars, excellent end-of-chapter reviews. I missed an entire week of lectures, crammed from the book the night before the test, and still got 95%.

If 70 years ago biology had been presented this well and as complete I might have become ... a biologist! If 50 years ago, I might have encouraged my children to do so. I'm now encouraging a grandchild, by a present of this marvelous text. An investment returning much.

Great starter/foundation. Covers broad range of topics. We used this in a general bio for non-science majors course. It does a good job at presenting the information in an easy to follow, approachable manner.

Covers a lot of ground.

This was a great text to study

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