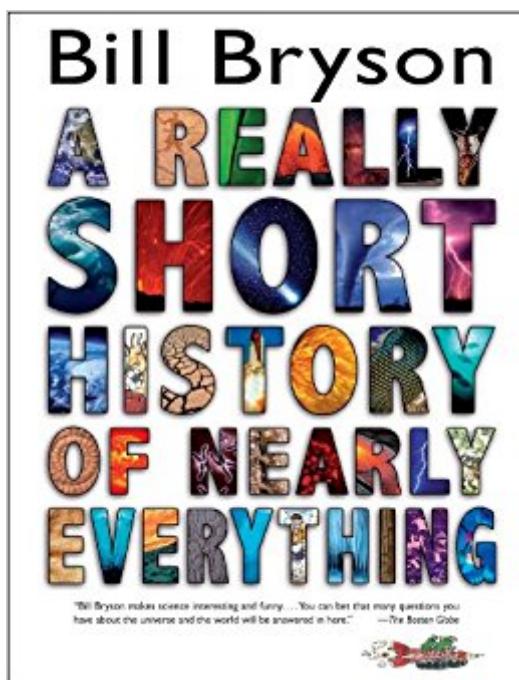


The book was found

A Really Short History Of Nearly Everything



Synopsis

Enter the world of science as Bill Bryson unmasks the mysteries of the universe. Did you know that: • Every atom in your body has almost certainly passed through several stars and been part of millions of organisms on its way to being you? • If you are an average-sized kid, you have enough potential energy inside you to explode with the force of several hydrogen bombs? And • What happened to dinosaurs? How big is the universe? Why are oceans salty? Is a meteor going to hit us? Tackling everything from the Big Bang to the rise of civilization, Bill Bryson's inimitable storytelling skill makes the why, how, and, just as importantly, the who of scientific discovery entertaining and accessible for young readers.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1190L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 169 pages

Publisher: Delacorte Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (October 27, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385738102

ISBN-13: 978-0385738101

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.7 x 11.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 85 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #23,396 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Prehistoric #16 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Environment & Ecology #16 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Earth Sciences

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Bryson offers a kid-friendly version of his popular-science compendium for adults, *A Short History of Nearly Everything* (2003), in this illustrated trip through, well, nearly everything. His enthusiasm is apparent right from the foreword, where he proclaims that "there isn't anything in existence" • not a thing • that isn't "amazing and interesting when you look into it." He proceeds to back up this statement as he whirls through mind-numbing notions such as the creation of the universe and the life-span of an atom with good cheer and accessible, even

exciting, writing. The two-page spreads meander their way through the various recesses of science with a combination of explanatory prose, historical anecdotes, wry asides, and illustrations that range from helpful to comical. Absent are source notes to back up Bryson's many claims (or any other back matter aside from an index, photo credits, and a list of Bryson's adult books). That isn't to say he shouldn't be trusted, but readers should take this for what it is: irreverent and illuminating edutainment, good for the science-phobic and -centric alike. Grades 5-8. --Ian Chipman

"Brims with strange and amazing facts . . . destined to become a modern classic of science writing."
- "The New York Times"

My son is four and is fascinated by the content of this book. I think it will keep his interest for a long time as some of the concepts are obviously more complex than others. Love the simple illustrations and it stays true to Bill Bryson's voice although written for children. I highly recommend.

My book club accidentally put the "really" in the title of the book they meant to choose, the adult version, "A Short History of Nearly Everything." I thoroughly enjoyed the young people's version. I learned a lot and re-learned things I'd forgotten from years-ago science classes. Plan to pass this along to my grandson. The book's two-page chapters make it perfect for a quick bedtime lesson or science report.

This book is a wonderful version of the adult version with the same title. The illustrations are wonderful and the format of brief discussions combined with illustrations is wonderful. I plan to give a copy of this book to all of my smart great nieces and nephews and the children of friends.

This book contains some great, good-humored images that help to explain really big ideas. Protein formation, the cosmos, and the connection between currents and weather patterns are just some of the concepts touched upon in attractive two-page spreads. Our family is using the book as a "jumping off" point for my son's sixth grade science while in home school. He reads a spread and then hits the internet to research some key idea that has caught his fancy. He's been able to use some of the things he's learned in the book to connect to other content areas, too. For example, he commented that Greenland would probably be warmer if the Atlantic Ocean's salinity wasn't so high (He was thorough in his explanation, but it was quite involved for the purposes of this review). I

would highly recommend the book. It's got high-level concepts written in the perfect language for middle-schoolers to grasp.

One of my Top Ten favorite books. I re-read it every couple of years because it's jammed full of fascinating material. The material is scientific and informative, but written so well that it's never a tiresome read. In the last few years I've gotten away from giving wine or liquor as presents, and turned to giving books instead. (I'm old, as are many of my friends.) This one gets consistently great reviews.

I had hoped to give this book to an older child, but when I received it found that it was not quite as mature as I had hoped. That said, it makes a wonderful gift for a curious child who is interested in the natural world and has many questions that a parent can't always answer. The book is approachable and understandable no matter how "difficult" the question. A good place to start discussions with your child.

This book is jam packed with mind blowing information. I could only read a few pages at a time so I could try to absorb as much as I could. Best book I have read in a long time.

Actually I got this book for my little 8 year old niece who is a history 'buff'. She loved it. She even took this book to school for show and tell.

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