

## Science on the Air

Science News prints the latest written word of scientific development and noteworthy news. We've set this space aside to inform our readers of programs of scientific interest that are scheduled on television and radio. Check your local listings for exact times. (R) indicates a repeat broadcast.

**Mar. 3 (PBS) The Living Planet—"Seas of Grass"** Explores the grasslands of three continents and their unique wildlife: the bison of the North American prairies, Brazil's giant anteaters and the African wildebeest.

**Mar. 3 (PBS) Nature—"Forest in the Sea"** This film explores the vast kelp forest that thrives along the bottom of the Pacific Ocean off the coast of California.

**Mar. 5 (PBS) Nova—"A Mathematical Mystery Tour"** A number bigger than infinity, a bottle with no insides and parallel lines that meet are some of the puzzles encountered in the abstract world of pure mathematics.

**Mar. 5 (PBS) Nova—"Monarch of the Mountains"** Explores the breeding, migration and survival patterns of the Rocky Mountain elk and other animals of Wyoming's rugged mountains.

**Mar. 5 (PBS) Discover: The World of Science**—Profiles a new cardiac defibrillator and a promising treatment for the bone disease osteoporosis. Also includes segments on art forgery and high-tech Ping-Pong.

**Mar. 6 (PBS) National Geographic Special—"Ballad of the Irish Horse"** A look at the magnificent Irish horses and the people who ride, train and breed them. Includes a visit to the annual Dublin horse show.

**Mar. 7 (PBS) Wild America—"Fisher in the Family, Part II"** The growing fishers need to learn more about how to survive on their own before they can be released into the wild.

**Mar. 10 (PBS) The Living Planet—"The Baking Deserts"** One of earth's cruelest habitats, the desert shows signs of life after sundown; hyenas emerge and a black widow spider readies its trap for a scorpion.

**Mar. 10 (PBS) Nature—"Kitum—The Elephant Cave"** Explores equatorial Africa to see the elephants that make dangerous visits to a huge cave in the slopes of Mt. Elgon to eat the salts and minerals the cave provides.

**Mar. 12 (PBS) Nova—"Child's Play: Prodigies and Possibilities"** Looks at new scientific research into why certain children are more gifted than others.

**Mar. 13 (PBS) Wild America—"Photographing Wildlife"** Shows viewers the secrets of wildlife photography, and the frustrations and exhilaration of filming the difficult and often dangerous scenes for Wild America.

**Mar. 13 (PBS) Great Moments with National Geographic**—From the mysterious depths of the oceans to the lairs of the earth's deadliest animals, this program celebrates 10 years of the National Geographic series.

**Mar. 17 (PBS) The Living Planet—"The Sky Above"** Looks at the astonishing variety of flying creatures—from parachuting spiders to flying frogs to the albatross, with its 11-foot wingspan.

**Mar. 17 (PBS) Nature—"Rhino"** Studies the history and plight of the rhinoceros; explores the illegal trade of rhino products and documents efforts being made to protect and preserve one of the earth's most endangered creatures.

**Mar. 20 (PBS) Wild America—"Animal Oddities"** Looks at unusual prehistoric animals, with the aid of animated clay models.

**Mar. 21 (PBS) Survival Special—"The Mysterious Herds of the Sudan"** Husband and wife team Richard and Julia Kemp follow the migration of 1 million white-eared kob antelope in a remote region of Sudan.

**Mar. 22 (PBS) Nature—"Big Business in Bees"** An eye-opening look at bee cultivation in the United States, a giant industry of great importance, especially for the alfalfa crop.

**Mar. 24 (PBS) The Living Planet—"Sweet Fresh Water"** A voyage down the Amazon River with its vast variety of wildlife, including the infamous, flesh-eating piranha.

**Mar. 26 (PBS) Nova—"The Case of the Bermuda Triangle"** Explores the mystery of the terrifying Bermuda triangle, where, since 1945, hundreds of ships and planes and thousands of people have disappeared.

**Mar. 28 (PBS) Wild America—"Owls—Lords of Darkness"** A rare look at these mysterious nocturnal hunters.

**Mar. 31 (PBS) The Living Planet—"Margins of the Land"** Estuaries and salt-water marshes support an abundance of life where the sea meets the shore, including mollusks, mudskippers and crabs.

## Books

**Books** is an editorial service for readers' information. To order any book listed or any U.S. book in print please remit retail price, plus \$1.00 handling charge for each book, to **Book Order Service**, Science News, 1719 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. All books sent postpaid. Domestic orders only.

**Aristotle to Zoos: A Philosophical Dictionary of Biology**—P.B. Medawar and J.S. Medawar. This work is philosophical, according to the preface, only in the cozy domestic sense of being leisurely, relaxed and reflective. The preface goes on to explain that it is not a reference book and not a dictionary of explanations and definitions—the book is for browsing. These outstanding scientists treat many ideas and topics of biology with clarity and wit. Originally published in hardback in 1983. Harvard U Pr, 1985, 305 p., paper, \$7.95.

**The Herb Garden**—Sarah Garland. A comprehensive guide to individual herbs and a source book for the planning and maintenance of an herb garden in field or in flowerpots. Explains the various properties, uses and lore of each herb. Beautifully illustrated. Viking/Penguin, 1984, 168 p., color illus., \$27.50. paper, \$12.95.

**Matters of Life & Death: Risks vs. Benefits of Medical Care**—Eugene D. Robin. A Stanford University professor of medicine analyzes the medical system, taking as his premise that the system rather than the individual doctor is primarily responsible for the harm that patients may suffer. Assumes that an understanding of the system and its problems will be useful to patients. WH Freeman, 1984, 205 p., illus., \$21.95. paper, \$11.95.

**1985 Yearbook of Astronomy**—Patrick Moore, Ed. Includes a set of star charts for the northern and the southern sky, a month-by-month description of what to look for in the sky and lists of 1985 comets, eclipses and phases of the moon. Part two includes articles of interest to the amateur astronomer, such as "Photographing Comet Halley." Norton, 1985, 207 p., color/b&w illus., paper, \$9.95

**Nuclear Arms Control: Background and Issues**—NAS Committee on International Security and Arms Control. Prepared by a committee of distinguished scientists and experts in military technology and arms control, this book describes the history and status of the nuclear arms control debate. Presents in nontechnical language the scientific and technological aspects of nuclear arms control. Natl Acad Pr, 1985, 378 p., paper, \$16.50.

**Ontogeny and Phylogeny**—Stephen Jay Gould. A detailed history and evaluation of the idea that ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny, together with an argument for the evolutionary importance of the developmental timing of characteristics present in modern organisms and their ancestors. Originally published in hardback in 1977. Harvard U Pr, 1984, 501 p., illus., paper, \$8.95.

**"Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!": Adventures of a Curious Character**—Richard P. Feynman. From these delightful stories, as told here to Ralph Leighton, the reader will not discover that Feynman is one of the world's leading theoretical physicists, but will be thoroughly entertained by this self-portrait of a fascinating scientist. Norton, 1985, 350 p., \$16.95.