

How Do They Do It?

- Why does a baseball curve?
- Should free throws in basketball be taken underhand or overhand?
- Is it better or worse to run in the inside lane?

In SportScience, physicist and lifelong sports enthusiast Peter Brancazio reveals the scientific principles behind these and other aspects of athletic performance and their optimal conditions. Drawing upon the latest scientific research in the field of practical physics, Brancazio explains everything from the dynamics of karate to the aerodynamics of a golf ball, from the drag of a human body in the water to the science of catching a fly ball.

Whether one's main field of interest is in the major team sports — basketball, baseball, football — or in individual sports from pole-vaulting, gymnastics and diving to tennis and golf, the book is sure to prove a fascinating and enlightening reading experience.

Simon and Schuster, 1984, 400 pages, $9\frac{1}{2}$ " x $6\frac{1}{4}$ ", hardback, \$18.95

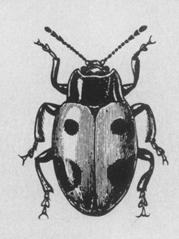
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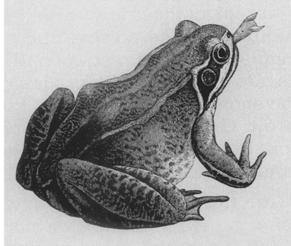
Newton at the Bat: The Science in Sports — Eric W. Schrier and William F. Allman, Eds. Thirty-five essays about science and sports selected from SCIENCE 84 magazine, intended for those who may have wondered if a curve ball really drops just before it gets to the batter, why the golf ball has dimples and why the boomerang keeps coming back. Explores such topics as aerodynamics, physics and biomechanics and their application to various sports. The body in relationship to sports is discussed — the architecture of the knee, growing pains of young athletes and what makes muscles work. Scribner, 1984, 178 p., illus., \$14.95.

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM

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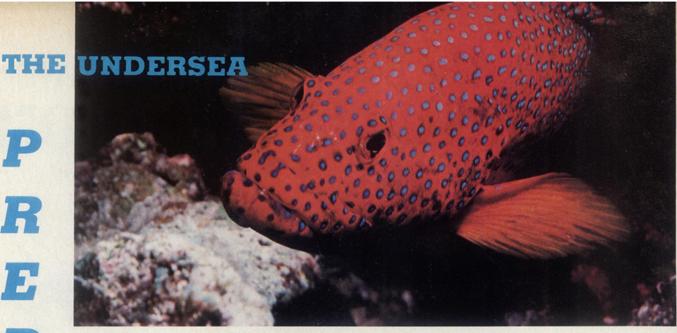


Details of feeding habits, reproductive cycles, anatomy, behavior patterns, camouflage and other protective devices are described for each animal.

The Lower Invertebrates
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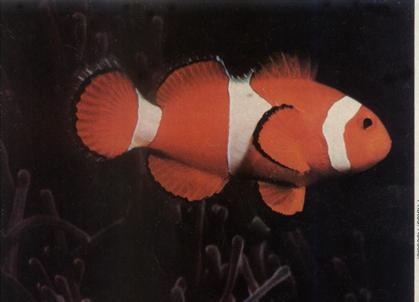
Minuscule coral polyps, rooted forever to their limestone bases, reach out their tentacles to trap the microscopic zooplankton carried by the constantly moving ocean current. Rainbow-hued anemones paralyze and consume any hapless fish that come too close to their waving arms—except for those few varieties of fish that have developed an immunity to the poison, and can live comfortably among the tentacles safe from predation. Starfish rip apart the shells of molluscs to get at the soft flesh inside. Sea snakes kill their prey with a venom so powerful that it later aids in digesting the prey as well. Groupers, ranging in size from several pounds to half a ton, hide under ledges and literally "inhale" their prey from several feet away.

In The Undersea Predators, Carl Roessler presents a rare glimpse into this rich pageant of undersea predation with over 200 color photographs and descriptions of his career as an underwater photographer.

By Carl Roessler

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Facts on File, 1984, 192 pages, 11"x9", hardcover, \$24.95

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