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# **Books**

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On Size and Life - Thomas A. McMahon and John Tyler Bonner. A biologist and an engineer here consider the implications of size and shape for living organisms. Discusses the role of size in natural selection, analyzes why size appears to impose specific restrictions on shape and vice versa. Among the tools of science used in the study of size and life are the microscope, the camera and such mathematical abstractions as allometry and dimensional analysis. Discussion of the physics and the biology of dimensions is followed by chapters on being large and being small. Beautiful illustrations enhance the text. Sci Am Bks (WH Freeman), 1983, 255 p., color/ b&w illus., \$27.95.

Perception — Irvin Rock. Explores our perception of the size and shape of objects, their distance from us and their motion. "The mystery of our perception is how we manage to transcend the inadequate, distortion-prone, ambiguous, two-dimensional images established on the retina and achieve the rich, constant, usually correct three-dimensional representation of the world that we do." Illusion, when perception fails to achieve correct representation, is also investigated here. Many illustrations enable the reader to participate in perception experiments. A viewer is provided for seeing the stereograms included in the text. Sci Am Bks (WH Freeman), 1984, 243 p., color/b&w illus., \$27.95.

Reflections on Gender and Science — Evelyn Fox Keller. A collection of essays by a mathematical biophysicist that explore the relation between gender and science - "how the making of men and women has affected the making of science." Yale U Pr, 1985, 193 p., \$17.95.

Science Goes to the Dogs --- Cartoons by Sidney Harris, foreword by Isaac Asimov. Asimov suggests that Harris's cartoons not only are delightful but also help us see the world as we've never seen it before. ISI Pr, 1985, 110 p., illus., paper, \$7.95

Solid Clues: Quantum Physics, Molecular Biology, and the Future of Science - Gerald Feinberg. Predicts the changes that will take place over the next few decades in the content of science and in the lives of scientists. Concentrates on the human effort to understand the universe in which we live. S&S, 1985, 287 p., illus., \$17.95.

Understanding Holography - Michael Wenyon. Tells what holography is, how it works, how it has been used, how it can be used, its limitations and its particular properties. This paperback edition has been updated and a section has been added on the teaching of holography and its uses in education. Arco, 2nd ed., 1985, 176 p., illus., paper, \$8.95.

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