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Albert Einstein: A Photographic Biography — Kenji Sugimoto. More than 400 black and white photographs, documents and drawings accompany a text chronicling the life of this great scientist. Translated from German by Barbara Harshav. Schocken, 1989, 202 p., hardcover, \$24.95

Exploring the Sky: 100 Projects for Beginning Astronomers - Richard Moeschl. Targeted for 10- to 16-year-old beginning astronomers, who will learn, among other things, how to sketch the daily movement of the zodiac, make refracting and reflecting telescopes, demonstrate the greenhouse effect and photograph a meteor shower — using household items. Chicago Re-view, 1988, 339 p., illus., paperback, \$14.95.

Ferns of the Coastal Plain: Their Lore, Legends and Uses - Lin Dunbar. A field guide including detailed line drawings and common and Latin names — to ferns growing in the coastal counties of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. The folklore section explains, for instance, the use of the season's first cinnamon fern to ward off toothaches and the mysterious fern "seed" to unlock doors. U of SC Pr, 1989, 165 p., illus., hardcover, \$21.95, paperback, \$11.95.

Interstellar Matters - Gerrit L. Verschuur. A well-illustrated history of how astronomers came to accept that there is matter among the stars. The nontechnical story begins with the life of Edward Bernard, whose early photography showed darker areas among the stars. The author follows the early astronomers through the process of accepting the idea of interstellar matter. The last part of the book details how the latest discoveries about gases between stars shed new light on the origins of the universe. Springer Verlag, 1988, 320 p., illus., hardcover, \$29.95.

Mindfulness - Ellen J. Langer. This professor of psychology at Harvard University translates 15 vears of research into a chronicle of the tremendous effect mindlessness has had on society and suggests how we can work to become mindful. Have you ever called someone up and forgotten who you were calling, said "excuse me" to a store mannequin or written a check with last year's date on it? These examples might be harmlessly embarrassing, but the consequences of mindlessness are becoming increasingly hazardous in today's complex society. An airline pilot or nuclear plant supervisor acting as an automaton, for instance, can be deadly. Langer explains why mindlessness develops and how it relates to similar concepts such as habit and unconscious, describing the causes and costs of mindlessness, the nature of mindfulness and how she has applied mindfulness research to problems of aging, creativity, work, prejudice and health. Addison-Wesley, 1989, 234 p., hardcover, \$16.95.

Reading the Numbers: A Survival Guide to the Measurements, Numbers and Sizes Encountered in Everyday Life - Mary Blocksma. For anyone who has ever pondered the meaning of the new four digits on the zip code, how many 2penny nails are in a pound or how to determine heart rate. This book is intended to take the "numb" out of numbers, relating their history and making them more useful. Penguin, 1989, 224 p., illus., paperback, \$7.95.

Superconductivity Sourcebook - V. Daniel Hunt. More than 600 superconductivity-related definitions, acronyms and references. The book also covers superconductivity applications in industry, medicine, transportation and more, and describes market potential and opportunities for commercialization of the technology. Lists literature, proceedings, information sources and 1,400 people working in superconductivity. Wiley, 1989, 308 p., hardcover, \$39.95.

Written in Stone: A Geological History of the Northeastern United States - Chet Raymo and Maureen E. Raymo. A science writer and a scientist describe the ongoing processes that have shaped the geologic and natural features of the Northeast and show how this region fits into the picture of global evolution. Written for the general reader, the book draws on recent research and interpretations of the complex geological history of this area. Globe Pequot, 1989, 163 p., illus., hardcover, \$18.95.

Science fun for preschool kids!

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