

Science on the Air

Check your local listings for exact times and dates.
(R) indicates a repeat broadcast.

Dec. 2 (CNN) Future Watch Explores global threats to the planet – environmental, ecological and technological – and the search for solutions. Saturdays.

Dec. 2 (CNN) Healthweek Provides comprehensive coverage of medical and health issues. Saturdays.

Dec. 2 (CNN) Science and Technology Week Covers the latest news in science and technology. Saturdays.

Dec. 2 (PBS) Wild America – “Family of Foxes” (R) Investigates whether foxes are as cunning as folklore and legend portray them.



Dec. 3 (PBS) Against All Odds: Inside Statistics Presents the concepts of data analysis, focusing on the practical, everyday uses of statistics. Sundays.

Dec. 5 (PBS) Nova – “Yellowstone’s Burning Question” Explores Yellowstone’s rapid recovery from the devastating fires of 1988.

Dec. 9 (PBS) Wild America – “Peculiar Plants” (R) Time-lapse photography reveals the plant kingdom’s most ingenious and dramatic reproductive techniques.

Dec. 10 (PBS) Nature – “Gorillas” Travels to the heart of equatorial Africa to examine the endangered mountain gorilla.

Dec. 10 (PBS) Newton’s Apple Looks at the fundamentals of celestial navigation and analyzes the training regimen of a champion marathon runner.

Dec. 13 (PBS) Discover: The World of Science Investigates how research on the hibernation patterns of bears can help humans with kidney disease, and profiles efforts to repopulate the iguanas of Belize.

Dec. 16 (PBS) Wild America – “A Multitude of Mollusks” (R) Investigates the phylum Mollusca, the second largest group in the animal kingdom.

Dec. 17 (PBS) Nature – “Forest of Fear” (R) Focuses on the facts and legends surrounding the tigers of India’s secluded Sundarbans delta.

Dec. 17 (PBS) Newton’s Apple Tracks the recovery of a patient with a spinal cord injury and examines how dogs are used to aid the handicapped and sniff out criminals.

Dec. 18 (PBS) The Explorers: A Century of Discovery (R) Showcases the major explorations and discoveries of the 20th century.

Dec. 19 (PBS) Nova – “How Babies Get Made” (R) Explores the mystery of how a complete child develops from a single cell.

Dec. 23 (PBS) Wild America – “Marmot Mountain” (R) Follows a colony of yellow-bellied marmots as they wake from winter hibernation and teach their young about communal life.

Dec. 24 (PBS) Nature – “Rulers of the Wind” (R) Looks at the history and current status of society’s relationship with birds of prey, including eagles, hawks and ospreys.



Dec. 24 (PBS) Newton’s Apple Uses cosmetics and computer technology to portray the effects of aging and examines ways to slow the aging process.

Dec. 30 (PBS) Wild America – “Old Man Muskrat” (R) Profiles the muskrat, a tenacious, aquatic rodent that flourishes despite pressure from civilization and trappers.

Dec. 31 (PBS) Nature – “Peacock’s War” (R) Focuses on one man’s passion for wildlife exploration and his crusade for its conservation.

Dec. 31 (PBS) Newton’s Apple Investigates how supercomputers have helped researchers study car crashes and examines why owls are so successful as nocturnal predators.

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 \$2.00 postage and handling charge for each book, to **SCIENCE NEWS BOOKS**, 1719 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036. All books sent postpaid. Domestic orders only. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

The Body in Time—Kenneth Jon Rose. Explains for the lay reader the complex and fascinating role of timing in the function of the human body, ranging from the beating of the heart to the development of a sneeze and the duration of heartburn. Also explores the daily cycles of bodily processes such as digestion and growth. Originally published in hardcover in 1988. Wiley, 1989, 237 p., illus., paperback, \$10.95.

The Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons Complete Home Medical Guide, Revised Edition—Donald F. Tapley et al., Eds. Useful information about the body in sickness and health. Covers the U.S. health care system; emergency medicine; lifestyle and health; disease, treatment and prevention; drugs; health care resources and medical terms. Includes basic forms for keeping your own medical records. Originally published in 1985. Crown, 1989, 930 p., illus., hardcover, \$39.95.

Natural Obsessions: Striving to Unlock the Deepest Secrets of the Cancer Cell—Natalie Angier, foreword by Lewis Thomas. Chronicles for the general reader the isolation and cloning of oncogenes, a set of genes that have been implicated in cancer growth. Angier describes in interesting detail the fast pace and competitive nature of cancer research and the lives of the biologists involved. Originally published in hardcover by Houghton Mifflin in 1988. Warner Bks, 1989, 394 p., paperback, \$14.95.

Simple Minds—Dan Lloyd. This philosopher addresses a central question in cognitive science: the construction of the mind from the matter of the brain. His goal is to establish how simple a system can be and still “think.” Lloyd explains the core concept of “representation”—an entity with content and meaning. Through examples of his theory of dialectical representation and through critiques of other theories, he shows what issues a representation theory must address and the information it can yield when applied to a simple system. MIT Pr, 1989, 266 p., hardcover, \$25.00.

Wonderful Life: The Burgess Shale and the Nature of History—Stephen Jay Gould. The Burgess Shale, a fossil quarry about the size of one city block, presents a picture of teeming life in the middle of the Cambrian Period. Paleontologist Charles D. Walcott discovered the fossils in 1901 and classified them as primitive members of still living groups, such as crustaceans and jellyfish. More than 60 years later, three British scientists determined that the fossils were actually newly identified species, many of which perished long ago. Gould tells the story of this tremendous rediscovery as a drama in five acts. He attributes Walcott’s failure to his style of research and goes on to suggest that the Burgess Shale is important to our understanding of how human life evolved on this planet. Norton, 1989, 347 p., illus., hardcover, \$19.95.