

Science on the Air

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

Aug. 1 (PBS) National Geographic Special – "Those Wonderful Dogs" (R) Looks at the history of dogs and their roles in hunting, war, herding, rescue efforts and helping the disabled. Also travels to Alaska to meet the reigning world champion sled-dog racer and her canine partners.

Aug. 4 (CNN) Future Watch Explores global threats to the planet – environmental, ecological and technological – and the search for solutions. Saturdays.

Aug. 4 (CNN) Healthweek Provides comprehensive coverage of current medical and health issues. Saturdays and Sundays.

Aug. 4 (CNN) Science and Technology Week Covers the latest news in science and technology. Saturdays and Sundays.

Aug. 5 (CNN) Science News Special Report – "Tropics in Trouble" Visits Costa Rica to investigate crucial scientific and environmental research geared to help save tropical forests.

Aug. 6 (PBS) Adventure – "The Wildman of China" Journeys to areas of China long off-limits to Western cameras, including such beautiful and remote locations as the subtropical rain forests near the Burmese and Vietnamese borders and the isolated villages and primeval forests of the mountainous regions of the Sichuan province.

Aug. 7 (PBS) Nova – "In the Land of the Polar Bears" (R) Looks at the lovely and desolate Wrangel Island – a Soviet possession 300 miles off the coast of Alaska – through the eyes of a Soviet filmmaker and naturalist.

Aug. 8 (PBS) National Geographic Special – "Serengeti Diary" (R) Showcases Tanzania's Serengeti National Park and its environs through the eyes of a famed wildlife photographer.

Aug. 13 (PBS) Adventure – "Into the Great Solitude" (R) Journeys with an author/artist 700 miles down the Back River in Canada's Northwest Territories, in a voyage full of encounters with wild creatures of the river environment.

Aug. 14 (PBS) Nova – "The Bomb's Lethal Legacy" (R) Explores an alarming nuclear-waste problem at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in eastern Washington state, where 45 years of mismanagement will cost taxpayers billions of dollars to correct.

Aug. 15 (PBS) National Geographic Special – "Amazon, Land of the Flooded Forest" (R) Examines how human and animal inhabitants of the Brazilian Amazon region respond to the bizarre rhythms and immense changes in water levels.

Aug. 18 (PBS) Nature – "Cats" (R) Looks at the world's most inscrutable animal, which ranks second only to humans in its adaptability, making itself at home in environments ranging from Granny's lap to the Galápagos Islands.

Aug. 20 (PBS) Adventure – "In Search of the Real Crocodile Dundee" (R) Travels with a photographer into Australia's wild Northern Territory in search of the man behind the movie myth.

Aug. 21 (PBS) National Geographic Special – "Bali, Masterpiece of the Gods" (R) Showcases the tiny island of Bali, whose inhabitants' religious beliefs find vibrant expression in music, dance and art.

Aug. 21 (PBS) Nova – "Monarch of the Mountains" (R) Investigates the breeding, migration and survival patterns of the Rocky Mountain elk.



Aug. 22 (PBS) National Geographic Special – "Journey to the Forgotten River" (R) Takes viewers to a place where herds of wildebeests, jackals, elephants and other species play out the dramas of the African plain.

Aug. 27 (PBS) Adventure – "Return to the Jade Sea" Documents archaeologist Andrew Hartley's expedition to Kenya's Lake Turkana, a rich hunting ground for traces of an advanced Stone Age culture and an area whose secrets are guarded by the world's hottest, fiercest desert, the Suguta.

Aug. 28 (PBS) Nova – "The Big Spill" (R) Covers the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill from a new angle, focusing on where technology failed in preventing, containing and cleaning up the disaster.

Books

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Drugs and Medicines: A Consumer's Guide – Roderick Cawson and Roy Spector. Written by two British doctors involved with patient care, this book puts the benefits and possible risks of modern drug therapies into perspective. Describes the nature of common and important diseases and how they are treated, with emphasis on the rigors of drug testing and the role of the pharmaceutical industry. A glossary lists 5,000 drugs by generic and trade names and describes their uses. Oxford U Pr, 1990, 266 p., paperback, \$14.95.

The Family Genetic Sourcebook – Benjamin A. Pierce. The first half introduces the general reader to the principles of heredity – what a gene is, the inheritance of simple traits, genetic counseling and diagnosis. The second half lists more than 100 human traits (red hair, hairy ears, sleepwalking), diseases (diabetes, depression) and disorders (Lesch-Nyhan, galactosemia) along with explanations of their inheritance. Ends with a list of clinical genetic service centers in the United States. Wiley, 1990, 340 p., illus., paperback, \$14.95.

Fuels to Drive Our Future – National Research Council. Explores the potential for producing liquid transportation fuels by enhancing oil recovery from existing reservoirs and by processing resources such as coal, oil shale, tar sands, natural gas, distilled corn. Draws together relevant geological, technical, economic and environmental factors and recommends specific directions for U.S. research and development efforts toward alternative fuel sources. Natl Acad Pr, 1990, 223 p., charts & graphs, hardcover, \$24.50.

Turn Left at Orion – Guy Consolmagno and Dan M. Davis. This guidebook, designed for amateur astronomers with small telescopes (50-75 mm), gives detailed instructions on how to find the planets and nearly 100 deep-sky objects visible in the Northern Hemisphere. Summarizes current astronomical knowledge of each object. The instructions assume no background in astronomy, and large drawings show exactly what the observer should expect to see. Cambridge U Pr, 1990, 205 p., illus., hardcover, \$22.95.

World Resources 1990-91 – World Resources Institute. Addresses resource use and environmental issues around the world. This year's report focuses on Latin America, but also includes global information on topics requiring urgent action, such as population, health, energy and fresh water. Objective, readable and intelligently designed with two-color charts and maps and interesting sidebars. Oxford U Pr, 1990, 383 p., illus., paperback, \$17.95.