# Books

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**Beyond the Third Dimension:** Geometry, Computer Graphics and Higher Dimensions — Thomas F. Banchoff. Investigates ways of picturing and understanding dimensions above and beyond our own. Covering topics ranging from Egyptian pyramids and the 19th-century satire *Flatland* to the paintings of Salvador Dali, Banchoff recounts human fascination with extra-dimensional spaces, shapes and structures. The well-illustrated text first introduces one- and two-dimensional worlds and goes on to explain how geometers, scientists and artists have explored higher dimensions through metaphor, analogy and geometry. The author illustrates how the modern graphics computer enables us to grasp concepts previously beyond our reach. W H Freeman, 1990, 210 p., color/b&w illus., hardcover, $32.95.

**Encyclopedia of Electronics,** Second Edition — Stan Gibilisco and Neil Sclater. Includes nearly 1,000 pages of updated information covering the concepts and components of electronics, from artificial intelligence to tropospheric propagation. Well illustrated with black-and-white line drawings and charts. Useful for the student or as a reference for professionals. TAB Bks, 1990, 960 p., illus., hardcover, $69.50.

**Game, Set & Math:** Enigmas and Conundrums — Ian Stewart. A collection of 12 articles about mathematics as play, written by the author of *Does God Play Dice?* Each chapter touches on the major concepts within an area of serious mathematics. Includes problems to solve, things to make and games to play. The articles were originally written for a general audience in the French journal *Pour la Science*. Basil Blackwell, 1989, 191 p., illus., hardcover, $19.95.

**Legacy of the Cat** — Gloria Stephens. The author, a founding member of The International Cat Association and an all-breed judge, gives a succinct overview of the history of the domestic cat, its basic genetics and current breeding practices. Most of the book is a fantastically illustrated profile of 37 breeds, detailing their origins, traits and temperaments. Includes rare breeds such as the furless Sphynx and Ocicat. Chronicle Bks, 1990, 136 pages, color illus., paperback, $14.95.

**Nature With Children of All Ages** — Edith A. Sisson. This classic book for parents and children presents activities and adventures for exploring and learning about the natural world. For groups and individuals, Sisson offers activities in biology, geology and zoology, often involving crafts, music, poetry and other art projects. Many of them require only inexpensive or free items such as tin cans, string, leaves and snow. Originally published in 1982. Prentice Hall Pr, 1990, 195 p., illus., paperback, $12.95.

**Where No Man Has Gone Before:** A History of Apollo Lunar Exploration Missions — William David Compton. Traces the history of the Apollo missions from their initial planning in 1957 through the end of the program in 1972. Discusses selection and training of astronauts for scientific exploration, the choice of landing sites, and Apollo lunar surface experiments. Describes the 1967 Project Apollo spacecraft fire, the first landing on the moon and much more. Includes appendices covering the funding history of Apollo, lists of prime and backup crews, and many black-and-white photographs. USGPO, 1990, 415 p., illus., paperback, $19.00.

**The World Within the World** — John D. Barrow. This astronomer and philosopher, who thinks scientists are "as interested in the philosophy of science as birds are in ornithologists," has written a book about it anyway. He questions whether the "laws of nature" really exist and are waiting to be discovered, or are just convenient ways to describe things we have seen. Barrow takes an historical look at how fundamental concepts of physical science and philiosophy developed and how they influenced subsequent theories and models. He explains, for both the general reader and the scientist, how recent theories of relativity and quantum dynamics mold with or shatter these early theories. His arguments are creatively woven with enough humor to make even the most obscure concepts memorable. Originally published in hardcover in 1988. Oxford U Pr, 1990, 398 p., illus., paperback, $12.95.