## Books

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Eye and Brain: The Psychology of Seeing, Fourth Edition - Richard L. Gregory. A nontechnical introduction to the psychology and physiology of vision. The author offers clear explanations of how we see brightness, movement, color and objects, and he maintains that the brain, rather than passively receiving visual information, is highly active in constructing perceptions from sensory information. He focuses on the study of visual illusions as a tool for discovering how perception works normally and why it sometimes fails. First edition published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson in 1966. Princeton U Pr, 1990, 264 p., paperback, \$12.95.

Ice Ages: Past and Future - Jon Erickson. Beginning with a brief explanation of the birth of the solar system and the structure of Earth, the author recounts the history of Earth's great ice ages and explains theories of why the planet sometimes freezes. He examines the current status of Earth's climate and glaciation, how they compare with conditions between previous ice ages, and how they are changing. The final chapter addresses the greenhouse effect and how human activities may affect the climate and ice ages of the future. TAB Bks, 1990, 177 p., illus., paperback, \$15.95.

Neotropical Rainforest Mammals: A Field Guide - Louise H. Emmons. Describes lowland rainforest mammals of Central and South America. Color illustrations complement the natural history, vocalizations, range and identifications of these often-elusive species. Suggests further reading and describes the status of each species. The first color-illustrated field guide of its kind. U of Chicago Pr, 1990, 281 p., hardcover, \$45.00, paperback, \$19.95.

Northwest Weeds: The Ugly and Beautiful Villains of Fields, Gardens, and Roadsides — Ronald J. Taylor. This field guide is a valuable reference for any farmer, gardener, naturalist or traveler interested in the plant-world opportunists of the Pacific Northwest, the northern Rockies and southwestern Canada. For every species, the guide provides a color photograph and a brief description including plant lore, edibility, aggressiveness and pollination. Semitechnical descriptions are supplemented by a glossary and by illustrations of plant anatomy. Mountain Pr, 1990, 177 p., illus., paperback, \$11.95.

Philip Morrison's Long Look at the Literature: His Reviews of a Hundred Memorable Science Books - Philip Morrison. An inspiring collection of book reviews published in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN since 1966 offers a panorama of the history, discoveries, innovations and personalities of science. Reviews address such diverse topics as photography, the sociology of craftsmanship, and science and politics in Nazi Germany. Includes a complete index of books reviewed, citing original and current publishers. W H Freeman, 1990, 351 p., paperback, \$14.95.

Symptoms - Isadore Rosenfeld. For people tired of wondering whether their symptoms could be serious, this home reference book explains how to interpret the body's warning signs, describing possible causes and how to distinguish between them. Symptoms are organized into subject areas such as pain, blood and fever. This reference was designed not to replace professional care but to enable readers to describe their symptoms more accurately and completely. Bantam Bks, 1990, 366 p., paperback, \$10.95.

Under the Microscope: A Hidden World Revealed - Jeremy Burgess, Michael Marten and Rosemary Taylor. A gallery of photographs taken from optical and electron microscopes reveals the variety and intricacy of the microworld. Subjects include the human body, the cell, the industrial world and everyday materials such as Velcro. Detailed captions describe each image. Originally published in hardcover as Microcosmos in 1987. Cambridge U Pr, 1990, 208 p., color/b&w illus., paperback, \$19.95.

**Wisdom:** Its Nature, Origins, and Development — Robert J. Sternberg, Ed. This collection of essays documents the progress made toward understanding wisdom, a field of study advanced primarily in the 1980s. The authors, all of whom are psychologists, examine three approaches to the understanding of wisdom - philosophical, folk and psychodevelopmental. These analyses are designed to review what has already been done as well as to point the way toward future theory and research. Cambridge U Pr, 1990, 339 p., paperback, \$16.95.

## The World of the Newborn

## By Daphne Maurer and Charles Maurer

Basic, 1988, 292 pages, 61/2" x 91/2", paperback, \$11.95 ISBN 0-465-09230-6

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What is the world like for a newborn baby? How does it smell, taste, feel? Do infants see and hear the same way adults do? What are they conscious of? To answer these questions the authors — a science writer and a psychologist acclaimed for her research on babies - take us into the laboratories and research centers where scientists are studying infant behavior. The world they reveal, much of it described here for the first time, is in startling ways very different from our own. For example, although newborns appear to sleep most of the time, they are in fact conscious twenty-four hours a day. They may perceive stationary objects as moving and moving objects as standing still. And noises we hear as single sounds they experience as a cacophony of echoes. By explaining these and other "mysteries" of infancy, the authors show how parents can support and enjoy their babies' development. Authoritative in every detail, beautifully illustrated with more than twenty photographs, The World of the Newborn captures for parents, expectant parents, and scientists alike the wonders of the beginnings of life.

- from the publisher

"It answers the many questions we all have about newborns' puzzling behaviors, from curious sleep patterns to disturbing reactions to parents' attempts to soothe. This is a book for pediatricians, nurses, and psychologists, who will be amazed at what has been learned about early infancy, and most of all for inquiring parents who want to know how their baby functions, and why.

- SANDRA SCARR, PH.D., Commonwealth Professor and Chair, Psychology Department, University of Virginia, and author of Mother Care/Other Care

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