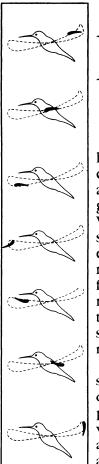
The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science

SCIENCE NEWS

March 16, 1991 Vol. 139, No. 11 Pages 161-176



Legacy of the Leech



BIRIO Flight An Illustrated Sof Birds' Aerial Mastery

The aerial mastery of birds as they glide, soar, hover, tumble or plunge through the air never ceases to amaze and thrill us. But how do they achieve such feats of flight? How can the albatross glide enormous distances on a single wingbeat? Why do geese fly in formation? In this spectacularly illustrated book, Richard Burton explains the intricacies of bird flight for the lay reader, including takeoff and landing, underwater flight, migration, flock coordination and much more. He reviews species from around the world to demonstrate how the power of flight has shaped their food gathering strategies, escape responses, courting rituals and more.

Bird Flight is illustrated throughout with striking diagrams, specially commissioned drawings and more than 120 full-color photographs from some of the world's best wildlife photographers. Birdwatchers, bird lovers and natural history enthusiasts will find this book as beautiful as it is informative.

An Illustrated Study

By Robert Burton

Facts on File, 1990, 160 pages, 8½" x 11", bardcover, \$24.95

Science News Books BirdFlight 1719 N Street, NW Washington, DC 20036 Please send me __ copy(ies) of Bird Flight. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$24.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (total \$26.95) for each copy. Domestic orders only. Name _ Address __ City_ Zip Daytime Phone (________(used only for problems with order)



If you love to build, experiment and explore new frontiers of science, Homemade Lightning was written for you. In this book, R.A. Ford weaves a mixture of scientific history, electronics theory and hands-on projects, offering you the chance to demonstrate for yourself some of the great electrostatic discoveries of the past century and a half.

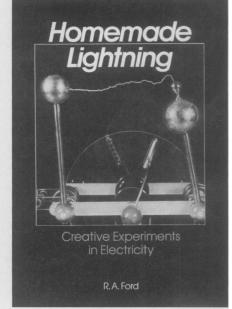
The author explains how to build an affordable high-voltage generator and then describes how to use the generator safely to conduct your own electrostatics research. Ford has compiled a fascinating collection of experiments to get you started that reveal the wide-ranging impact of electrostatics on motor design, plant growth, medicine, aerodynamics, gravity, photography, meteorology and much more. Each of these tested, safe and inexpensive projects includes thorough instructions and detailed illustrations.

Homemade Lightning proves that this area of physics has only begun to be explored — electrostatics still offers plenty of room for creative thinking. You'll be amazed at the things you'll find!

-from the publisher

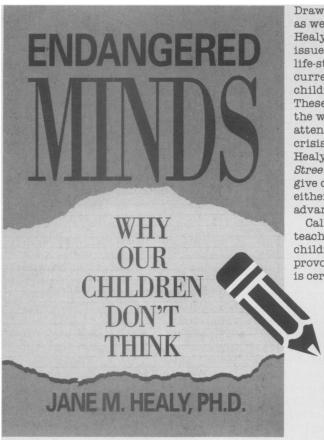
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TAB Books, 1991, 198 pages, 71/2" x 91/4", paperback, \$14.95



A great source of unusual science fair project ideas!

Suitable for supervised high school students



Drawing on recent research in the neuropsychology of learning as well as her own extensive experience in the classroom, Jane M. Healy states that the basic intelligence of our children is not at issue. Instead, she explains how the electronic media, fast-paced life-styles, unstable family patterns, environmental hazards and current educational practices may influence not only the way our children think, but also the brain's actual physical structure. These changing brains also imply fundamental differences in the way students process information, accounting for decreased attention spans, increased "learning disabilities," and a literacy crisis that has far-reaching implications for future generations. Healy explodes many myths, including: that watching Sesame Street helps kids learn to read; that daycare programs necessarily give children a head start in school; that competency exams are either reliable or have a positive effect on learning; that all "disadvantaged" brains are found in poor neighborhoods.

Calling for bold reform in the classroom, she offers parents and teachers concrete advice on what they can do to help improve children's learning skills now and for the future. Disturbing and provocative, *Endangered Minds* is a vitally important book that is certain to spark further debate about educational reform.

-from the publisher

LungCancChron

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Lung Cancer Chronicles

Simon and Schuster, 1990, 382 pages, 6½" x 9½", hardcover,

Stories about a doctor and the people he treats for lung cancer are interwoven with clear discussions of the disease and of the controversies surrounding tobacco addiction and lung cancer. Meyer gives the general reader a wealth of information about lung cancer — diagnosis, treatments, prognosis, epidemiology, natural history, sample X-rays and CAT scans — difficult to find outside the medical literature. Cancer is the second leading cause of death in America. Of all forms of cancer, lung cancer kills the most people each year. And those deaths could have been prevented: most are the result of years of smoking. The evidence has grown steadily stronger since the Surgeon General's 1964 report on "Smoking and Health," and the link is by now common knowledge. But, even when people learn the facts about lung cancer and smoking, they feel "it can't happen to me." These sympathetic chronicles of ordinary people facing surgery, pain and death bring home the reality in a way dispassionate facts cannot. Together, the stories and the facts make a friendlier, more compelling version of the curt warning: "Cigarette smoking can be hazardous to your health."

- from the publisher

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"This is a grim but excellent book, providing factual information for lung cancer patients and their families. Sadly, the general public will probably see dozens of glamorous cigarette ads while a select few will see this book"

Robert Schmid,LIBRARY JOURNAL

Rutgers Univ Pr, 1990, 233 pages, 9"x6", paperback, \$10.95

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By John A. Meyer