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Caring for Your Adolescent: Ages 12 to 21 — Donald E. Greydanus, Ed. The American Academy of Pediatrics has compiled contributions from more than 30 specialists in adolescent medicine to provide parents a comprehensive reference on the physical, emotional, cognitive and psychological growth of teenagers. Topics include proper nutrition and exercise; dealing with depression, substance abuse, poor motivation, eating disorders or school difficulties; the special problems of single-parent families and step-families; and more. Bantam, 1991, 326 p., hardcover, \$24.50.

Exploratorium Science Snackbook: Teacher-Created Versions of Exploratorium Exhibits — Paul Doherty and John Rathjen, Eds. This illustrated handbook, detailing more than 100 classroom versions of interactive exhibits from San Francisco's renowned Exploratorium, is a must for every science classroom from fourth grade through twelfth. Packed with fun, educational and inexpensive projects to inspire enthusiasm and curiosity about science, it provides complete materials lists, instructions and helpful hints and is designed so that pages can be easily duplicated and arranged in three-ring binders. Explorator, 1991, approx. 225 p., illus., paperback, \$24.95.

The Physical World — Martin Sherwood and Christine Sutton, Eds. This nontechnical survey of the physical and chemical processes at work around us every day makes even complex scientific concepts such as nuclear fission accessible to the lay reader. Comprehensive diagrams and color photos take the mystery out of how acid rain forms, how cocaine affects the brain, the effect of a gravitational lens and how surfactant molecules lift dirt and grease from a carpet. Originally published in hardcover in 1988. Oxford UP, 1991, 248 p., color illus., paperback, \$22.50.

The Science of Words — George A. Miller. In his in-depth exploration of the nature of words and the relationships among words, language, thought and the human brain, Miller highlights the cognitive mechanisms used to organize, store and retrieve words. Writing for serious readers, he explains the theory and technology used to study the three facets of words — articulation, meaning and usage — and surveys what researchers have learned. Helpful color photographs, diagrams and illustrations supplement the text. W H Freeman, 1991, 276 p., color illus., hardcover, \$32.95.

Seeing the Solar System: Telescopic Projects, Activities and Explorations in Astronomy — Fred Schaaf. The author of *Seeing the Sky* returns with a collection of activities for viewing the nine planets, their moons, asteroids, comets and meteors, the sun and more. Projects range in difficulty and are suitable for novice astronomers as well as veteran skywatchers, requiring only a basic telescope and an interest in astronomy. Wiley, 1991, 208 p., illus., paperback, \$14.95.

Smoking: The Artificial Passion — David Krogh. An intriguing examination of the factors that compel one in four Americans to smoke despite the harmful consequences. Krogh focuses on scientific findings about the passion for tobacco — including how it affects the body and how it is influenced by genetics, personality and social forces — and discusses what they may reveal about other forms of addiction. Far from a dreary lecture, this provocative study of nicotine addiction should interest anyone — whether smoker or nonsmoker — who seeks a better understanding of quirky human behavior. W H Freeman, 1991, 176 p., hardcover, \$17.95.

Technology in World Civilization: A Thousand-Year History — Arnold Pacey. A lively look at how technological advances diffused across Asia, Africa and Europe, and then back again, during the years 700 to 1970. Using examples such as gunpowder, transistors and India's textile techniques, Pacey illustrates the process of technological evolution and shows how the transfer of innovations from one culture to another encourages modifications and improvements. Originally published in hardcover in 1990. MIT Pr, 1991, 238 p., illus., paperback, \$10.95.

Why Things Are: Answers to Every Essential Question in Life — Joel Achenbach. The author of a syndicated humor column tackles questions about every wrinkle of life, from the human body to space travel, Wall Street and sports. Provides entertaining but informative and well-researched responses to such questions as: Why are yawns contagious? Why do foreign languages sound so fast? Why are idiot savants so smart? Ballantine, 1991, 345 p., paperback, \$9.00.

In this delightful volume of linguistic revelry, you can horse around with the animal metaphors that make poetry of everyday speech — as well as with the wheezy clichés that are all too conspicuous in our daily prose. Romp with the rhythms and rhymes of "Inky Pinky," and see if you can "Name that Bunch" — a prickle of porcupines? a rash of dermatologists? But beware: you can lose points for laughing in "Fictionary."

Take a jaunt back to the different ages and stages of English, to the roots of words and the origins of phrases. Find out why we say "happy as a clam," making merry a mollusk otherwise noted for clamming up. Test your knowledge of "What's in a Name" — and *who's* in a name, for the famous and the forgotten have left their traces everywhere. (Who inspired *melba toast*? Why do we call cheap finery *tawdry*?)

Some of these games are as easy as rolling off a log, while others may leave you stumped (until you peek at the answers). But whether you play alone or with friends, this collection of matchless semantic antics will bring you hours of lexicological pleasure.

— from the publisher



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