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**Dictionary of Scientific Literacy** — Richard P. Brennan. An alphabetized reference to more than 650 essential terms from basic and applied science and technology. Each entry includes a brief definition, a short explanation of how the subject relates to daily life, and cross-references. Illustrated with photographs and diagrams. A helpful resource for general readers hazy on the differences among RAM, ROM and REM. Wiley, 1991, 334 p., illus., hardcover, \$22.95.

**The Hundredth Monkey: And Other Paradigms of the Paranormal** — Kendrick Frazier, Ed. The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP) was established in 1976 to provide accurate, scientific information about bizarre paranormal claims and to encourage the public to use reason and critical thinking to separate fact from tabloid fiction. This collection of 43 articles written by noted researchers and scholars investigates and establishes scientifically feasible explanations for various fringe-science claims such as the alien-abduction experience and spontaneous human-combustion deaths. All articles were previously published in CSICOP's publication *THE SKEPTICAL INQUIRER*. Prometheus Bks, 1991, 400 p., paperback, \$17.95.

**Madagascar: A Natural History** — Ken Preston-Mafham. Madagascar's separation from the African continent 65 million years ago allowed its resident species to evolve in isolation into some of the world's most remarkable and unusual wildlife. Preston-Mafham describes those species in detail, with chapters dedicated to invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians as well as to birds and mammals. More than 300 spectacular color photographs depict the island's flora and fauna. Facts on File, 1991, 224 p., color illus., hardcover, \$45.00.

**Medical English Usage and Abuse** — Edith Schwager. This informative guide to proper English usage focuses on special problems of medical writing and editing. Writing clearly and with a sense of humor, Schwager explains common errors of grammar, usage, punctuation, jargon, word order and much more. A useful reference for editors, journalists, students and health-care professionals. Oryx Pr, 1991, 216 p., paperback, \$19.95.

**The Puzzling World of Polyhedral Dissections** — Stewart T. Coffin. A mind-boggling collection of interlocking assembly puzzles, from tangrams to puzzles made of polyhedral blocks. Coffin explains and illustrates how to construct these puzzles, most of which can be made in wood, and describes unsolved puzzles and problems to challenge math and puzzle enthusiasts for countless hours. Part of the "Recreations in Mathematics" series. Originally published in hardcover in 1990. Oxford U Pr, 1991, 196 p., illus., paperback, \$9.95.

**Valley of Life: Africa's Great Rift** — Chris Johns. A breathtaking photographic tribute to the African Rift Valley, which stretches 3,500 miles along the east side of Africa. Johns, a NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC photographer, lived along the Rift for 18 months, photographing the land, the people and the wildlife. His spectacular collection of photos and his brief, personal reflections capture the mystery and magnificence of humankind's possible birthplace. Thomasson-Grant, 1991, 143 p., color illus., hardcover, \$39.95.

**Wild India: The Wildlife and Scenery of India and Nepal** — Gerald Cubitt and Guy Mountfort. An exquisite photographic celebration of the natural history of the Indian subcontinent. Mountfort's text briefly describes the area's natural resources as well as the pressures imposed by development and population growth, and is followed by more than 400 color photographs and detailed captions that capture the splendor of the natural environment. Cubitt, a leading natural history photographer, also illustrated the companion volume *Wild Malaysia* (1990). MIT Pr, 1991, 208 p., color illus., hardcover, \$39.95.

**Your Pregnancy Companion: A Month-by-Month Guide to All You Need to Know Before, During and After Pregnancy** — Janis Graham. A clear, concise and reassuring guide to the physiological changes and technical procedures one can expect in each month of pregnancy. Graham also covers the emotional fluxes of pregnancy, provides suggestions on diet and exercise at each stage, and discusses a variety of other topics, such as ordering maternity clothes by mail and assessing the risk of premature labor. PB, 1991, 244 p., illus., paperback, \$8.95.

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