

# Books

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**The Childwise Catalog: A Consumer Guide to Buying the Safest and Best Products for Your Children** — Jack Gillis and Mary Ellen R. Fise. Endorsed by the Consumer Federation of America, this third edition covers products, services, and general safety for children from infancy to age 5. Includes advice on what to look for when buying certain items, as well as a wealth of useful tips on everything from keeping your child amused on an airplane to child-proofing your home. Also lists hundreds of addresses for organizations involved in children's products or services, including agencies that receive reports of missing or abused children. HarperPerennial, 1993, 472 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$14.00.

**Chemistry Imagined: Reflections on Science** — Roald Hoffmann and Vivian Torrence. How does the periodic table of elements resemble the revisions of a Blake poem? Find out in this unique look at the creative side of chemistry. The book blends the essays and poems of a Nobel laureate with the skills of an artist to show how the sciences, particularly chemistry, work and how they relate to many aspects of our lives. Absorbing topical collages accompany each written work, expressing the creative side of science. A beautiful popularization of chemistry. Smithsonian, 1993, 168 p., color illus., hardcover, \$19.95.

**The Great Bear Almanac** — Gary Brown. An extensive guide to virtually every type of bear in the world. The first section characterizes individual species and examines general traits such as behavior, activity, and physiology as well as the population of each bear in certain areas. The second section deals with interactions between bears and humans, from folklore and mythology to hunting and research. Lyons & Burford, 1993, 325 p., color plates, b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$30.00.

**The Longevity Factor: The New Reality of Long Careers and How It Can Lead to Richer Lives** — Lydia Brontë. Since 1900, notes Brontë, the average expected lifespan in the United States has lengthened by 28 years — an increase that few Americans expected as they planned their careers. Now, many people approaching retirement find themselves in their prime. Brontë reports here on the findings of her "Long Careers Study" and recounts interviews with a diverse group of people (including Jonas Salk, Julia Child, and Studs Terkel) who have successfully extended their careers past the traditional age of retirement. Brontë investigates how these people and some late bloomers found their niche and how their fascination with their work continued into their later years. HarperCollins, 1993, 409 p., hardcover, \$20.00.

**Stardust to Planets: A Geological Tour of the Solar System** — Harry Y. McSween Jr. The author takes a random jaunt through the solar system, examining the origins and mysteries of geologic wonders such as stardust diamonds, the composition of Earth's core, and the feasibility of meteorites from Mars. A witty and insightful look at the geologic wonders of space. St Martin, 1993, 241 p., b&w photos & illus., hardcover, \$22.95.

**Teller's War: The Top-Secret Story Behind the Star Wars Deception** — William J. Broad. The author of *Star Warriors* and *Betrayers of the Truth* draws a penetrating portrait of Edward Teller, father of the H-bomb, proponent of the X-ray laser, and driving force behind the founding of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Writing for the general reader, Broad shows how Teller used his powerful influence to lead the United States on a very expensive trail in pursuit of a scientifically unrealistic military program, the Strategic Defense Initiative or "Star Wars" project. Originally published in hardcover in 1992. Basic, 1993, 350 p., paperback, \$13.00.

**When Is a Pig a Hog? A Guide to Confoundingly Related English Words** — Bernice Randall. Explains the subtle and sometimes not-so-subtle differences between confusing terms such as gem/jewel, number/numeral, meteor/meteorite, and centripetal/centrifugal. Sections include "Nature and Science," "Our Bodies and Medicine," and "The Arts." Originally published in hardcover in 1991. Prentice Hall Pr, 1993, 328 p., paperback, \$10.00.

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