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The Dictionary of Languages: The Definitive Reference to More than 400 Languages—Andrew Dalby. Although estimates indicate the existence of 5,000 languages, Dalby focuses on those with at least 1 million speakers. From Abkhaz to Zulu, entres specify the number of speakers and maps of the locations where

the language prevails. A political, social, and historical background includes links to other languages and dialects—all for the benefit of the nonspecialist. Columbia U Pr, 1998, 733 p., hardcover, \$50.00



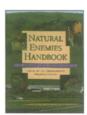
How We Remember and Why We Forget—Rebecca Rupp. Rupp reveals the intricacies of recall through charming literary examples in the form of quotes, poems, and even the Gettysburg Address. Dozens of vignettes touch on the various aspects of memory, the brain mechanisms that produce memory, the study

of memory through PET scans and MRIs, suppression of memory, and of course, memory loss in both the short and long terms. This lucid, entertaining volume concludes with a series of mnemonics—which you will hopefully remember. Originally published as *Committed to Memory* in hardcover in 1998. Three Rivers Pr, 1999, 331 p., paperback, \$14.00.



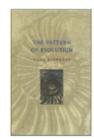
A Mathematical Mystery Tour: Discovering the Truth and Beauty of the Cosmos—A. K. Dewdney. In addition to giving his name to a key theorem, Ancient Greek mathematician Pythagoras was the first to suspect that mathematics underlies every element of the cosmos. For 2,500 years, math has consistently proven rel-

evant to defining elements of the physical world. This has caused ancients and moderns alike to explore whether math is created or discovered. Dewdney's fictional journey through myriad achievements in mathematical history tracks the progress of this quest. He visits Pythagoras and his successors from Al-Khwarizimi and his marvelous "House of Wisdom" to Alan Turing and his revolutionary notions of computing. Wiley, 1999, 218 p., hardcover, \$22.95.



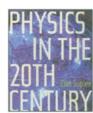
Natural Enemies Handbook: The Illustrated Guide to Biological Pest Control—Mary Louise Flint and Steve H. Dreistadt. Produced under the auspices of the University of California Integrated Pest Management Program, this guide is bolstered by solid research but

is also approachable and easy to use. With an emphasis on fieldwork and illustrations, the main theme is: Know thy enemy. Charts listing arthropod pests and their natural enemies—predators, parasites, and pathogens—are abundant and detailed. One chapter is also dedicated to the natural enemies of weeds. U CA Pr. 1998, 154 p., color photos/illus., paperback, \$34.95.



The Pattern of Evolution—Niles Eldredge. With Stephen Jay Gould, Eldredge is the father of the evolutionary theory called punctuated equilibria. This idea holds that evolution is episodic, with life developing freely in between mass extinctions caused by climatic catastrophes or a shifting geosphere. Eldredge furthers this evolu-

tionary view by linking the patterns of Earth's evolution with the evolution of life, placing the whole process in an ecological context. As Eldredge states, "Science is a search for resonance between mind and natural pattern." This linkage starkly contrasts with his rival Richard Dawkin's Darwinistic approach centered on the competition of genes. Freeman, 1999, 219 p., b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$24.95.



Physics in the 20th Century—Curt Suplee. This retrospective fashions physical concepts and achievements into a visual tour. Some photos depict moments of discovery, while others represent the century's extraordinary advances in instru-

mentation. A science writer for The Washington Post, Suplee capably translates the field in seven chapters titled Atom, Spectrum, Quantum, Structure, Nucleus, Chaos and Order, and Cosmos. Extensive captions add depth to an amazing idea for a coffee-table book. Abrams, 1999, 223 p., color/b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$49.50.



Taylor's Guide to Growing North America's Favorite Plants: Proven Perennials, Annuals, Flowering Trees, Shrubs, and Vines for Every Garden—Barbara W. Ellis. As the doldrums of winter subside and plans for ornamental gardens flourish, this handy guide aims to fortify

one's planting acumen. The term "favorite" is used loosely to take into account fragrance, foliage, ease of cultivation, appropriateness to sites, and so on. Thus, entries describe soil requirements, selection tips, bloom time, hardiness, sun or shade preference, potential problems, landscape uses, and proper care through the seasons. The book includes 80 different genera and color photos of hundreds of species. HM, 1998, 342 p., color photos, hardcover, \$35.00.



Vegetables Rock! A Complete Guide for Teenage Vegetarians—Stephanie Pierson. Confronted by the news that her 13-year-old daughter had forsaken meat, Pierson went about discerning the hows and whys of vegetarian and vegan diets. Writing in a breezy style for both parents and young people. Pierson outlines nutri-

tional requirements for teens and how a meatfree lifestyle fulfills those needs. Kid-friendly recipes and a source list make up the last half of the book. Bantam, 1999, 221 p., paperback, \$12.95.

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