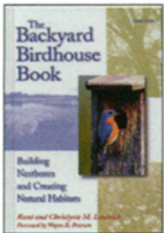


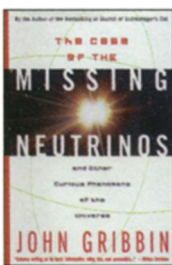
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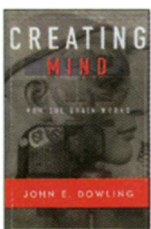
The Backyard Birdhouse Book: Building Nestboxes and Creating Natural Habitats—René and Christyna M. Laubach. Believe it or not, all birdhouses should not be built alike, and not all birds will nest in such dwellings. With an emphasis on conservation, step-by-step construction techniques for

building eight boxes are described. Details of nesting habits interlace profiles of 25 birds including bluebirds and purple martins with a proclivity toward nesting boxes. A concluding section offers landscaping tips. Storey, 1998, 203 p., color photos/illus., hardcover, \$34.95.



The Case of the Missing Neutrinos: And Other Curious Phenomena of the Universe—John Gribbin. The astrophysics popularizer extraordinaire strikes again with essays detailing the most confounding yet essential aspects of the field. In essays he has written over the past 20 years, Gribbin

ponders the fate of the sun over the next 100,000 years and why the sky gets dark. Additionally, he explains how the sun defines each planet's atmosphere or lack thereof, and he considers what happened to the sun's neutrinos on their voyage to Earth. From Intl Pub, 1998, 234 p., hardcover, \$22.00.



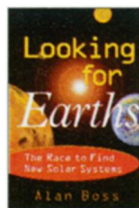
Creating Mind: How the Brain Works—John E. Dowling. Harvard neuroscientist Dowling introduces his field to the novice by presenting two sections, the first covering the "nuts and bolts" of the brain and the second, its functions. The intricacies of neural networks, cell function, and organization in human brains is first explored and then contrasted to that of other animals. With the mechanics in place, Dowling elaborates on vision, consciousness, language, memory, and development. Norton, 1998, 212 p., illus., hardcover, \$24.95.



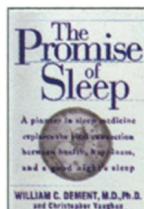
Every Creeping Thing: True Tales of Faintly Repulsive Wildlife—Richard Conniff. Porcupines hardly seem warm and cuddly, but they are actually timid herbivores that rarely attack. Sandtiger sharks, on the other hand, are known to cannibalize their embryonic siblings. Following up his ode to invertebrates—*Spineless Wonders*—Conniff turns his attention to misunderstood vertebrates. Among other tales is that of David Wingate, who has reclaimed Nonsuch Island from environmental oblivion and now awaits the return of the cahow—a bird believed extinct for 350 years. H Holt & Co, 1998, 256 p., illus., hardcover, \$25.00.



Euler: The Master of Us All—William Dunham. For the aficionado rather than the numerically timid reader, this biography centers on Leonhard Euler's mathematical legacy in number theory, logarithms, infinite series, analytic number theory, complex variables, combinatorics, etc. Theorems and equations cram each page. A general overview of Euler and his predecessors introduces the book, and each chapter finishes with a survey of continuing work on its subject. A brief outline of his collected works—the *Opera Omnia*—rounds out the volume. Math Assoc Am, 1999, 185 p., illus., paperback, \$29.95.



Looking for Earths: The Race to Find New Solar Systems—Alan Boss. Suddenly theories seemingly the stuff only of science fiction are becoming realities as extrasolar planets are discovered. Boss' chronicle focuses primarily on the events of the last 10 years leading up to these disclosures. The scientists chasing these dreams—Peter van de Kamp, Michel Mayor, and others—star in Boss' insider's glimpse. The author's accounts of the political fights over the SETI program and the "Woods-Hole Shootout," where NASA officials duked out which programs would be funded in the next 5 years, portray the challenges astronomers face on Earth as well as in the stars. Wiley, 1998, 240 p., b&w plates/illus., hardcover, \$27.95.



The Promise of Sleep: A Pioneer in Sleep Medicine Explores the Vital Connection Between Health, Happiness, and a Good Night's Sleep—William C. Dement and Christopher Vaughan. The founder of the Stanford University Sleep Research Center offers a wake-up call about the profound effects of sleep and its disorders. Sleep science has been Dement's occupation since 1952. He worries that he's worked in vain because ignorance of these problems abounds, even among physicians. Teamed with talented science-writer Vaughan, the two traverse the field explaining how to develop healthy sleep and recognize sleep disorders. Laden with case studies that personalize the data, the duo impart the benefits of sleep and its occasional dangers. Delacorte Pr, 1999, 524 p., hardcover, \$24.95.



The River Reader—John A. Murray, ed. Teddy Roosevelt battles the rugged Amazon in a canoe. Mark Twain reflects on the Mississippi. This anthology from the Nature Conservancy is full of such accounts. Experiences in and around rivers range over three continents and 200 years and capture the state of these waterways at various stages of their existence. Joseph Conrad, Annie Dillard, and Ernest Hemingway are some of the 22 "naturalists" whose stories are gathered here. Lyons Pr, 1998, 304 p., paperback, \$17.95.

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