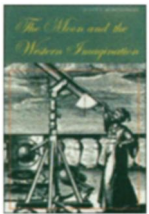


# SCIENCE NEWS BOOKS

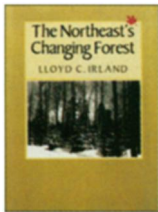
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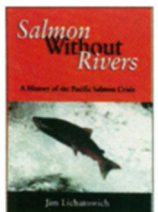
**Bugs: Insects, Spiders, Centipedes, Millipedes and Other Closely Related Arthropods**—Frank Lowenstein and Sheryl Lechner. The invertebrates could get along fine without humans, but we couldn't manage without them—so says Harvard biologist E.O. Wilson. This colorful, large-format book shows why. Across the globe, from deserts to mountains, bugs are at work maintaining ecosystems in underappreciated ways. In short and profusely illustrated sections, the authors first set out the essentials of bug biology, then describe the creatures and their roles order by order. Black Dog & Leventhal, 1999, 111 p., color illus./photos, hardcover, \$24.98.



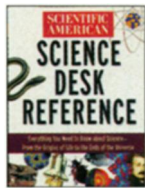
**The Moon and the Western Imagination**—Scott L. Montgomery. Through the millennia, the moon has aroused the interest of scientists, philosophers, theologians, and artists. This erudite but accessible account surveys human thought through the ages to show that even in the 20th century, our modern image of the moon retains connotations far beyond its matter-of-fact identity as a cold, rocky sphere. U Az Pr, 1999, 265 p., b&w illus./photos, hardcover, \$35.00.



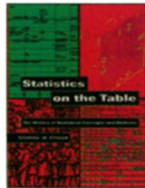
**The Northeast's Changing Forest**—Lloyd C. Irland. The first settlers in the northeastern United States cleared vast tracts of forest to grow crops. When the farmers moved west, however, the trees grew back. The region today has more forest cover, by an amount equal to the area of Maine, than it did in 1909. Only recently, however, has the continued preservation of the forest become a politically popular cause. Irland describes the arboreal history of the region, the types and uses of forest that now exist there, and strategies for the future. Harvard Forest, 1999, 401 p., b&w illus./photos, hardcover, \$50.00.



**Salmon Without Rivers: A History of the Pacific Salmon Crisis**—Jim Lichatowich. The decline of the salmon in the Pacific Northwest, much noted in recent decades, in fact goes back more than 150 years to the first settlement of this area by modern Americans. Agriculture and forestry disturbed long-stable habitats. Sketching the complex requirements of the salmon's lifestyle and the varied influences of industry and urban growth, Lichatowich explains why it is easier to understand the failure of attempts to safeguard the salmon than to come up with workable solutions. Island Pr., 1999, 352 p., b&w illus./photos, hardcover, \$27.50.



**Scientific American Science Desk Reference**—from the editors of *Scientific American*. Rather than setting out a list of definitions as in a standard encyclopedia, this volume divides the scientific realm into 14 broad categories, including computers and the environment as well as the more traditional physics, math, and chemistry. Each section offers a descriptive account of its discipline's central elements, a chronology, biographical sketches, and a detailed glossary. Web site references and reading lists direct the inquirer to further sources of information. Wiley, 1999, 670 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$39.95.



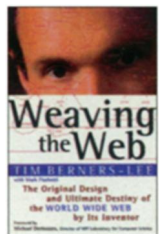
**Statistics on the Table: The History of Statistical Concepts and Methods**—Stephen M. Stigler. The title comes from a letter written to the *London Times* in 1910 by the statistician Karl Pearson, exhorting critics of one of his studies to set aside mere opinions and put their "statistics on the table." Stigler uses this and other stories to relate the history of his subject, describing along the way the idiosyncratic individuals who have brought logic and mathematical rigor to a frequently confusing area of analysis. The reader who is not alarmed by the occasional graph or simple equation will find this a penetrating and entertaining account. HUP, 1999, 488 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$45.00.



**Very First Things to Know About Frogs**—Patricia Grossman and Sarah Albee. Produced by the American Museum of Natural History and intended for 4-to-7-year-olds, these books combine bright illustrations and simple language to convey the basic facts of life about their subjects. A series of 15 double-page spreads describes the animals'



growth, behavior, habitat, lifestyle, dietary preferences, and so on. Each book includes a set of stickers for children to add at the appropriate places in the illustrations. Workman, 1999, both 32 p., color illus., hardcover, \$8.95 each.



**Weaving the Web: The Original Design and Ultimate Destiny of the World Wide Web**—Tim Berners-Lee with Mark Fischetti. Though not nearly as well known as Bill Gates or Steve Jobs, Berners-Lee may ultimately have a far greater influence on society than either, for he is the man who dreamed up the World Wide Web and wrote its first software. The acronyms url, http, and html are his. Here he recounts how his aim of organizing data on a single computer and then on a network at the CERN physics lab in Switzerland grew inexorably into a system to make data openly available to computer users across the globe. Preferring not to be a multimillionaire, Berners-Lee argues for unfettered popular access to the tools and information of the Web. HarperSF, 1999, 226 p., hardcover, \$26.00.

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