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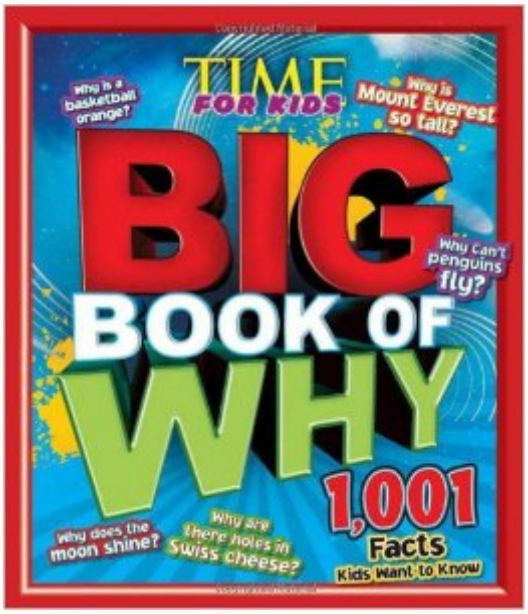
Time For Kids: Big Book Of Why - 1,001 Facts Kids Want To Know



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Synopsis

Why do we have eyebrows? What’s a black hole and what happens if you fall into one? What’s the fastest a human is capable of running? Why do wet fingers stick to metal in the freezer? Where is the deepest point on Earth? Divided by subject area - humans, animals, environment/nature, technology, and space - and written in an upbeat manner, each answer is accompanied by either a photo or an illustration to show the reasons why. Of course, "Time for Kids" goes beyond answering the question by dipping into the science or history to further explain the answer in an easy-to-follow, straightforward manner. This is a must -have book to satisfy the most curious of kids and provokes a great way to encourage interest and knowledge about a wide range of subjects, as well as to stimulate reading. Kids will be desperate to share what they’ve learned with their parents, teachers, and friends...and anyone else who will listen.

Book Information

Hardcover: 192 pages

Publisher: Time For Kids; 14939th edition (August 10, 2010)

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Product Dimensions: 9.5 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (467 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #18,918 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Mystery & Wonders #15 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Games > Questions & Answers #64 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > Reference

Age Range: 8 and up

Grade Level: 3 and up

Customer Reviews

Recently, my daughter bought "Big Book of Why" for her eleven-years-old daughters. Fortunately, before my granddaughters started reading this book, I had the opportunity to leaf through it, and I was appalled. I have PhD degree in chemical engineering, and a fairly solid knowledge of astronomy and Earth science, so I concentrated on the Earth and Space sections. Here is my assessment. The author seems to be lacking basic understanding of the above mentioned subjects.

Both the Earth and the Space sections are riddled with errors. Many answers are either erroneous, misleading, incomplete or incomprehensible. (I have not read the rest of the book and I do not intend to.) To give the potential buyers an idea, I will list a few examples. Question "Why does the moon appear to change its shape?" is answered as follows: "As the moon orbits Earth each month, Earth blocks sunlight from hitting the moon at different angles. As that happens, different portions of the moon are in shadow." This is pure nonsense, as any five grader would know. "Why can't we see air? is explained as follows: "That's because Earth atmosphere is made of several gases including oxygen, water vapor and carbon dioxide. The molecules of these gases don't absorb light that our eyes can see, so air is invisible to us." Apart from the absurdity of this reply, one wonders whether the author is aware that 79% of air is nitrogen, while it contains only traces of water vapor and carbon dioxide. Some more examples: diamond is called "rock" while chloride and sodium are called "minerals". The temperature of sun spots is given as 3,227 degrees C, while the stratosphere is located at 48.28 km - 80.47 km above the Earth surface (didn't the author learn about rounding off in grade 4?). These are just a few examples out of many.

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