

The Way We Work: Getting To Know The Amazing Human Body



Synopsis

This is an outstanding guide to the human body from one of the world's great illustrators! Ever wondered how we breathe, or why? Or what happens to broccoli once your teeth have finished with it? Or how your eyes turn at the same time and in the same direction? Most of us don't stop to think about the countless everyday tasks our bodies perform automatically while we get on with our lives. And yet of all the complex things we encounter as we go through life, our bodies are probably the most remarkable of all...Explore everything from bones to bronchioles, noses to neurons in this clear, comprehensive and utterly engaging guide to the human body from award-winning author-illustrator David Macaulay, creator of the bestselling "The New Way Things Work". David Macaulay's research took several years, during which he sat in on anatomy classes, dissections and numerous operations. "The New Way Things Work" has enjoyed phenomenal global success, selling millions of copies worldwide, spending fifty weeks on the "New York Times" bestseller list, and being translated into dozens of languages. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Age Range: 11 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

Customer Reviews

In this comprehensive and entertaining resource, David Macaulay reveals the inner workings of the human body as only he could. In order to present this complicated subject in an accurate and entertaining way, he put in years of research. He sat in on anatomy classes, dissections, and even

reached inside the rib cages of two cadavers to compare their spleen sizes. He observed numerous surgeries, including a ten-hour procedure where a diseased pancreas was removed, as well as one where a worn-out old knee was replaced by a brand new one. This hands-on investigation gives Macaulay a unique perspective to lead his readers on a visual journey through the workings of the human body. The seven sections within the book take us from the cells that form our foundation to the individual systems they build. Each beautifully illustrated spread details different aspects of our complex structure, explaining the function of each and offering up-close glimpses, unique cross-sections and perspectives, and even a little humor along the way. This one-of-a-kind book can serve as a reference for children, families, teachers, and anyone who has questions about how his or her body works. When readers see how David Macaulay builds a body and explains the way it works, they will come away with a new appreciation of the amazing world inside them. Exclusive: Macaulay's Sketches for The Way We Work(CLICK on Images to Enlarge)Explore author-artist David Macaulay's creative imagination at work in this collection of intriguing early sketches for the book. Each drawing--which is rendered in colored pencils-- lays out the story of a different system of the body through surprising shifts of scale, color, texture, the insertion of figures, and other intriguing spatial relationships on the page.

Starred Review. Grade 6 Up—•An ambitious undertaking even for Macaulay, this volume tackles the human body in the author's usual style. Divided into seven sections that connect related systems, the book covers cellular structure at the atomic scale, DNA, and metabolism; respiration and circulation; digestion and elimination; the nervous and endocrine systems; the immune system and fighting infections; the skeleton, musculature, and movement; and reproduction. Macaulay combines a detailed description with frequently whimsical, yet very informative, color diagrams to illustrate the body's functions. At times challenging due to the nature of the topic (e.g., cellular chemistry, nerve impulses), the text incorporates the same subtle humor found in the artwork to enhance the book's appeal without sacrificing its utility. As Macaulay shies away from no topic in his frank, scientific discussions, the result is a very complete description of the "mechanical" aspect of human anatomy that is at once enlightening, entertaining, and a visual delight.—•Jeffrey A. French, formerly at Willoughby-Eastlake Public Library, Willowick, OH Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

This book is an exceptional addition to Macaulay's tradition of very good books. Written for a slightly older audience, the book is hefty, thorough, and accurate. As I intend to use it for my young teen,

naturally I flipped to the end right away: the reproduction section. While she has had a "sex ed" class and is aware of bodily functions and anatomy, there's still an element of concern with what I put into her hands as "good information" about a delicate topic. The illustrations and descriptions are indeed straightforward and correct, and frank without being stuffy or embarrassed. I have no moral or emotional qualms about offering her this book. I haven't yet read every word, but I've made a fairly thorough inspection, and all the info I've seen squares with what I've learned in my biology classes (only at the high school and college level [non-major biology], admittedly). I don't claim that it's a college-level anatomy and physiology text, nor possibly even a high school one, but it seems to hover somewhere around the high school "genuine interest" level--perhaps not the sole text for a formal course in anatomy/physiology, but certainly an excellent introductory or supplementary one or a good read for someone with a personal interest who won't be taking a course.

Oh, darn! I wrote reviews for DK's The Complete Body and The Human Anatomy Coloring Book and totally forgot to include this one in my booklist for teaching our kids health science because it is such a fun, easy and informative read that we don't even think of it as curricula. But it is what made the rest come together. GREAT book, like everything we use in our home school by Macaulay. He is just the BEST at breaking down complex things in a light, entertaining but also very rigorous way that gives you a good overview of any topic he writes about. He explains pieces in depth and by the end you have a big picture view, as well.

Great book. Have purchased for both of my sisters (in late 20's) and will likely get one to keep at my house. Great explanations for anyone not in the medical profession and makes understanding the human body fun and interesting. Much younger audiences would benefit from this as well...perhaps middle school?

quite pleased. I am giving it to a grand-daughter who is daughter of an MD. I think that they will be well pleased. It is thorough, clear, and well illustrated.

Excellent Resource! Love his books! We are doing our body Unit with this as our text book! Beautiful images! Great explanations!

Author David Macaulay's previous book, "The Way Things Work" is fantastic. It's illustrations are very well done, precise, attractive and information is easily absorbed. "The Way We Work" however

is not of the same caliber of Macaulay's previous work. It is somewhat sloppy in appearance; the illustrations are not clear and the text is not placed well. My 10 year old grandson lost his initial enthusiasm very quickly as did I.

I got this book for my 12 year-old niece who aspires to be a doctor. When I looked through it, I wanted to keep it for myself! The book is well explained, illustrated, sequenced and fun. My niece loves it. I probably will get one for my household, too!

These books were requested by our grand daughter who was having her sixth birthday. She decided that she wanted something or anything to do with Science. Her mother has written the date in the books as she was so thrilled and asked so many questions to want explanations etc. Her Mum says they will be valuable assets for years to come. The same applies to all three books and all the family were impressed with them.

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