

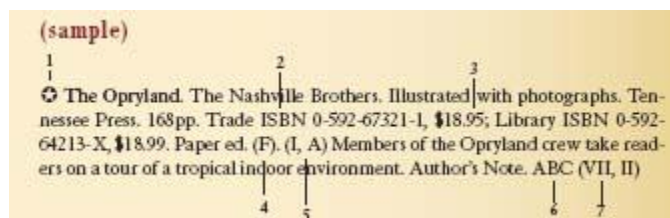


Outstanding Physical Science Tradebooks from the following years: 2006-2011

Voted on by the NSTA (National Science Teachers Association) www.nsta.org

About the Annotations

In addition to standard publishing information, the annotations indicate the following:



1. Titles marked with ★ are Selectors' Choices—books that individual panel members responded to with particular enthusiasm.
2. International Standard Book Numbers (ISBN) are included for all available editions (trade, library, and paperback).
3. The prices are current as of January 2009.
4. The notation Paper ed. (F) indicates that a paperback edition is forthcoming and whether the publisher is different from the hardcover edition.
5. Reading levels [P = Primary (K–2); E = Elementary (3–5); I = Intermediate (6–8); A = Advanced (9–12)] are provided by the reviewers. They are intended as guidelines and are not meant to limit the potential use of titles.
6. The reviewer's initials follow each description (see Members of the Book Selection Panel, below).
7. The most relevant National Science Content Standards are indicated by Roman numerals (see below).

2010

[*The Story of Snow: The Science of Winter's Wonder*](#). Mark Cassino, with Jon Nelson. Chronicle Books. 36pp. Trade ISBN 978-0-8118-6866-2, \$16.99. (E, M) The beauty and wonder of nature are effectively captured in this book about the formation of snow crystals. Ink drawings and magnified photographs provide views of these exquisite six-sided crystals, the structure of which is typically hidden in clusters. Formation of star-, plate-, and column-shaped crystals is described. KTR (III) Supplemental Material: [Snowstorms—From Students](#) (NASA)

Science and Technology

[*The Boy Who Invented TV: The Story of Philo Farnsworth*](#). Kathleen Krull. Illustrated by Greg Couch. Alfred A. Knopf. 40pp. Trade ISBN 978-0-375-84561-1, \$16.99. Library ISBN 978-0-



375-94561-8, \$19.99. (E) Read the little-known story about a boy's obsession with machines and electricity, which led to the invention of television. The story of Philo Farnsworth's voyage from farm boy to scientific genius is an inspiring story for elementary children and a bridge to an awareness of the power of science and technology. Author's Note, References. NSC (VI) Supplemental Material: [David Sarnoff Vs. Philo Farnsworth on Broadway](#) (YouTube)

[*Inventions*](#). Glenn Murphy. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing. 64pp. Trade ISBN 978-1-416-93865-1, \$16.99. (E, I) From defining invention to bionics, this book gives readers a historical timeline of development through the ages. Each page gives readers a visual description of the evolution of an invention while sharing facts and explaining changes. The color reproductions are eye-catching and invite readers to turn the page. Glossary, Index. JCL (VI, VII, VIII) Supplemental Material: [Putting It All Together](#) (National Park Service)

[*Secret Subway: The Fascinating Tale of an Amazing Feat of Engineering*](#). Martin W. Sandler. National Geographic Children's Books. 96pp. Trade ISBN 978-1-4263-0462-0, \$17.95. Library ISBN 978-1-4263-0463-7, \$26.90. (I, A) Read how one man with a vision took on the Tammany political machine in New York City to build a subway. This is a revealing story of the interplay between science and culture. Further Reading, Sources, Illustration Credits, Index. DLW (VI, VII) Supplemental Material: [Alfred Ely Beach](#) (About.com)

2011

[*Newton and Me*](#). Lynne Mayer. Illustrated by Sherry Rogers. Sylvan Dell Publishing. 32pp. Trade ISBN 978-1-60718-067-8, \$16.95. Paperback ISBN 978-1-60718-078-4, \$8.95. (K-2) A young boy and his dog Newton explore the laws of motion in everyday activities like rolling a ball, riding a bicycle, and pulling a wagon. Questions, Science Notes. (SAR) III, VII. Supplemental Material: [Developmentally appropriate activities](#) (PBS Zoom)

2009

Physical Science

[*Car Science*](#). Richard Hammond. DK Publishing. 96pp. Trade ISBN 978-0-7566-4026-2, \$17.99. (I, A) This book is a comprehensive analysis of every aspect of the automobile and the scientific principles that make every part work. Clear explanations coupled with excellent illustrations make the car into more than just a vehicle—it is an everyday science project that students will embrace. Monster trucks, sport cars, and “cars of the future” will also pique interest. Glossary, Index. DLK (III, VI)



Technology and Engineering

[*Cool Stuff Exploded*](#). Chris Woodford. DK Publishing. 256pp. Trade ISBN 978-0-7566-4028-6, \$24.99. (I, A) Photographs and computer-generated images provide an inside look at the mechanisms that make many transportation vehicles, home appliances, entertainment systems, and personal electronics function. Futuristic applications and environmental impacts of technology are also included. Glossary, Index, CD-ROM with Animations. KTR (III, VI)

2008

[*Rockets*](#). Ron Miller. Twenty-First Century Books, a division of Lerner Publishing Group. 112pp. Library ISBN 978-0-8225-7153-7, \$31.93. (I, A) Rockets from ancient Chinese history to modern-day applications in space exploration are the topic of this book. Containing content with which many readers are not familiar, this book explores the invention and use of rockets throughout history with many little-known applications. There are good descriptions of physical science and technological applications. Glossary, Source Notes, Bibliography, Further Reading: Books, Museums, and Websites, Index. DTC (III, V, VI)

Technology and Engineering

[*Great Inventions: Microscopes and Telescopes*](#). Rebecca Steffoff. Illustrated with prints, photographs, and diagrams. Marshall Cavendish Benchmark. 128pp. Trade ISBN 978-0-7614-2230-3, \$39.93; Library ISBN 978-0-7614-2230-3, \$27.95. (A) "It started with spectacles." From tiny worlds too small to be seen by the unaided eye to the vastness of space, this book explores the history of microscopes and telescopes that changed the world as we see it. Glossary, Bibliography, Websites, Index. DLW (VI, VII)

[*The Ultimate Weapon: The Race to Develop the Atomic Bomb*](#). Edward T. Sullivan. Holiday House. 208pp. Trade ISBN 978-0-8234-1855-8, \$24.95. (I) This book traces the development of the atomic bomb from its theoretical inception in the minds of scientists to the dropping of "Little Man" and "Fat Boy" in Japan. Supported by many photographs, the text highlights the political, scientific, and cultural aspects of the development of the ultimate weapon. Bibliography, Glossary, Index, Chronology. KTR (III, VIII, VI)

2007



Physical Science

Atomic Universe: The Quest to Discover Radioactivity. Kate Boehm Jerome. Illustrated with photographs. National Geographic Children's Books. 64pp. Trade ISBN 0-7922-5543-7, \$17.95; Library ISBN 0-7922-5544-4, \$25.90. (I) This book describes the discovery of radiation and demonstrates how the Curies' work was based on the contributions of others and the scientific method. Original photographs and a timeline put the discoveries into their historical context. Glossary, Resources, Index. CDC (III, VIII)

2006

The Elements: What You Really Want to Know. Ron Miller. Illustrated with prints and photographs. Twenty-First Century Books/Lerner Publishing Group. 128pp. Library ISBN 0-7613-2794-0, \$29.27. (I) This book provides a historical account of how scientists studied the elements, from the early Greeks and their idea of the atom to the proposed existence of quarks. The book is also an excellent source of information about each of the naturally occurring and transuranium elements. Glossary, Index. CRB (III, VIII, II)

Technology & Engineering

Built to Last: Building America's Amazing Bridges, Dams, Tunnels, and Skyscrapers. Written and illustrated by George Sullivan. Scholastic Nonfiction. 128pp. Trade ISBN 0-439-51737-0, \$18.99. Paper ed. (F). (I) From the Erie Canal in New York to the Central Artery/Tunnel Project in Boston, this book describes the major engineering projects that built modern-day America. The excellent full-page photographs illustrate how engineers worked together to produce structural marvels while solving problems caused by social, environmental, and financial factors. Inspiring for all budding engineers. Author's Note, Further Reading, Websites, Index. CDC (VI)