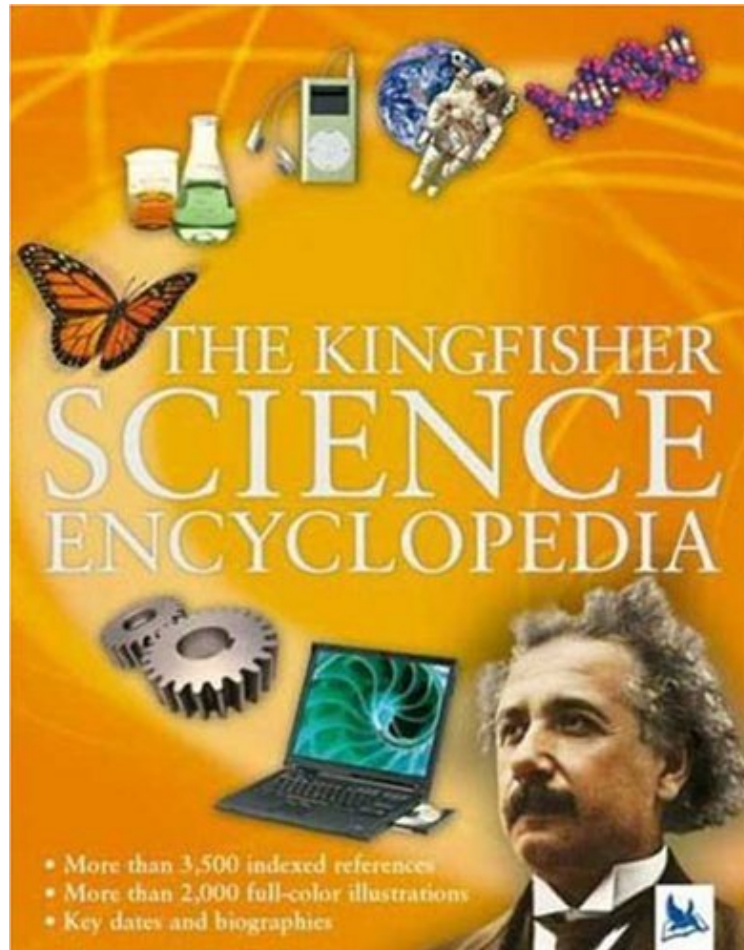


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## The Kingfisher Science Encyclopedia (Kingfisher Encyclopedias)

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With today's emphasis on fast-moving technology, as well as increasing pressure to meet the testing standards of science and math in the classroom, the need to grasp key scientific principles has never been greater. The Kingfisher

Science Encyclopedia is the one reference that includes all of the information students need to know in today's fast-paced world. Clearly written and illustrated articles provide in-depth insight and concise authoritative information. An impressive reference section at the end of the book contains minibiographies of famous scientists, plus an illustrated time line of key inventions and discoveries. Arranged thematically into ten chapters, with reference summaries at the end of each chapter and a full index, the encyclopedia does more than merely provide facts about science and technology; it helps the reader think for him or herself, develop an enquiring mind, pose challenging questions, and explore new topics.

From Booklist A popular science resource last published in 2000 has received a small dose of updating. Arrangement is topical, with 10 chapters covering subjects such as "Planet Earth," "Human Biology," and "Conservation and the Environment." Within chapters, following a brief introduction, an average of 27 entries cover a variety of smaller topics. Most entries extend over two pages and are equal parts text and colorful photographs, drawings, diagrams, cutaways, and other illustrations that are sure to draw interest. Each chapter closes with a page of "Facts and Figures." All topics are cross-referenced to entries containing related material. A "Ready Reference" section in the back of the volume includes units of measurement, conversion tables, geometric shapes, and brief descriptions of important scientists and discoveries. A two-page glossary has a sidebar devoted to computer terms. The topical arrangement makes a good table of contents and index essential. The table of contents is clearly laid out and easy to browse, but students may be frustrated by the index. Fourteen page references are provided for telescope and six for television, for example, but the pages for the sections that specifically deal with these topics are not called out in any way. We found most evidence of updating in the "Space and Time" chapter, where small portions of text related to space exploration have been revised, and the number of moons in the solar system has been changed to reflect recent discoveries. Changes have been made to the "Facts and Figures" pages; for example, several lists of "Key Dates" now include twenty-first-century advances. Providing students with current science material is essential, and though the volume has not been extensively revised, libraries should acquire it to replace the previous version. This attractive, browsable, reasonably priced encyclopedia definitely has a place beside titles offering more depth, such as the six-volume New Book of Popular Science. Mary Ellen Quinn Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "This attractive, browsable, reasonably-priced encyclopedia definitely has a place..." (Booklist, ALA) "This authoritative resource contains an abundance of information on science and technology." - Books for Growing Minds "Middle graders will be so receptive to working on science homework with The Kingfisher Science Encyclopedia." - Teaching Pre-K-8 About the Author Professor Charles Taylor received the U.K.'s Bragg Medal and Prize of Institutional Physics, and the UK's Michael Faraday Award for contributions to the public understanding of science. He has presented lectures on BBC television and has written many science books for children.