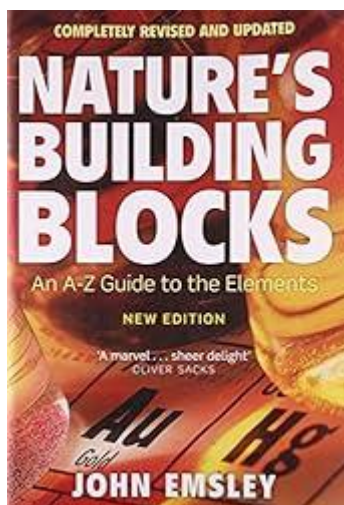


Books for science reading beyond the curriculum

Possibly higher Ks4/ks5 more likely



The serious chemistry student may enjoy reading this book from cover to cover, but it also serves as an excellent handy reference to the elements.

Paperback: 720 pages

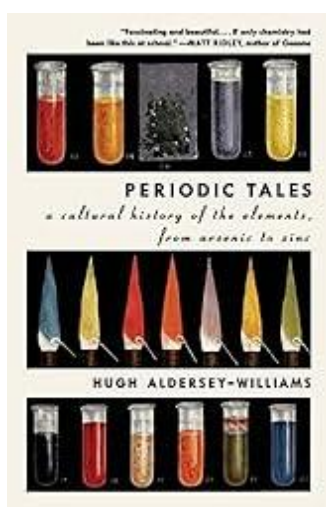
Publisher: Oxford University Press; New Rev Up edition (October 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0199605637

ISBN-13: 978-019960563

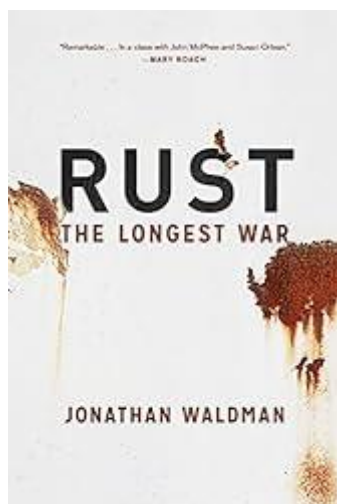
Periodic Tales: A Cultural History of the Elements, from Arsenic to Zinc by Hugh Aldersey-Williams



As suggested by the title, this book is not so much scientific as a cultural history of how we humans have discovered and use the chemical elements.

Paperback: 448 pages
Publisher: Ecco; Reprint edition (February 28, 2012)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0061824739
ISBN-13: 978-0061824739

Rust: The Longest War by Jonathan Waldman

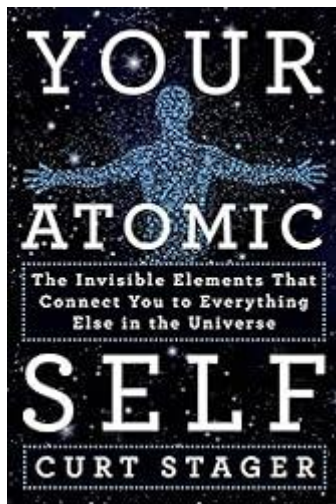


Breaking into a topic that has gotten very little attention, Jonathan Waldman explores how rust quietly changes our lives.

Like rusty metal, the book is somewhat tarnished by uneven text, although with some skimming it is possible to find bits that will be interesting to young chemists. For example, the story of the Statue of Liberty shows how very little we know about the chemistry of corrosion and is tightly constructed. On the other hand, the author goes on a walkabout by over-describing a visit with rust photographer, Alyssa Eve Csük (that is not to say that Csük's abstract photographs are flawed, because they are very beautiful and intriguing. They are simply better seen than described.) *Rust* also lacks a bibliography and an index, making it less useful as a research tool. Too bad, because with a bit of polish, this could have been an excellent book and those who are deeply interested in chemistry, history, and human culture will find it worthwhile.

Hardcover: 304 pages
Publisher: Simon & Schuster; 1st Edition edition (March 10, 2015)
ISBN-10: 1451691599
ISBN-13: 978-1451691597

Your Atomic Self: The Invisible Elements That Connect You to Everything Else in the Universe by Curt Stager



Although all matter in the universe is made up of atoms, Dr. Stager has chosen to use the human body as his point of reference, which provides general readers with both a way to relate to the information and a sense of scale.

Rather than an in-depth exploration of human biology, however, it is more like a wandering walk using our basic knowledge of ourselves as a trail marker for exploring the world of elements. The “walk” covers topics from why the sky is blue to how the nitrogen atoms from salmon end up in spruce trees in the Pacific Northwest. The text is roughly organized by sections on the most common elements: carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, hydrogen, etc.

(Note: The book does contain references to what happens to bodies after death, which may not be appropriate for some younger teens.)

Hardcover: 320 pages

Publisher: Thomas Dunne Books (October 14, 2014)

ISBN-10: 1250018846

ISBN-13: 978-125001884



[Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream](#)

by

[Tanya Lee Stone](#)

2



[Florence Nightingale: The Courageous Life of the Legendary Nurse](#)

by

[Catherine Reef](#)



[**Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World**](#)

by

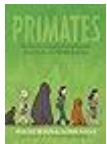
[Rachel Ignotofsky](#)



[**The Disappearing Spoon: And Other True Tales of Madness, Love, and the History of the World from the Periodic Table of the Elements**](#)

by

[Sam Kean](#)



[**Primates: The Fearless Science of Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Biruté Galdikas \(Primates, 1\)**](#)

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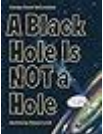
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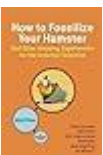
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