

Applied Science

Books

Available in the UOP Library

A Short History of Nearly Everything - Bill Bryson – Have you ever wanted to know nearly everything that happened in the time between the Big Bang and human civilization? Well then, this is the book for you! Bryson manages to discuss the complex evolution of the Universe in language that is understandable by all.

What if? – Randall Munroe- How high can a human throw something? How much physical space does the internet take up? Is it possible to build a jetpack using downward-firing machine guns? All these questions and more answered in this stunning work of logic and lunacy.

Available to purchase from good book stores or online

Question Everything: 132 science questions - and their unexpected answers – The new Scientist – A collection of questions and answers about how science is linked to the everyday world. The very definition of applying science!

It's Not Rocket Science – Ben Miller - Black holes. DNA. The Large Hadron Collider. Ever had that sneaking feeling that you are missing out on some truly spectacular science? This is the book for you – Topical science by the famous actor and comedian.

Bad Pharma: How Medicine is Broken, And How We Can Fix It – Ben Goldacre - Doctors and patients need good scientific evidence to make informed decisions. But instead, companies run bad trials on their own drugs, which distort and exaggerate the benefits by design. When these trials produce unflattering results, the data is simply buried. All of this is perfectly legal. In fact, even government regulators withhold vitally important data from the people who need it most. Doctors and patient groups have stood by too, and failed to protect us. Instead, they take money and favours, in a world so fractured that medics and nurses are now educated by the drugs industry. An admittedly biased view of the industry we study in A2 Applied science

The Physics of Superheroes – James Kakalios – A look at applying real day science to the world of superheroics. A great fun way to link some of the ideas we cover into a real-ish life situation

The Science of the Discworld series – Terry Pratchett and Jack Cohen –I love these books as Science is explained in a world where magic is the rule not science. An entertaining and relaxing way to learn about the science around you.

Magazines/journals

New Scientist
How it Works

Places of Interest

@Bristol and Planetarium - Bristol
Science Museum - London
Culham Science Centre – Oxfordshire

Websites

As Applied Science is all about how science is related to our real world, any science websites could go here – Try looking at the Biology, Chemistry and Physics lists. However a couple that would be especially useful / interesting are:

<http://www.badsience.net> – I think Ben Goldacre's work on the medical industry gives an good, if biased, insight into a key area of science application

<http://www.howstuffworks.com/> - Very useful in helping you think about how machines, medicines and other items actually work.

Also websites like the NHS website and companies' websites will be invaluable.