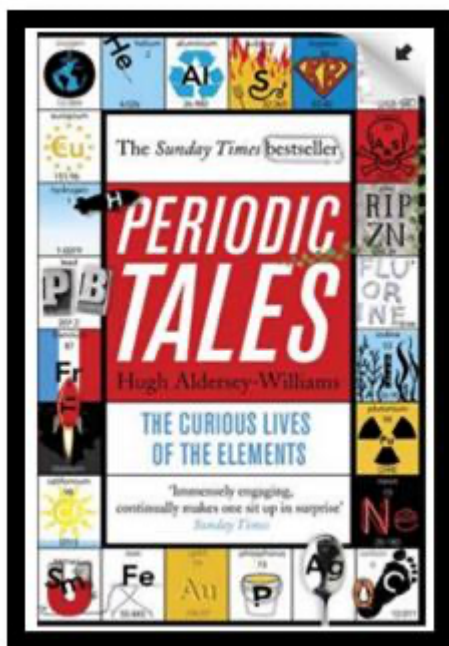


Chemistry Reading list KS4 & KS5

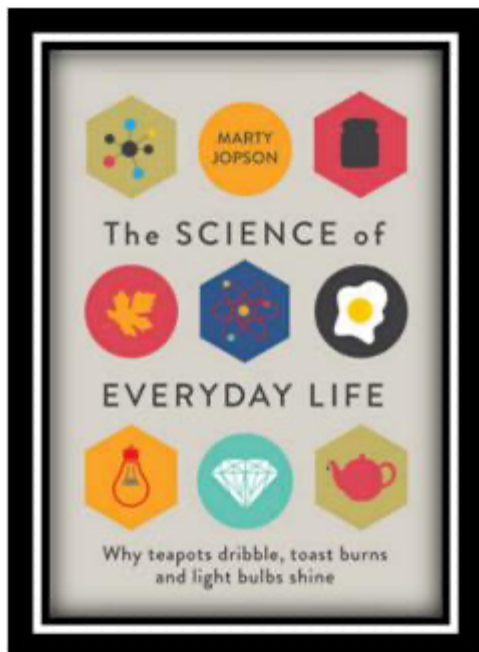
Periodic Tales: The Curious Lives of the Elements (Paperback) Hugh Aldersey-Williams (ISBN-10: 0141041455)



Like you, the elements have personalities, attitudes, talents, shortcomings, stories rich with meaning. Here you'll meet iron that rains from the heavens and noble gases that light the way to vice. You'll learn how lead can tell your future while zinc may one day line your coffin. You'll discover what connects the bones in your body with the Whitehouse in Washington, the glow of a streetlamp with the salt on your dinner table. Unlocking their astonishing secrets and colourful pasts, Periodic Tales is a voyage of wonder and discovery, showing that their stories are our stories, and their lives are inextricable from our own.

As a complete nerd about the periodic table, I love this book because it showcases the human stories behind the elements. The periodic table is something that I found intimidating as a school student, but as I studied chemistry at A-Level I began to love and to realise how beautiful I found it. We often see it as a tool, concentrating on its properties and patterns, but it is so much more and this book demonstrates how much more it is. It is a tour of discovery, outlining the stories of the different discoveries of the elements, the people that discovered them and interesting and funny facts about how they are used – almost a travelogue of the elements. You don't have to be studying chemistry to find something enjoyable about this book!

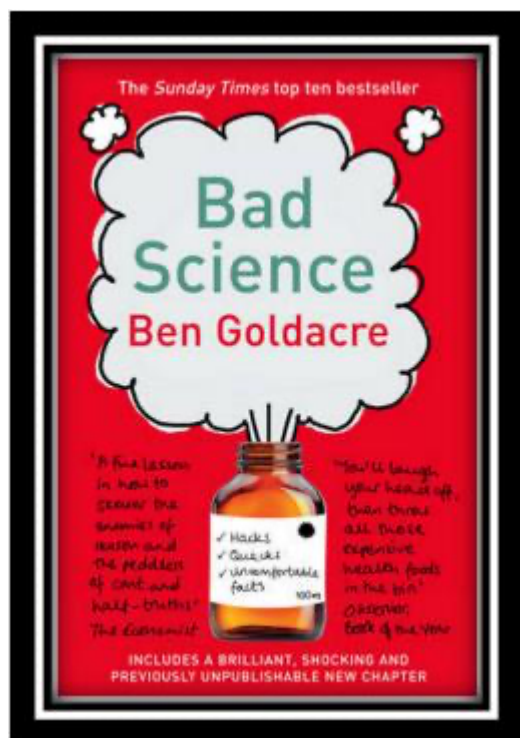
The Science of Everyday Life: Why Teapots Dribble, Toast Burns and Light Bulbs Shine (Hardback) Marty Jopson (ISBN-10: 1782434186)



In "The Science of Everyday Life: Why Teapots Dribble, Toast Burns, and Light Bulbs Shine," Marty Jopson unveils the captivating world of scientific principles hidden within our daily routines. With a delightful blend of curiosity and expertise, Jopson explores the perplexing phenomena that often go unnoticed. From the curious mechanics behind teapot dribbling and the intricate physics of toasting, to the illuminating science behind the brilliance of light bulbs, this fascinating hardback offers a journey through the extraordinary science that underpins our ordinary lives. Delving into the captivating realm where science meets the everyday, Jopson illuminates the wonders of our world with entertaining anecdotes and accessible explanations, making this book a must-read for anyone seeking a deeper understanding of the captivating science that surrounds us.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading "The Science of Everyday Life: Why Teapots Dribble, Toast Burns, and Light Bulbs Shine" because it brilliantly bridges the gap between scientific concepts and the practical applications we encounter in our daily lives. This captivating book unravels the mysteries behind seemingly ordinary occurrences, such as the dribbling of teapots, the browning of toast, and the illumination of light bulbs, unveiling the fascinating scientific principles that underlie these phenomena. The author's engaging writing style and relatable examples make complex ideas accessible, allowing readers to develop a deeper understanding of the intricate world of chemistry. Through its blend of scientific rigor and real-life relevance, this book not only educates but also instils a sense of wonder and curiosity about the science that surrounds us every day.

Bad Science (Paperback) Ben Goldacre (ISBN-10: 000728487X)

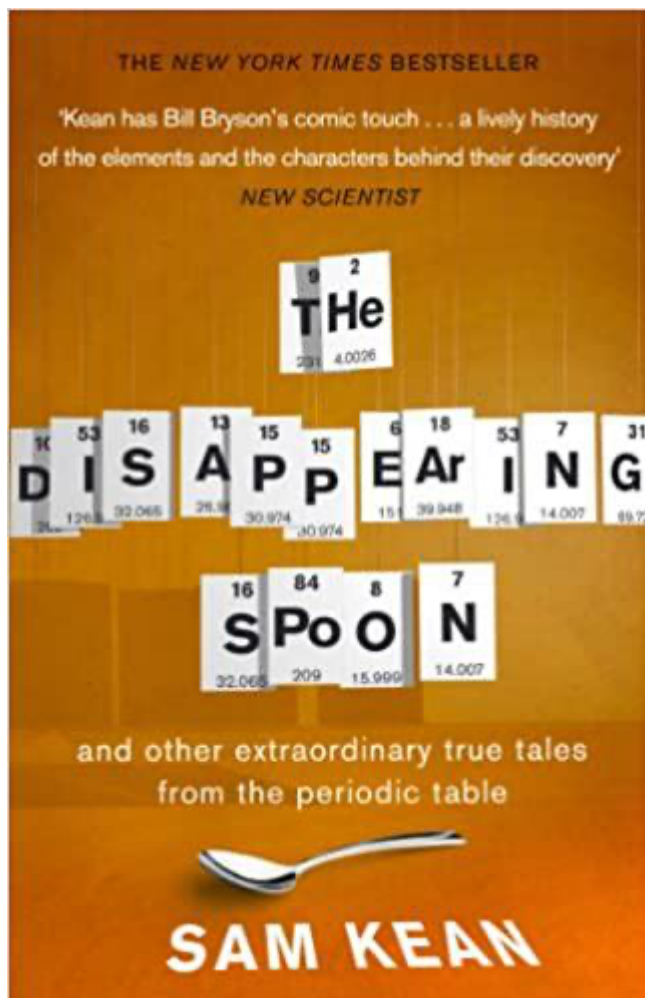


In "Bad Science," Ben Goldacre delves into the murky world of pseudoscience, exposing the charlatans and misleading claims that pervade our society. With wit, precision, and a razor-sharp intellect, Goldacre dismantles bogus remedies, questionable research practices, and the misrepresentation of scientific findings. Through captivating examples and accessible explanations, he empowers readers to become discerning consumers of information, arming them with the tools to navigate the bewildering landscape of scientific misinformation. "Bad Science" is an eye-opening and essential read that equips us to separate fact from fiction in an era where scientific illiteracy and distortion run rampant.

As a chemistry teacher, I thoroughly enjoyed reading "Bad Science" by Ben Goldacre. This engaging and thought-provoking book delves into the world of scientific misinformation and pseudoscience, highlighting the importance of critical thinking and rigorous examination of evidence. Goldacre skilfully debunks common myths and exposes the flaws in popular scientific claims, providing readers with the tools to navigate through the sea of misleading information. With his wit and clarity, he emphasizes the significance of proper scientific methodology and evidence-based reasoning, which aligns perfectly with the principles I strive to instil in my students. "Bad Science" serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of scientific literacy in today's society, making it an invaluable resource for both educators and curious minds seeking to separate fact from fiction

Additional for KS5 Chemistry

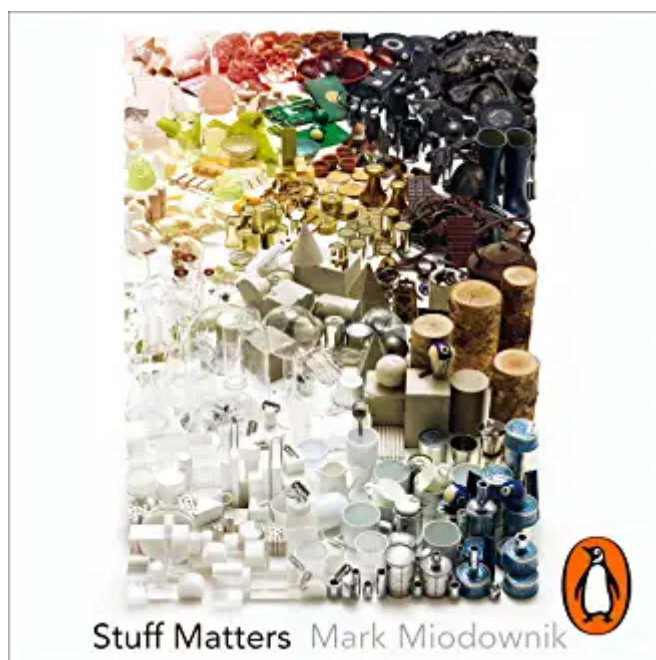
The Disappearing Spoon...and other true tales from the Periodic Table
(paperback) Sam Kean ISBN-10 : 0552777501



"The Disappearing Spoon...and other true tales from the Periodic Table" by Sam Kean is an engaging and illuminating paperback that takes readers on an extraordinary journey through the fascinating world of chemistry. With wit, curiosity, and a knack for storytelling, Kean uncovers the intriguing stories behind each element on the periodic table, revealing the unexpected connections between science, history, and human ingenuity. From the explosive discovery of phosphorus to the dangerous allure of mercury, this captivating book captivates readers with its blend of scientific discovery, anecdotes, and gripping narratives, making complex chemistry accessible and utterly captivating to all

As an A level chemistry student "The Disappearing Spoon...and other true tales from the Periodic Table" by Sam Kean. This captivating book delves into the fascinating world of chemistry through a collection of intriguing stories and anecdotes related to each element in the periodic table. Kean's skilful storytelling and ability to connect scientific concepts with real-life events made the subject matter come alive for me. I appreciated how he effortlessly blended history, chemistry, and personal narratives, making the book both informative and entertaining. "The Disappearing Spoon" not only expanded my knowledge of the periodic table and its elements, but it also sparked my curiosity, deepening my passion for chemistry and its countless applications.

Stuff Matters: Exploring the Marvellous Materials That Shape Our Man-Made World by Mark Miodownik ISBN-10 : 0241955181



In *Stuff Matters*, Miodownik entertainingly examines the materials he encounters in a typical morning, from the steel in his razor and the graphite in his pencil to the foam in his sneakers and the concrete in a nearby skyscraper. He offers a compendium of the most astounding histories and marvellous scientific breakthroughs in the material world.

Having never studied Materials Science at School, this book tapped into a whole new world that I had never previously given much thought to. The blurb captured my attention instantly, and I was keen to discover more about the ordinary and not-so-ordinary materials that have shaped the lives of humanity, and continue to be developed in advanced research labs across the world.

Told in the first person, as a story of the author going about his daily routine, the book encompasses objects and matter from every aspect of life: From ornate tea-cups to dynamic jet engines, and silicon chips to the fabrics of our t-shirts.

Stuff Matters is a highly entertaining read, accessible to all and as one of the first “popular science” books I ever read (that also featured in my personal statement!), I cannot recommend it enough!

“Former SJC Chemistry Student”