The SB&F Best Books Lists are published annually each January. They are a comprehensive list of highly recommended STEM books and audio-visual resources for children and young adults reviewed over the previous year. Here we present our listing of highly recommended resources reviewed during 2017. For each book or film, we provide the SB&F levels and the volume and page numbers in which the reviews were published. Subscribers can refer to these notations to find the full reviews in the archived issues at www.sbfonline.com.

This year’s book selections cover a wide range of topics, from the advances made in artificial intelligence and what that might mean to our future to shedding the light on the role that cannibalism has played in evolution as well as human history.

On the film side, the selections cover everything from a fascinating look at a female scientist’s work in studying the human brain to efforts to combat climate change.

With such a large selection, you’ll be sure to find resources to fit your needs and interests.
BEST BOOKS

3-D Engineering: Design and Build Your Own Prototypes, by May, Vicki V. (Illus. by Andrew Christensen; from the Build It Yourself Series.) EI, EA No. 5301, p. 506.


Amazon Adventure: How Tiny Fish are Saving the World’s Largest Rainforest, by Montgomery, Sy. (Photographs by Keith Ellenbogen.) EI, EA, JH No. 5307, p. 268.


Being a Dog: Following the Dog into a World of Smell, by Horowitz, Alexandra. YA, GA No. 5311, p. 424.


A Brief Illustrated History of Life on Earth, by Parker, Steve. (Illus. by David West; from the Fact Finders Series.) EI, EA No. 5305, p. 185.

A Brief Illustrated History of Science, by Malam, John. (Illus. by David West; from the Fact Finders Series.) EI, EA No. 5305, p. 184.

A Brief Illustrated History of Space Exploration, by Snedden, Robert. (Illus. by David West; from the Fact Finders Series.) EI, EA No. 5305, p. 188.

Bringing STEM to the Elementary Classroom, by Froschauer, Linda. (Illus.) T No. 5302, p. 62.

Burn Math Class: And Reinvent Mathematics for Yourself, by Wilkes, Jason. T, GA No. 5304, p. 149.


Caesar's Last Breath: Decoding the Secrets of the Air Around Us, by Kean, Sam. YA, C, T, GA No. 5309, p. 341.


A Dog in the Cave: The Wolves Who Made Us Human, by Frydenborg, Kay. (Illus.) JH, YA, GA No. 5307, p. 264.

The Dragon Behind the Glass: A True Story of Power, Obsession, and the World’s Most Coveted Fish, by Voigt, Emily. JH, YA, GA No. 5310, p. 382.

Drawing Physics: 2,600 Years of Discovery from Thales to Higgs, by Lemons, Don S. (Illus.) JH, YA, GA No. 5305, p. 181.


The End of Memory: A Natural History of Aging and Alzheimer’s, by Ingram, Jay. GA No. 5301, p. 495.

The Enigma of the Owl: An Illustrated Natural History, by Unwin, Mike, and David Tipling. YA, GA No. 5308, p. 306.


Gravity’s Kiss: The Detection of


How to Tame a Fox (and Build a Dog): Visionary Scientists and a Siberian Tale of Jump-Started Evolution, by Dugatkin, Lee Alan, and Lyudmila Trut. YA, C, T, GA No. 5310, p. 385.


Isaac the Alchemist: Secrets of Isaac Newton Reveal’d, by Losure, Mary. (Illus.) JH, YA, GA No. 5309, p. 343.


Let’s Eat! Sustainable Food for a Hungry Planet, by Veness, Kimberley. (Illus.) EI, EA No. 5307, p. 270.


Listening to a Continent Sing: Birdsong by Bicycle from the Atlantic to the Pacific, by Kroodsma, Donald. JH, YA, C, T, GA No. 5303, p. 113.


Measuring What We Do in Schools: How to Know If What We are Doing is Making a Difference, by Bernhardt, Victoria L. T No. 5308, p. 298.


Mission to Pluto: The First Visit to an Ice Dwarf and the Kuiper Belt, by Carson, Mary Kay. (Photographs by Tom Uhlman.)
EA, JH, YA, GA No. 5307, p. 269.


Never Out of Season: How Having the Food We Want When We Want It Threatens Our Food Supply and Future, by Dunn, Rob. YA, C, T, GA No. 5310, p. 385.


Older Than Dirt: A Wild but True History of Earth, by Brown, Don, and Dr. Mike Perfit. (Illus.) EA, JH, YA, T, GA No. 5311, p. 423.


The Origins of Everything in 100 Pages (More or Less), by Bercovici, David. YA, C, T, GA No. 5307, p. 263.


Protecting the Planet: Environmental Champions from Conservation to Climate Change, by Titlow, Budd, and Mariah Tinger. YA, C, GA No. 5304, p. 149.


**SB&F’S 2017 BEST LISTS**

Roadside Geology of Northern and Central California 2nd ed., by Alt, David, and Donald W. Hyndman. (Photographs by Katherine J. Baylor.) **C, T, GA** No. 5302, p. 63.


Saving Science Class: Why We Need Hands-on Science to Engage Kids, Inspire Curiosity, and Improve Education, by McGowan, Chris. **T** No. 5306, p. 222.


Sea Otter Heroes: The Predators that Saved an Ecosystem, by Newman, Patricia. (Illus.) **YA, GA** No. 5306, p. 228.

The Search for Olinguito: Discovering a New Species, by Markle, Sandra. **EA, JA** No. 5308, p. 305.


Snowball in a Blizzard: A Physician’s Notes on Uncertainty in Medicine, by Hatch, Steven. **C, T, GA** No. 5301, p. 495.


To Burp or Not to Burp: A Guide to Your Body in Space, by Williams, Dr. Dave, and Loredana Cunti. (Illus. by Theo Krynauw; from the Dr. Dave - Astronaut Series.) **EI, EA, JH, T** No. 5311, p. 432.


We Have No Idea: A Guide to the Unknown Universe, by Cham, Jorge, and Daniel Whiteson. **C, GA** No. 5309, p. 336.

Welcome to New Zealand: A Nature Journal, by Morris, Sandra. (Illus.) **JH, YA, GA** No. 5303, p. 117.

SB&F’S 2017 BEST LISTS

**BEST FILMS**


*Another Way of Living: The Story of Reston, VA.*  GA No. 5302, p. 74.

*Bluespace,* by Cheney, Ian.  YA, C, T, GA No. 5302, p. 76.

*Bob and the Monster.*  YA, C, T, GA No. 5302, p. 76.

*Cultivating Kids,* by Dworkin, Mark.  EA, JH, YA, T, GA No. 5307, p. 276.


*Divest!: The Climate Movement on Tour.*  YA, T, GA No. 5301, p. 508.

*East of Salinas.*  GA C, T No.


*Incarcerating US.*  C, T, GA No. 5303, p. 123.


*La Laguna.*  EA, JH No. 5302, p. 75.


*One Way Astronaut: Dying 33 Million Miles from Home,* by Dieho, Kai.  JH, YA, C, T, GA No. 5310, p. 396.

*The Return.*  C, T, GA No. 5304, p. 156.


*Stolen Education.*  C, T, GA No. 5301, p. 509.

*A Will for the Woods.*  GA No. 5302, p. 76.