



The Way the Universe Works

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~~Not a Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

4

An admirable sibling of **The Way Science Works** (reviewed BfK No. 138), this large format book works outwards from the Solar System, with details of each planet, to the stars, the galaxies and the Universe as a whole. It gives the evolution of planetary, stellar and galactic structure, often neglected, due attention. Like its sibling, there are good illustrations, a glossary and simple experiments for 10+ readers. There is a useful 'Timeline' presentation of history of astronomy. The text is clear, accurate, thorough and up-to-date. Minor cavils: the mechanics of 'wall of death' riding is ill-explained and the analogy with planets inappropriate; the difference between the Earth's period of rotation and the length of the day is inadequately related to its motion round the Sun; the difficulty of the Foucault pendulum experiment, which demonstrates the Earth's rotation, is severely understated.

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