

Why Science?

James S. Trefil

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With conviction and clarity, prize-winning scientist and bestselling author James Trefil explains why everyone needs to be scientifically literate. As Trefil sees it, citizens simply cannot participate fully in the democratic process if they don't understand fundamental scientific concepts. And he describes exactly what these principles are, from understanding natural selection to grasping Maxwell's Equations governing electricity and magnetism; from recognizing that the surface of the earth is constantly in flux to grasping the basic concepts of physics and chemistry. With an appreciation of our national state of ignorance on scientific matters, he not only explains these concepts but also shows why they are worth knowing.

Trefil surpasses almost all other scientists writing about science for the public. The New York Times

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Why Science? should be required reading for all middle school and high school science teachers, superintendents, school board members, college faculty, deans, provosts, college presidents, and legislators at all levels.

Jon Miller, Director, International Center for the Advancement of Scientific Literacy, Michigan State University

James Trefil has an unmatched ability to go directly to the heart of the matter with humor, plain language, and telling examples. Want to be scientifically literate without pain? Read Trefil!

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