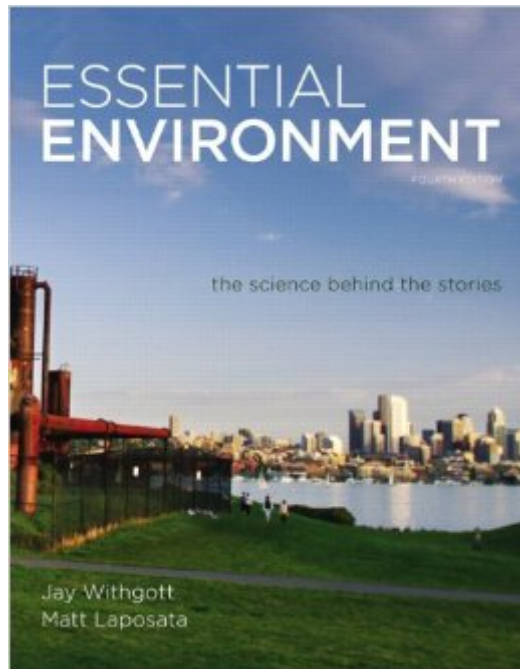


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Essential Environment: The Science Behind The Stories (4th Edition)



Synopsis

Essential Environment: The Science behind the Stories, Fourth Edition engages students with integrated central case studies that provide students with a tangible framework for understanding science in a brief 18-chapter book. Jay Withgott and new co-author Matt Laposata present the latest coverage of environmental science and introduce new FAQ sections to address common student misconceptions. Note: This is the standalone book if you want the book/access card order the ISBN below: 0321752546 / 9780321752543 Essential Environment: The Science behind the Stories Plus MasteringEnvironmentalScience with eText -- Access Card Package Package consists of:

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (77 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #16,900 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Environmental Studies #41 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Environmental Science #89 in Books > Science & Math > Environment

Customer Reviews

Read this book for an Environment Science class, the book had some good information in it but it seemed that even after they would explain how evolution, normal changes to the way the environment works, how some human interaction has different affects on things in a scientific way, then at the end they would tack on some extra few paragraphs about how no none of that science had anything to do with it, but instead "Climate Change" was the cause of everything. It always felt like they released an updated version just to add climate change to every chapter because someone told them they had to add the popular belief no questions or going back to look at the research and science shown in the book.

Required reading for my Environmental Issues Class, the chapters are informative and well written, I

kind of wish they would keep segments blocked together instead of spreading two different segments across the same two or three pages. Makes it a little clunky to follow but other than that not a bad book.

Good book packed full of tons of information that will make you want to read texts on chemistry, microbiology, geology, atmospheric science and countless other subjects. There are some things I didn't like though: 1. The book appears to be funded by the Living Planet report, a highly UNscientific paper that was publicized by WWF, Nat Geo & other decent groups, but also involves many banks, corporations, NGOs... Well, it's good to call attention to the environment, but the math involved in that report is garbage, and it's been overused ad nauseum. 2. When going over "controversial" subjects such as GMOs & nuclear power, the book caters to public paranoia by repeatedly stating things that "might" go wrong. Though the book does say GMOs are clearly safe, it also seems to justify the irrational anti-GMO sentiments that seem to have a grip on the USA. On the other hand, when mentioning "Organic", the bias is reversed: Organic industry is presented favorably, with little or no question about the methods (which use pesticides, manure etc).

I bought it for an Environmental Science class I took in college. Good book, interesting stories. Worked well for the class. Did not come with the access codes to Mastering. I dropped 80 just on the book and another 60 for the codes on the Mastering website, so you can do the math on that one. It is a paper back so if you lug it all over the place it will get beat up pretty fast. I had to keep mine in the box it was shipped in because my stupid cat likes to punch holes in the pages.

If it were not for the fact that the book tends to focus more on problems with the environment than solutions (which is understandable, the Earth seems to have more problems than solutions), this would be the kind of book I would give to an alien interested in visiting the planet Earth or person ready to enter the world after being born in solitary confinement.. This book likes to start chapters off with real world examples of problems such as invasive species, which means that none of these facts or stories are based off of hypothetical examples (like one's you'd find in a math book or a physics book), This is a super subjective comment, but I'll leave it in anyway. I personally cannot get over the fact that in chapter 2 the book sneaks in a basic physics and chemistry lesson. This includes bolding terms like isotopes, ion and kinetic energy. But hey those topics may seem like Jr. High stuff to me, but maybe an alien could find some use in learning about our perception of chemistry and physics.

This text book was informative enough. It could have been written in a more structured manner. I found the chapters to be less informative than some of my other text books. It should have been more detailed. The index and glossary were not as informative as they should have been. At times, it was difficult to match up the page referral to the actual item or subject I was looking for. This book combined with my notes and research online led to my "A" - and that's what counts. Book is just okay. If you need it, rent it like I did. It's not a book I would keep to refer back to.

Unfortunately this was a required text for a graduate course. If a graduate student with a biology, environmental science, natural resource etc... background finds this text useful he/she missed something critical long before entering a graduate level program. Maybe as an undergraduate text it is okay but even then I would have found this text to be sub-par. I wish I had solid reasons for the sad rating, I just found the book boring with nothing to hold my interest while reading.

I ordered Essential Environment textbook for my Environmental Science class. It clearly explains and displays information; is exactly what I needed and arrived on time!! No complaints! Would recommend :)

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