

The Body Atlas

Mark Crocker

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Children are fascinated with their bodies and how they work. *The Body Atlas*, a unique introduction to human anatomy and all of our bodily systems, brilliantly illustrated in full color, is meant for them. Taking a novel approach that young readers will find immensely appealing, *The Body Atlas* explains the body in a series of vivid metaphors--the whole body as a country with a government, army, police force, communications network, transportation system, power industry, and pollution control; cells as tiny walled villages specializing in different industries--while conveying all the basic facts and concepts in text, body maps, and unusually detailed drawings. The book opens with a general survey of the muscles, skeleton, and vital organs, and then offers full accounts of body "machinery," including the digestive, respiratory, immune, and nervous systems. Additional maps focus on the heart, the brain, and other complex organs, and special sections cover general points (immunity, replacement parts) or matters of special concern to children (food, diseases and medicines). Extensive background information on the heroes, mysteries, and oddities of medical history and a fascinating set of "body facts" give young readers further help in grasping anatomical information and putting it in human context.

Completely up to date, *The Body Atlas* incorporates the latest medical discoveries and offers sensitive accounts of issues and problems in modern medicine, including transplants, genetic experimentation, and AIDS. It offers children both a comprehensive reference and a spur to imaginative thinking on a subject that is, quite literally, near and dear to their hearts.



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