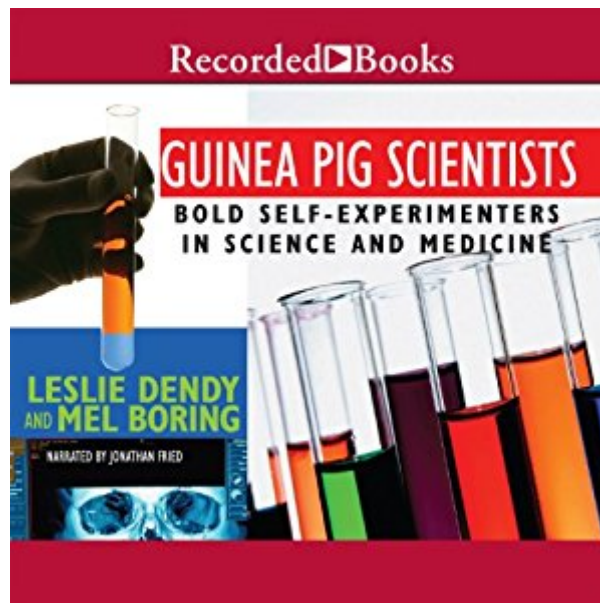




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Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters In Science And Medicine



Synopsis

It's one thing for scientists to use animals for their experiments. But it's another thing entirely for them to use humans to test out a new vaccine or medical treatment - especially when the scientists are the subjects of their own experiments! Guinea Pig Scientists features brief but informative biographies of men and women who have changed the world by using their own bodies to test their scientific theories. From swallowing wooden tubes to test theories about digestion to letting oneself be bitten by diseased mosquitoes, these brave scientists have let nothing stand between their thirst for knowledge and their dedication to doing whatever is necessary to break new ground. Coauthors Leslie Dendy and Mel Boring spent more than 10 years researching the lives of the men and women featured in this fascinating work. Jonathan Fried delivers a sterling narration that perfectly conveys the inspirational and informative stories of these pioneering souls.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This well designed book is aimed at junior high/high school readers, but is really good for anyone interested in science and scientists. It treats, with copious quotations and illustrations, the many scientists that used themselves as test subjects, injecting themselves with diseases, using themselves as crash test dummies, breathing and handling all kinds of dangerous substances, sometimes with fatal consequences. We all benefit from their courage (and foolhardiness?) in the interest of science. Interesting, and well told. Very positive.

Guinea Pig Scientists contains nine chapters, each on a different scientist who made a difference by

placing themselves in harm's way to varying degrees. The book is hardly in depth, but it covers the most important aspects of each scientist's methods and what was learned from them. This would be a great book to use to get adolescents interested in scientific inquiry. It is an engaging read, and the gross-out factor will bring in even reluctant readers. Be warned: not all of the scientists survive their experiments.

Needed for a college class. As described

Guinea Pig Scientists is a wonderful introduction for putting a face and an exciting story behind a particular science. I expect many children (and adults) to go read further about different topics or the scientists because their appetites have finally been whetted.

GUINEA PIG SCIENTISTS by Leslie Dendy and Mel Boring share with readers ten true stories of men and women who have been so dedicated to scientific research that they have experimented on themselves. These include George Fordyce, Lazzaro Spallanzani, William Morton, Horace Wells, Daniel Carrion, Jesse Lazear, Marie and Pierre Curie, John Scott and Jack Haldane, Werner Forssmann, John Paul Stapp, and Stefania Follini. Each chapter includes several illustrations (sketches, and/or photographs which are all captioned), several sidebars filled with additional information, and concludes with a "Now We Know" section which brings the research up to date. (The book is arranged chronologically). Also included is "History's Timetable" which lists (starting in the 1500s) key scientists and discoveries up to the present day. Hoping to encourage further study, they have included other guinea pig scientists in italicized font throughout the timetable. GUINEA PIG SCIENTISTS is well-documented. They list bibliographical references for each chapter in addition to providing bibliographical notes for each quotation. It is also indexed. GUINEA PIG SCIENTISTS is a fascinating book. With chapter titles like "Swallowing Bags, Bones, and Tubes" "The Sad Story of Laughing Gas" and "The Night of the Deadly Blue Glow" it's sure to appeal to a wide variety of readers.

Self-experimenters in science and medicine often fostered discoveries and advancements which hastened the invention of much-needed cures, yet are seldom discussed: that's why middle school students will find Guinea Pig Scientists so important. C.B. Mordan provides black and white illustrations to this gathering of biographies and discoveries which charts bold experiments which helped change the world - and risked the lives of scientists.

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We all know that inventions must be tested. We hear a lot about testing of product and drugs on animals. But did you know that some humans were and still are willing to be the "guinea pigs". This book is a biography of nine scientist how did just that!

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