



Rocket Science for Babies

Chris Ferrie

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Rocket Science for Babies by Chris Ferrie is an introduction to aerospace engineering (also known as rocket science). Baby will learn the principles of lift and thrust, the forces responsible for flight. This is the first in a series of books designed to stimulate your baby and introduce them to the world of science.

Rocket Science for Babies Details

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Author : Chris Ferrie

Format : Board Book 24 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Science, Nonfiction

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Iwaswondering says

Amazing book! This is going to become my “most gifted” book set.

The Science for Babies series is brilliantly done. In this book, the author manages to break down the basic concepts of Rockets and Thrust into a few easily digestible nuggets.

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Nick says

Our library purchased this series of books, thinking that they might be good beginning science books. They could have been, had the creators done a little more homework on their intended audience, and how to create a book FOR that audience. The actual books are interesting, but a weird mix of material for older kids with a format aimed at younger ones, and with things left out or stated in misleading ways. This one, however, was so annoying that I felt I had to review it, as a warning.

The first half of this book is actually a good explanation of the principles of flight in an atmosphere, and how a wing actually works to help provide lift. Then, the explanation crashes and burns.

The principles of flight are followed by:

"But how do we make the wing move forward? We put it on a rocket ship!"

This is followed by a brief explanation of how a rocket works, and illustrations of said rocket flying to the moon. Um, what? No transition, no explanation of aircraft, just that abrupt jump. After a few pages, it concludes with:

"With lift and thrust, we can go to the moon!"

No, really, it actually says that. Now, it's been a while since I took any physics courses, but I do seem to recall that wings only provide lift IN AN ATMOSPHERE, and most of the trip to the moon is through a vacuum. In addition, a rocket exiting the Earth's atmosphere doesn't really rely on "wings" of a rocket ship for lift. Those little fins help to stabilize the path of flight, but they're not wings.

So, why is half of the book about the lifting force of wings? And why the abrupt jump to something that isn't really dependent on that?

My problem with this book, and with this series, is that they're like that. Bits of real information for kids mixed with gaping holes or misinformation. The volume on Quantum Computing is cute, but leaves out so much that it will take an entire other book to answer the questions it leaves behind. The volume on Newtonian Physics explains one of Newton's laws of physics, shows a cartoon of Newton being hit by an apple, and thinks that means the reader will understand the other two of Newton's laws of physics...and don't

get me started on the Evolution volume, which has to explain the concept of generations without explaining having babies...

Kids who are old enough to have the vocabulary, or the understanding of some of the more complex concepts, will be put off by the format. Kids who are picking up board books, which is the format of this series, will not come in with an understanding of an unstable nucleus or the nature of organic molecules, or the terms being used to describe them.

There are some wonderful illustrations in these books, and I'm sure that some combinations of parents and children can turn them into useful tools, but on their own, they're a disappointment.

Joanne Roberts says

I love this crazy idea. I don't know if it's truly a useful idea, but it was interesting and kid-friendly. This book in the series incorporates shapes, lift, air flow and propulsion. I think it would have been stronger if the book stuck to aeronautics instead of trying to add rockets. The art is colorful and simple.

? Pixie says

Am now rocket surgeon?

Thorny says

These are great board books for babies or small children. I'm not sure I approve of their final pages announcing that, simple concepts having been encountered within them, "you are now a rocket scientist". Parents shouldn't fall for the conceit that these books will make their children geniuses, but introducing little ones to science seems to me never a bad thing.

Amy! says

Adorable and at about my level of comprehension for rocket science!

Emily says

Maybe if my parent's would have read me "Rocket Science for Babies" I'd have done better in science class. Even I understood it!

Sarah says

I picked up these picture book ARCs (Rocket science for babies, General relativity for babies, and

Newtonian physics for babies) for my expected nephew while at Digipalooza. The illustrations are very simple with tons of white space, and very short, bold sentences, one per page. The design is very good. I like that these might help parents think about using more science terminology with young children. Why is the sky blue? Physics.

Jen says

Maybe not QUITE for babies, but definitely my level, lol. I don't know how well it would work for young children, but kids grasp things better than adults know and with repetition, there can be that "aha" moment when it all clicks together. I mean, how many times did Newton see stuff fall to the ground before he made his discovery? This with other science-y books wouldn't hurt I think. 3.5 stars, rounded up to 4, because bully for not treating children like idiots!

GooseberryCompote says

I now understand lift, thrust and air flow. Sorta.

Maria Shuffit says

I absolutely love this series and I think this one might be my favorite - it did a really great job of relating the concepts to things that kids can relate to, like showing how a ball moves vs. how an airplane wing moves. Very cool!

Yasi says

I'm pretty much in love with these books because they try to explain very convoluted subjects in layman's terms. The title says "for babies" but I think this is great for most adults!

Allie says

I just bought copies of this book for my niece and nephew for Christmas! Shhhh, don't tell! :)

It's cute, with simple drawings and easy explanations for lift and thrust, and since my husband basically *is* a rocket scientist, hopefully our sisters won't hate us for starting 'em off young.

Gregg Smith says

The only thing preventing me from rating this higher is that it should really be called "Aerodynamics for

Babies"

But it's a quick read and keeps a (nearly) 2 year old with the attention span of a pigeon entertained.
