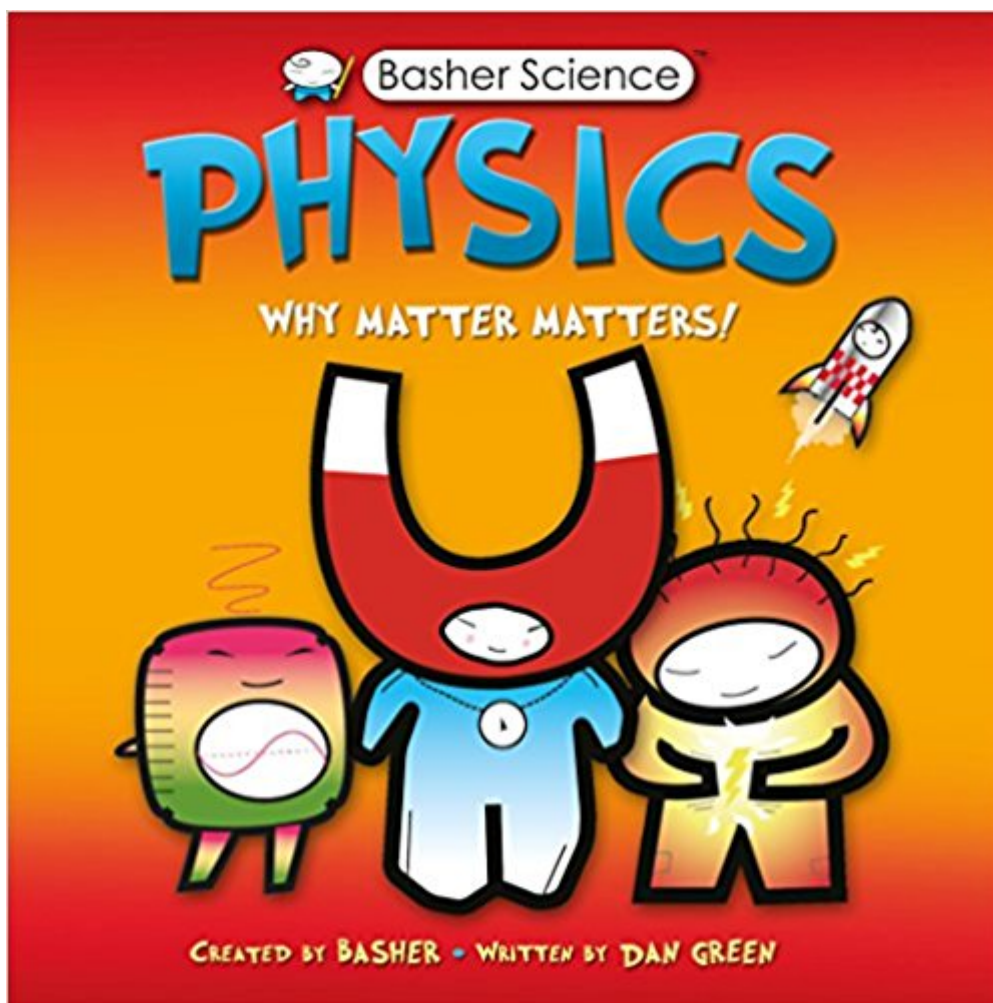




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# Physics: Why Matter Matters!



## Synopsis

Basher Science: Physics, Why Matter Matters! created and illustrated by Simon Basher, Written by Dan Green: Imagine physics as a community full of wacky characters--the building blocks of the universe each with a unique personality. This book throws open the doors and welcomes you into their amazing world. From gravity to the theory of relativity, this unique book provides visual interpretations of complex concepts, designed to make learning physics easier and a whole lot more fun!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1040L (What's this?)

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Kingfisher; 17990th edition (April 29, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0753462141

ISBN-13: 978-0753462140

Product Dimensions: 7 x 10.2 x 178.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 69 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #12,487 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Physics](#) #131 in [Books > Science & Math > Physics](#) #227 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4-9 • This follow-up to Adrian Dingle's *The Periodic Table* (Kingfisher, 2007) introduces the elements of physics as anthropomorphic, cartoon-style characters. "You could say that these forceful fellows are the ones that really matter." They are grouped by associations: "Old School" (mass, weight, density, etc.), "Hot Stuff" (energy, entropy, etc.), "Wave Gang" (sound, frequency, etc.), "Light Crew" (radio wave, microwave, etc.), "Atom Family" (proton, electron, etc.), "Nuclear Heavies" (radioactivity, alpha particle, etc.), and "Electric Cuties" (static electricity, electric current, etc.). Each of the groupings begins with an introduction and each concept is given its own spread that shows the cartoon figure and describes its "personality." The information is presented in a chatty and conversational tone. For example, Blackbody Radiation is described as "a ninjalike

shadow who swallows and slays the Light Crew." Along with the narrative, which is written in the first person from the concept's point of view, other key facts are presented. This book would be handy as a supplement to a physics curriculum. — Maren Ostergard, King County Library System, Issaquah, WA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Dan Green studied Natural Sciences at Cambridge University. Since graduating, he has written and edited many popular science titles and humorous books, become the editor of a South American national newspaper, worked as a travel writer, as well as developing and editing the wildly successful Horrible Science magazine collection. He is the "voice" of Basher's bestselling science-made-easy books, and to date has written nine titles in the series. Simon Basher is a well-known illustrator who enjoys playing in the world of contemporary character design. Inspired by a love of simple line work and a rich color palette, his characters fill the gap between edgy manga and the cuteness of Hello Kitty.

A fave of my child. My child carries this everywhere even during their school's 3-day out of town field trip. I find it a bit unusual for a child to do that as, usually you would see them prefer fairy tale storybooks or books about fables... But this one, I get feedbacks like, "it's so much fun, I love the drawings/pictures and it's easy to understand".

Amazing. Fantastic. My 6 and 8 year old love this book. I bought it because my sister (their aunt) has a Ph.D in physics and I wanted a kids book that explained some of the concept of what she does. What surprised me is the elegance and creativity of the illustrations and the writing. It is not something you see often in kids books. I found the words stayed with me and the kids. The kids would refer to the "friends" and could tell me about the different concepts days later. Definitely get it if you have kids curious about the world and you want to give them broad awareness of how the universe works.

I bought several of the Basher series of books based on other reviews and have not been disappointed. My 3 1/2 year old son wanted us to read him the books as soon as he saw the covers - so that definitely grabbed his attention. He has asked for them to be read repeatedly so it's not just a first sight curiosity. I don't expect him to really understand most of the concepts but it's good to introduce just the words and ideas into his head and he enjoys it. These books aren't meant to be

detailed explanations but are high level concept overviews and it does a good job at that.

I can imagine a whole lot of better ways they could have written a book on Physics for toddlers or small children. The drawings are not especially cute or appealing, there are no stories to catch the imagination, no character interaction or dialog, nothing that would get a small child interested in the subject. Each page is just a disparate explanation of some single phenomenon or particle, with no connection to any other page in the book. The explanations are in the first person, as if the particles or phenomena were characters explaining themselves to the child. Some of them are a little cute or fun. Overall though they seem to me to lack much imagination or charm. And some of the explanations are just a bit dubious. I'll try reading this to our little girl as she grows older, but I'm not too confident this will inspire any love of physics in her.

A bit in depth for a 7 year old....but with careful explanation it is certainly an informative book!

Not nearly as kid friendly as advertised. Even I found writing patronizing and quite confusing. Okay, it's physics, but jeepers.

Definitely recommend this book

My son is almost 10 and in the 4th grade. He recently got Simon Basher's "The Periodic Table" from a school book order and he was sold on these books! He loves the illustrations and they seem to help him be able to conceptualize these topics. Immediately he wanted all of the books and since they are so fun as well as educational I just couldn't say no! I definitely recommend any of Simon Basher's books for kids.

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