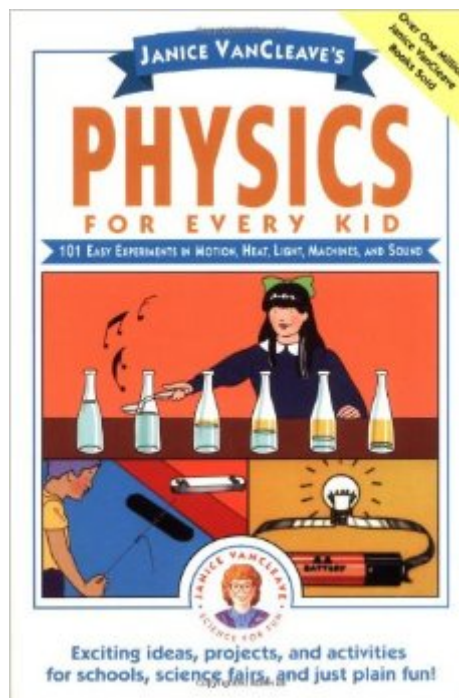


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# Janice VanCleave's Physics For Every Kid: 101 Easy Experiments In Motion, Heat, Light, Machines, And Sound (Science For Every Kid Series)



## Synopsis

How do magnets work? What makes a curve ball curve? What keeps an airplane in the air? How can a pulley make you five times stronger? Now you can learn the answers to these and other questions about basic physics through 101 fun, safe, low-cost experiments and activities that can be performed at home or in the classroom. In *Physics for Every Kid*, you'll learn about gravity from funnels that seem to defy nature by rolling up hill. Using a balloon as a power source, you'll make a fluorescent light bulb glow and learn how electrons are used to produce light. And you'll levitate a Ping-Pong ball to understand aerodynamics. Each of the 101 experiments is broken down into its purpose, a list of materials, step-by-step instructions, expected results, and an easy to understand explanation. Every activity has been pretested and can be performed safely and inexpensively in the classroom or at home. Also available in this series from Janice VanCleave: *Astronomy for Every Kid* *Biology for Every Kid* *Chemistry for Every Kid* *Dinosaurs for Every Kid* *Earth Science for Every Kid* *Geography for Every Kid* *Geometry for Every Kid* *The Human Body for Every Kid* *Math for Every Kid*

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## Customer Reviews

I would highly recommend Janice VanCleave's *Physics For Every Kid*. I am a 6th & 7th grade science teacher and have used activities from this book numerous times. There are so many tough

concepts in physics and sometimes all it takes is a simple activity that the kids can see. The way I use the activities in this book, along with the others in this series, are to set them up as stations and have the kids rotate through them. It's an easy way to create hands-on learning and the kids LOVE it! This book is divided up into these categories: electricity, magnets, buoyancy, gravity, balance, flight, simple machines, inertia, motion, light, heat, and sound. I think the activities in this book are intended for grades 4-6, but could be adapted for younger or older kids. You won't be disappointed!

I have done all of these experiments. They work. This book provides some experiments based on things kids do at play. Physics is arguably the oldest of the scientific disciplines aimed at predicting the outcome of everyday actions. Are some of the experiments in this book almost trivial? Yes. That is the idea. You learn that even some of the most mundane outcomes have surprisingly complex explanations. I'm sure Ms. VanCleave, a teacher, expects the reader to include historical context or other filler. As Cat Stevens' father character in *Father and Son* advises, "Take your time. Think a lot." If you find the experiment so trivial that it takes only seconds to understand, then you have likely not understood it at all and entirely missed the point of the experiment. Humans have struggled with these concepts for centuries. Give them the respect they deserve. I have demonstrated many of these experiments for kids in K-12 over 6 years in an outreach program as a physics student. I watched intuition fail almost every teacher and student time and time again. My review is 4 stars because I do believe some of the experiments are not engaging enough.

My second grader came home on day and declared he wanted to learn physics in second grade. I was determined to find some simple and easy ideas to teach him about physics. He is enjoying this book and we are gradually buying the little odds and ends to do all the experiments in this book. It is really fun to watch him and have him pepper me with questions. He is having a ball and so am I!

I use the labs in this book by altering them from cookbook labs to exploratory labs. I remove all of the explanations and some of the procedures. The students are provided with the materials and then tasked to develop and explain. it is a great way to address misconceptions and the students love doing them. I have used this book in high school physics and middle school science.

my grandson (10) loves the experiments as he expands his horizons learning the physical machinations. i wish i'd had one when i was a kid. i hope the book inspires him to pursue physics and the sciences. who knows, maybe one day he'll become a physicist like albert einstein!

This book is just right for introducing physics concepts to children in the 8-12yrs. age range. My students prefer learning the concepts by "doing" rather than by just reading about them in a science text.

This book is a great introduction to science for children. It takes boring school work and turns it into playtime at home. Any parent concerned about bringing science to their child before they get turned off at school will benefit.

I was very disappointed by the lack of information. The experiments (this book is entirely experiments - which I disliked) take a long time to set up. Even if they work (which they often don't), they will often only demonstrate a simple concept that could be explained in one paragraph. A complete waste of money. I would recommend "Physics the easy way" by Robert L. Lehrman (Barron's Educational Series, Inc.) over this book any day.

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