
This book was prepared for use of pupils in the schools of Manchester, England, by two competent men, one a Chief Inspector of Schools, the other a Head of Science Department in a Training College.  Guided by some principles which were formulated by a committee of teachers whose concern is with the ordinary pupils (not the very bright or very stupid pupils), the effort is directed to relate content and methods of teaching science to the interests and abilities of those being taught.

Believing that learning follows interest, and that the primary function of education is that of fostering interest, the lessons were made attractive and useful.  Subjects taught include the following: air, burning and respiration, living things, physiology, water, heat, electricity, sound, sight, stars and space, force and movement, balance and stability, machines and engines, soil and reproduction.

Emphasis is placed on the skill of teachers in using tools and materials of everyday life, rather than special items, to illustrate points of discussion.  To assist teachers in this phase of their work, the text is illustrated with a total of 535 line drawings, and there is a list of apparatus and materials used in the experiments in an appendix.  There has been great ingenuity shown in the selection of subject matter and in presentation of the lengthy series of experiments.  Undoubtedly the ordinary pupil can be given considerable interest in doing the things suggested and in so doing will learn many facts about the things he will see and do throughout life.  Perhaps this is an exposure to the methods of science and to some facts pertaining to various fields of science.  It should make better citizens but it will not make many scientists.

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