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Do Polar Bears Get Lonely?: And Answers to 100 Other Weird and Wacky Questions About How the World Works

By New Scientist



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Amazing and intriguing questions and answers from the team behind the international phenomenon *Why Don't Penguins' Feet Freeze?*

The popular-science magazine behind the runaway international bestsellers *Why Don't Penguins' Feet Freeze?* and *Does Anything Eat Wasps?* takes on another irresistible batch of the strange, silly, and mind-boggling questions that plague curious minds the world over:

- Can pigeons sweat, can fish get thirsty, and can insects get fat? - Could a person commit the perfect murder by killing someone the day after receiving a full blood transfusion? - Is there a way to beat the odds of the lottery by using math? - How much mucus does a nose produce during the average cold? - If forced to eat parts of yourself to survive, which non-vital organs would be the most nutritious? Culled from *New Scientist's* popular "The Last Word" column and edited by Mick O'Hare, the author of *How to Fossilize Your Hamster*, *Do Polar Bears Get Lonely?* is guaranteed to amuse and amaze as much as it informs.

(And if a polar bear appears to be lonely, it probably means there wasn't enough walrus for dinner.)



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Adult/High School—This compilation of questions and answers taken from the "Last Word" column of *New Scientist* magazine includes many that may seem lightweight, ridiculous, or downright gross, but the answers are always dealt with in well-reasoned scientific terms, sometimes with a twist of humor. Answers often come from subscribers, the majority of whom are associated with respected institutions such as the American Institute of Physics, University of Glasgow, University of Sussex, University of Sydney, and Trinity College (Cambridge). A United Kingdom perspective is evident, particularly in the abundance of pub-related questions. Some of the questions seem to spring from a childlike curiosity: Do elephants sneeze? What causes "pins and needles" in arms and legs? Other questions are just gross and disgusting: What is the volume of snot produced during an average cold? Why is poop from breast-fed babies less odorous than that of bottle-fed infants? And then there are the downright silly questions that come from people with too much time on their hands: How long would it take an average cow to fill the Grand Canyon with milk? The random nature of the questions makes the book more of an amusing entertainment than a source for research assignments. However, it will have great appeal to adolescent boys, science geeks, trivia buffs, and reluctant readers. And finally, we have an answer as to whether it is more fuel efficient to drive with the windows down or with the air-conditioning on.—*Paula Dacker, Charter Oak High School, CA*

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Review

"Mad science is back. Only here, it's less evil and not just for kids. Eighty simple and charming experiments meant to be conducted in the comfort of one's own home illustrate scientific principles in action." ?*Science News on How to Fossilize Your Hamster*

"Forget graduate school. *New Scientist*... outlines how you can eat and drink your way to scientific discovery.... It's a funny and very adult twist on the classic baking-soda volcano projects of our childhood." ?*Wired Magazine on How to Fossilize Your Hamster*

"If you have ever wondered why hair turns grey, fingers get crinkled in the bath or if the Great Wall of China really is visible from space, Mick O'Hare has the answers." ?*CNN on Why Don't Penguin's Feet Freeze?*

"Extraordinary book.... Responsible for putting popular science back on its feet." ?*BBC Radio 5 Live on Why Don't Penguin's Feet Freeze?*

"Hold the answers to all the world's little mysteries." ?*Evening Standard (London) on Why Don't Penguin's Feet Freeze?*

"At last, the mysteries of the world are explained... The book everyone is taking about." ?*Independent on Sunday (London) on Why Don't Penguin's Feet Freeze?*

About the Author

New Scientist is a science magazine for everyone, young and old, amateur and professional. With a worldwide readership of more than half a million, it is among the most popular of all popular-science

magazines.

Mick O' Hare is the production editor of *New Scientist* and the editor of the magazine's previous international bestsellers *Does Anything Eat Wasps?* and *Why Don't Penguins' Feet Freeze?* He lives in London.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Hyacinth Mills:

The book *Do Polar Bears Get Lonely?: And Answers to 100 Other Weird and Wacky Questions About How the World Works* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Why then must we leave a very important thing like a book *Do Polar Bears Get Lonely?: And Answers to 100 Other Weird and Wacky Questions About How the World Works*? Some of you have a different opinion about e-book. But one aim which book can give many information for us. It is absolutely correct. Right now, try to closer along with your book. Knowledge or facts that you take for that, you could give for each other; it is possible to share all of these. Book *Do Polar Bears Get Lonely?: And Answers to 100 Other Weird and Wacky Questions About How the World Works* has simple shape but you know: it has great and big function for you. You can appear the enormous world by open and read a book. So it is very wonderful.

Anna Gann:

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