TEALMOON BOOKS

FREE SAMPLE

10 Big Questions

from Curious Girls Ask Why

Real pages from the full-color encyclopedias for curious girls 6-12





Space • Science • Amazing Women • My Body • Feelings • Nature

Read one page together, or let her read it alone in two minutes.

by Ella M. Brightwood

Hello, Curious Girl!

Inside this free sample you'll find 10 real questions from the two books of the Curious Girls Ask Why series: 5 about space, science and amazing women, and 5 about your body, your feelings and the natural world.

Each page has one big question, a clear answer you can read in about two minutes, a bright illustration and a surprising WOW FACT.

Tip for grown-ups: read the question out loud first and ask her what she thinks. Then read the answer together. Kids remember what they guessed!



Why is the sky blue?

Sunlight looks white, but it's made of all the colors of the rainbow. When sunlight hits the tiny gas particles in our air, blue light gets scattered all over the sky much more than red or yellow light. So when you look up during the day, blue light reaches your eyes from every direction.



WOW FACT! ★

On Mars, sunsets look bluish!

Space & Stars

Why is Mars red?

Mars is covered in dust and rocks that contain iron. Over time, the iron rusted, just like an old bike left in the rain. That rusty dust gives Mars its reddish color. Giant dust storms sometimes cover the whole planet!



WOW FACT! ★

Mars has the tallest known volcano in the solar system, Olympus Mons.

Why do airplanes stay in the air?

An airplane's wings are shaped and tilted so that air flowing over and under them pushes the wing upward. This push is called lift. Powerful engines move the plane forward fast enough to create plenty of lift. Pilots control the plane with movable parts on the wings and tail.



WOW FACT! ★

A big passenger jet can weigh more than 300 tonnes when it takes off.

Why do bubbles float?

A bubble is a thin skin of soapy water filled with air. It weighs very little, so gentle breezes carry it. Warm air from your breath is a bit lighter than the cooler air around it, which can help bubbles rise at first. Bubbles are round because that shape holds the air with the least amount of skin.



WOW FACT! ★

Bubbles show rainbow colors because light reflects off both sides of the thin film.

Why is Marie Curie so famous?

Marie Curie was a scientist who studied radioactivity, a kind of invisible energy given off by some materials. She discovered two new elements, polonium and radium. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the only person ever to win Nobel Prizes in two different sciences: physics and chemistry.



WOW FACT! ★

Her notebooks are still slightly radioactive today!

Why does my heart beat faster when I run?

When you run, your muscles need extra oxygen and energy. Your heart is a pump, so it beats faster to push more blood, carrying oxygen, to your hard-working muscles. When you rest again, your heart slows down. A kid's heart beats about 70 to 110 times a minute at rest, and much faster during a race!



WOW FACT! ★

Your heart is about the size of your fist.

Why do I feel butterflies in my tummy when I'm nervous?

When you are nervous, your brain sends a 'get ready' signal. Your body releases adrenaline, which moves blood away from your stomach to your muscles. That fluttery, tingly feeling is the result! It means your body is preparing you to do something important, like a test or a show.



WOW FACT! ★

Taking slow, deep breaths can calm the butterflies.

Why do cats purr?

Cats purr when they are happy and relaxed, like when you pet them. But they also purr when they are hurt or scared, to calm themselves down. The sound comes from fast twitches of muscles in their voice box. Some scientists think the vibrations may even help cats heal.



WOW FACT! ★

Mother cats purr to guide their kittens, who are born unable to see or hear.

Ocean Wonders

Why do whales sing?

Humpback whales are famous for their songs, which can last many minutes and be repeated for hours. Mostly males sing, possibly to attract partners or communicate with others. Their songs change slowly over time, and whales in the same area sing similar songs, like a hit tune passed around!



WOW FACT! ★

Whale sounds can travel very long distances underwater.

Planet Earth & Weather

Why do rainbows appear?

A rainbow appears when sunlight shines through raindrops. Each drop works like a tiny prism, bending the light and splitting it into colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. To see a rainbow, the Sun must be behind you and the rain in front of you.



WOW FACT! ★

From an airplane, you can sometimes see a rainbow as a full circle.

Did she love it?

There are 190 more questions waiting for her.



Book 1

Space, Science & Amazing Women

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Book 2

My Body, My Feelings & Nature

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