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It's So Amazing!: A Book About Eggs, Sperm, Birth, Babies, And Families (The Family Library)

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Synopsis

"An outstanding book. . . . Meets the needs of those in-between or curious kids who are not ready, developmentally or emotionally, for Itâ ™s Perfectly Normal." â ”Booklist (starred review)How does a baby begin? What makes a baby male or female? How is a baby born? Children have plenty of questions about reproduction and babiesâ ”and about sex and sexuality, too. Itâ ™s So Amazing! provides the answersâ ”with fun, accurate, comic-book-style artwork and a clear, lively text that reflects the interests of children age seven and up in how things work, while giving them a healthy understanding of their bodies. Created by the author and illustrator of Itâ ™s Perfectly Normal, this forthright and funny book has been newly updated for its fifteenth anniversary.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (203 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

First off you need to know this is a large book. It’s huge. The picture does not at all convey how huge this book really is. It’s about two times the size of a normal size book. I really don’t think the description is adequate. I expected this to be a basic story book. It is far more than that. This is a very scientific book. It is a lot like the book "A Child is Born" only geared for kids. By this I don’t mean watered down or talking down to kids. It is perfect. In fact I would venture to say you could actually use this as your primary educational tool when teaching your kids about sex for the first

time. I originally got a book that was advertised as being the best book to read to your kids when telling them about sex. Actually I think this is 1000 times better b/c it has pictures, it tells it graphically but in cartoon style. It is FAR less traumatic for those parents who don't feel comfortable broaching this subject. It is, however, necessary to note there is a lot of information that is friendly to the alternative lifestyles. If you are opposed to this then you will have to either choose another book OR censor it yourself.

I bought this book for several reasons. I'm 23 years old but circumstances found me diving into the world of foster parenting. I needed a book that could help me talk to my foster son about all of the complex issues he had already faced at the young age of seven. I also bought this book because I work with an HIV/STI prevention youth program. I wanted a resource that was young person friendly and that could be used by both young children and teenagers alike. Then I stumbled upon this book here on while looking for parenting books.I will say, this book does a wonderful job of explaining things like sex, sexuality, alternative families, sexual abuse etc. in a way youth can enjoy and understand. It takes an open-minded approach. The only thing I will say is that if you're thoughts tend to be very conservative then you may have a problem with some of the things in this book. However, I feel it takes a candid and loving approach to life, love and sexuality.What makes this book so cool is that you can start by reading certain sections with your younger children that may be applicable to them or their age group. As they get older you can begin reading some of the other sections and eventually leave the book in their room to refer to if needed. Buy it! It's worth the money.

This book is perfect for children to read before entering puberty! Robie Harris explains male and female body parts (inside and out), what changes take place during puberty, how an sperm fertilizes an egg, what sex is, what love is, what happens during pregnancy (including how a baby grows and how one is born), different types of families (gay, straight, adoption, etc), good and bad touches, and even a bit about HIV and AIDS.The author explains everything very honestly without being judgmental, although he leaves room for a parent to explain his or her own values to a child. For example, while explaining masturbation he writes, "Every family has its own thoughts and feelings about masturbation...Some people and religions think it's wrong to masturbate."The book covers a lot of information, but presents it in a fun and simple way. The cartoon illustrations are complete without being terribly graphic, and the small bird and bee throughout the book serve as "tour guides". This book will definitely be on my bookshelf when my daughter starts asking questions.

I’m not afraid to talk to my kids, I’ll answer any question they have as honestly as I can. I purchased this book as a tool to help with the harder things my girls (ages 7 & 10) have been asking (Loudly in the middle of JCPenney... "I read in a book that it takes a seed from both the Mommy & the Daddy to make a baby, how does that happen?" My answer: "Let’s talk about it when we get home!", as customers all around us snicker...) This book definitely will help ease those discussions. However, each topic leads to other topics. I don’t know that I want to visit detailed male anatomy & erections, sex, etc with my 7 yo daughter, but the pages on how a baby grows clearly leaves her asking those questions. Pages on menstruation refer to sex. Pages on sex refer to " alternate lifestyles". So although we can pick & choose which topics to discuss, often those pages lead to many other questions that I’m sure she would not have had yet. All of the content is perfectly acceptable for my 10 yo, based on what she has been asking, and its presented in a way that is comfortable and slightly comical. But for the younger ones that we are trying to answer only specific questions, it either leaves them confused or asking more questions.

The best part about this book is the organization; it’s easy to skip around and address the speifics that your child has questions about. The beginning parts are a perfect introduction to "How babies are made," and acknowledges all the mixed feelings kids might have on the subject. It’s a good book to leave around for your child to "find"; kids have an idea of what they’re ready to deal with. (As a 13-year-old, I picked up my parents’ copy of "The Joy of Sex" and quickly put it away because I wasn’t ready for that!) I like "It’s so Amazing" better than "It’s Perfectly Normal" (acknowledging that you will need a more advanced book for your older children to "discover"); "Normal" is thorough about anything a preteen could possibly want to know; unfortunately, some of the pertinent info you have to discover by accident while reading other sections of the book. Also, "Normal" equates having a crush with "sexual attraction" - I’m not comfortable with that assumption. Note: "Amazing" is not a sufficient resource for your reaching-puberty boy or girl; you should have a boy-or-girl-specific book for that 9-12 age. I’ll be on the lookout for a knockout book for graduates of "It’s So Amazing!" Maybe we need a really advanced teenage book that tells it all about contraception, bodies, and sexual risks in a way a 9th grader can relate to - after that it may be too late!

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