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Let's Make Some Gold!: Science's Biggest Mistakes About Geology And Ecology



Synopsis

Is planet Earth flat? Is California an island? Can you mix other metals to make gold? At one time science supported wild notions like these! But later studies proved these ideas were nonsense. Discover science's biggest mistakes and oddest assumptions about geology and ecology, and see how scientific thought changed over time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Of course no one believes the Earth is flat, but centuries ago they did. Another odd fact that scientists once swore by was that the Earth was hollow. Edmond Halley (1656 - 1742) claimed that Earth's interior contained three shells, one inside of the other, and a lot of empty space. If you believe that, people would probably think you had rocks in your head. A lot of geological and ecological scientific facts no longer cut the mustard and have long been disapproved as simple fallacy. Sorry, Halley! Some scientific mistakes aren't as old as the hills. In fact some of them your parents or grandparents might remember one. It was the 1970s and everyone became alarmed when a scientist wrote that cooling caused by aerosols might bring about a new ice age. Everyone knows that won't happen with global warming and no one is banking on that happening any time soon. Speaking of banking and money, European alchemists in the Middle Ages were always trying to invent the proper gold-making formula. Now that's just another interesting story in this book. Do you live in California? If so, Garci Rodriguez wrote a story that told of an exciting island called California. Yeah, right and tell me another one. If you insist. He claimed that it was peopled only by

women, overrun with wild animals, and guarded by griffins. Now that sounds more like something out of Harry Potter, but everyone seriously believed it. One consolation was that he said the island was "rich with gold." At least he had one thing right. In this book, you'll learn about all kinds of amazing scientific "facts" that just weren't so and will learn what transpired to change the scientific community's minds. This is a fun and funky book about "scientist's biggest mistakes about geology and ecology" kids will love. This book is not just for reluctant readers only because even the budding scientist will enjoy reading about these mistakes. Of course many of these topics could prove to be stepping stones for further research for a school report. There are photographs and many reproductions from book illustrations that liven up the eleven scientific stories in this text. In the back of the book is an index, source notes, and recommended book and website resources to explore. SCIENCE GETS IT WRONG: Let's Make Some Gold! That Bull is Seeing Red! We're the Center of the Universe! Your Head Shape Reveals Your Personality! This book courtesy of the publisher.

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