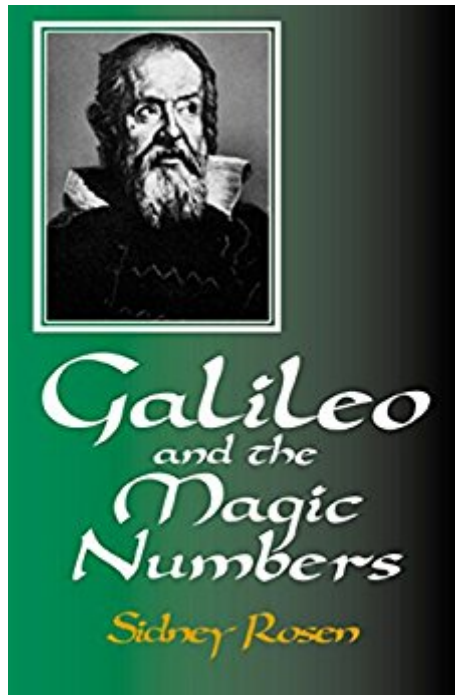




The book was found

Galileo And The Magic Numbers



Synopsis

Sixteenth century Italy produced a genius who marked the world with his studies and hypotheses about mathematical, physical and astronomical truths. His father, musician Vincenzo Galilei said, "Truth is not found behind a man's reputation. Truth appears only when the answers to questions are searched out by a free mind. This is not the easy path in life but it is the most rewarding." Galileo challenged divine law and the physics of Aristotle, and questioned everything in search of truths. And it was through this quest for truth that he was able to establish a structure for modern science.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a very well written book about the life and struggles of Galileo. Great view of scientific thought during his lifetime.

Loved this book

These are great. They work well and don't leak thru, and they stay in place. I only took one star away because they bunch up sometimes and the packaging is a little annoying.

Wonderful, engaging tale of the life and undertakings of a great, scientific mind! :) My one caveat is the implication that scientific truth trumps biblical truth. It leaves the reader believing that the Bible is geocentric/wrong, but I would argue the Bible was not correctly interpreted at the time of Galileo (and is still misinterpreted, oftentimes), leading to this false conclusion.

My favorite character is Galileo my least favorite characters are the teachers at Pisa and the Aristotle believers. My favorite chapter is when the final telescope was perfected and given to the king dude.

Marvelous is a strong word to use for any book. But I found this to be an excellent presentation of Galileo; his struggles, accomplishments, and "marvelous" mind. The brilliance of Galileo's approach to science, and ability to look for scientific truths in spite of the narrow mindedness of his contemporary scholars, made for an amazing body of scientific work produced by a single person. Published by Little, Brown, & Co. in 1958. This publishing house can be relied upon for quality children's literature prior to 1968, when purchased by Time, Inc. Independent read for grades 4/5 - 12, best at grades 6-10 plus, but still a great read for adults interested in Galileo. Wonderful book for reading aloud as well, to grades 3 - 6/7. Would do well as an audio-book if reprinted. Great candidate for reprinting !!

Galileo Galilei was fascinated with Pythagorean squares and triangles when he was a young child. Galileo was an avid musician learning the lute, organ, and viola in his childhood and his teens. He went to the University of Pisa for 2 years until his parents could no longer afford for him to go, so he achieved a free scholarship to go and finish his studies at the university, where he was nicknamed "Wrangler" for asking questions about if anyone had actually proved Aristotle's law of gravity. Galileo made his first invention at the University of Pisa, a thing that he called the Pulsiloga, which could be used to detect sickness. Galileo became a professor in Math at that university, only to get cast out by the Aristotle believers. Galileo moved to Venice, where he became professor of mathematics on a large salary. After he modernized the compass, Galileo became rich enough to own a fairly large house with a cook and servants who he overpaid out of generosity. Galileo

became even more popular when he invented a stronger telescope and wrote three books on the sun and his discoveries about space. Later in life, Galileo was imprisoned for believing the sun was the center of the universe and teaching that it was and was accused by the Pope. He was found guilty of charge and was forced to spend the rest of his life at his friend's house, who offered for him to serve his punishment there. This book is denser reading in parts and can be read by older children and teens. The author included conversations between the Galilei family and their friends to make the book seem less like a timeline. The father and the mother of Galileo had arguments over Galileo's education, Galileo lectured about the position of the Earth going around the sun, and Michelangelo, Galileo's younger brother, promised to repay him multiple times. This book showed how smart Galileo was. His first invention he figured out when he was bored and swinging a pendulum back and forth and deciding to time it using his pulse as a timer. Galileo's teachers even admitted that sometimes he would tell them that they were wrong or that they did their math wrong. Galileo went to Venice and they gave him a salary of three times the amount that he received at the University of Pisa just to hear his opinions on certain things. This book shows the concerns and the little amount known about space around 1600. Galileo was the first person to realize that the moon was not smooth like a marble, that Jupiter and Saturn had moons, and that the sun had spots that disappeared after a while. This book is a great choice for older children and teens who want to learn more about a person who spoke his mind and became a famous scientist. C. Brady

I, for one, thought that this book was an awesome literary accomplishment, and for a historical biography, it was very interesting. What fascinated me the most about Galileo was his excitement for learning new things. As a boy his father, Vincenzo Galilei, often told Galileo to think for himself. He told him that even if a person says something popular, it may not always be accurate. Even a person such as Aristotle could be corrected. Although this is true and is the basis of Galileo's life, the title of the book is referring to the Pythagorean Theorem. This was the very first thing taught to Galileo on his first day in a private noble school. What happens is the teacher calls Galileo to sit on the floor with him. He then takes out a multitude of pebbles from his pocket. He lays three pebbles on the floor in the shape of a triangle. He then points out that it is an isosceles triangle, because all of the sides are congruent. It fascinates young Galileo even more to learn that when more pebbles are placed at the base of the triangle, something happens. He sees a pattern happening with the sum of two sides. They seemed to be equal with the hypotenuse of the triangle. This, he learned, is what is known as the Pythagorean Theorem, or as his teacher called it, the Pythagorean Number Magic. It is most popular throughout the book, because it is the first thing that starts the most

famous Philosopher in the world, Galileo Galilei, wanting to learn.

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