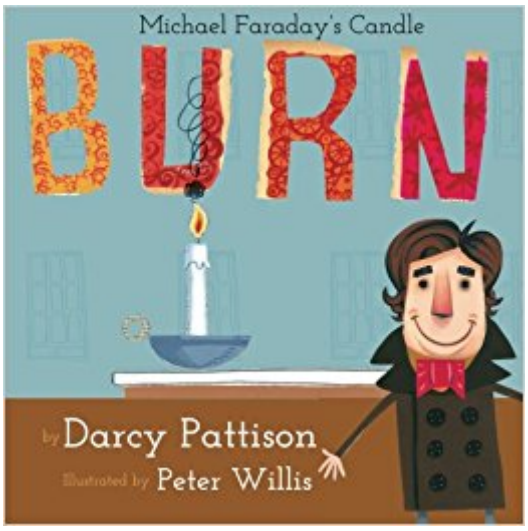
Burn: Michael Faraday's Candle



Synopsis

Buy the paperback, get ebook free. Give one, keep one. COOL SCIENCE THAT WILL AWE KIDSSolid wax is somehow changed into light and heat. But how? Travel back in time to December 28, 1848 in London, England to one of the most famous juvenile science Christmas lectures at the Royal Institution. British scientist Michael Faraday (1791-1867) encouraged kids to carefully observe a candle and to try to figure out how it burned.Ã Â Known as one of the best science experimenters ever, Faraday's passion was always to answer the basic questions of science: "What is the cause? Why does it occur?"Since Faraday's lecture, "The Chemical History of a Candle," was published in 1861, it's never been out of print. Oddly, till now, it's never been published as a children's picture book. Faraday originally gave seven lectures on how a candle burns. Pattison has adapted the first 6000-word lecture to about 650 words for modern elementary students.Ã Â

Book Information

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Age Range: 6 - 12 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 6

Customer Reviews

Gr 1Ã¢â ¬â œ4Ã¢â ¬â •Adapted from scientist Michael Faraday’s own "Chemical History of a Candle," this is the story of one of the Royal Institution’s Christmas lectures for children, specifically, Faraday’s 1848 talk and demonstration on candles. The lecture series began in 1825 and has continued to present day, with a pause during World War II. The story starts with descriptions of the

excitement of the crowd, the sights and sounds of the London streets, and the lecture hall, structured for the crowd's ease of observation and safety. Faraday guides the crowd, describing what is happening and the thought process a scientist uses when making observations. A diagram aids in the discussion of what happens when a candle burns. The main takeaway is that readers should always ask and answer the questions "What is the cause? Why does it occur?" when making observations. The book is whimsically illustrated in various media and incorporates printed text into the artwork. However, the text, which includes challenging vocabulary, British spellings, and, occasionally, odd sentence structures left over from the adaptation of the original lecture, makes the intended audience unclear. VERDICT Despite a few missteps, this is a potential selection for readers who will have the opportunity to perform experiments afterward or those beginning to learn the process of scientific inquiry. Also, a good option for fans of Jacqueline Briggs Martin's Snowflake Bentley (HMH, 1998).Ã¢â ¬â •Paige Mellinger, Gwinnett County Public Libraries, Lillburn, GA --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"Delightful," say science educatorsWith this delightful book, Darcy Pattison brings one of Michael Faraday's famous scientific lectures for children to a whole new generation of young learners. Peter Willis' colorful artwork illustrates Faraday's own explanations in a scientific, yet kid-friendly style. This book is a wonderful way to introduce children to this extraordinary scientist and to teach them about changes in matter with a familiar, yet remarkable, object - a candle.Ã Â - Karen Ansberry and Emily Morgan, Authors ofÃ Â Picture-Perfect Science Lessons"Good, simple explanation of a complex chemical process. Great enrichment possibilities for teachers. I loved the illustrations, the science, and the British tone. Overall, thumbs up!"Ã Â Deb Thrall, President, New Mexico Science Teacher's AssociationÃ Â School Library Journal says,Ã Â ". . .whimsical illustrations. . "". . .for readers. . .beginning the learn the process of scientific inquiry."". . .exciting. . .enhanced by dashing, colorful, quirky illustrations. . .brilliant. . . ." Midwest Book

The story makes capillary action and cohesion easy to understand. I like the clever way that Darcy Pattison has Michael Faraday's students "see the current of the flame". The illustrations are cute and interesting. As a teacher, I always enjoy books and drawings that show children enjoying science! And, there is a bit of history tossed in the mix as well. Can't wait to hold this book in my hands!

What a fun look at a little known scientist and teacher! Darcy was shining when she shed a light on

this topic for young people in his story.

Take yourselves back in time to December 28th, 1848 to a place called London, England! It is time for one of the most famous Royal Institution Christmas Lectures ever! (When we lived in England, Richard used to watch this Christmas series EVERY year!) As a matter of interest did you know that these lectures are the "longest running series of science education lectures in the world"?The original lecture by Michael Faraday on how a candle burns was 6,500 words and has never been out of print! In this picture book the text has been shortened to approximately 650 words. Fascinating chemistry and history for kids along with bold and sometimes amusing illustrations.I hope from the above, along with the pictures, you can catch a glimpse of how educational this book is. It is very well written, providing more detailed information on the lecturer and the lectures at the end of the book. Paperback copy provided in exchange for an honest review. Thanks, Liz

"The Chemical History of a Candle" is a complex concept even if you know about science. This book is displayed with historical beautifully detailed colorful illustrations that help to make the complex simple for a young reader. It teaches children to go beyond and ask what is the cause? Many more questions may arise about such words as stearin, guinea, and spermaceti whale. I especially liked the example of what happens when you dry your hands on a towel to explain capillary action. It was practical and easy to grasp. I liked the summary at the end which recapped the story and the background history of Michael Faraday.

This is a wonderful fun way for children (adults too) to learn about what causes a candle to burn, about scientific experiments, and the famous scientist Michael Faraday (1791-1867). The story is based on facts. In the tale, children go to a laboratory in 1848 (when Faraday actually gave the lecture) to see an experiment rather than just read about it. Faraday explained what candles are made of (different kinds of material) and why and how they burn.Faraday stresses that people should not be passive but learn to ask, "What causes what I am seeing?" In this case, "What is causing the flame to get ahold of the fuel in the candle?" Faraday also explains the shape of the flame.

Science is entertaining in this imviting picture book with multiple fonts in several sizes and colors. The explanations are easy to understand.The fantastic, kid friendly, comic style artwork is rendered in an authentic depiction of 18th century London. The inviting creative design of the book and its

contents make it fun for the children for whom it is intended. The illustrations bleed off the page and the text explains clearly what makes a candle burn, even when the grown-up term, ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“capillary action,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• is used.Back matter includes a brief biography of Michael Faraday along with an explanation of the Royal InstitutionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Christmas Lecture Series. Also NGSS Standards and more information about Candle Wax. Highly recommended for elementary classrooms and libraries.I was given a free copy in exchange for writing a review._Hope Irvin Marston, author of SACKETS HARBOR POWDER MONKEY ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ THE WAR OF 1812

What a wonderful little picture book by author Darcy Pattison. I loved learning about Michael Faraday and his lecture long ago on the science behind a burning candle. The illustrations by Peter Willis are excellent and make it easy for young readers to follow FaradayÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s explanation. I would highly recommend this as an instructional book for young students, especially those interested in science.

Darcy Pattison has done it again! This easy to understand book is fantastic for homeschoolers or science teachers and curious folks of all sorts. Explaining science in a simple to understand way is a great way to capture the curiosity of all children. Love the illustrations, too. A must read for anyone with a curious kiddo!!!

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