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978-1-107-67200-0 - A New Course of Plants and Animals: Book II

M. A. Grigg

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PLANTS AND ANIMALS**

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A NEW COURSE OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS

BY

M. A. GRIGG, B.Sc.

Senior Biology Mistress, Ealing Grammar School for Girls

Formerly Lecturer in Biology, Dudley Training College for Teachers

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PREFACE

BIOLOGY is essentially a study of life, and not a book study. The best lessons are those which can be taken out-of-doors where living things can be studied in their natural surroundings. Unfortunately, very few of us can do this during school hours, so we must bring as many specimens as possible to school for examination, and then study them in their natural surroundings when we can.

In Secondary Grammar Schools, the Biology syllabus is sometimes ruled by the syllabus of the G.C.E. examinations, and general Nature Study is often neglected. The two books in this series are intended to guide the studies of boys and girls in Nature Study during the first three years of their Grammar School life, and to stimulate their interest in the living things around them. When once their interest has been aroused, they will be more observant, and will wish to learn more about the specimens which they find. They may then refer to the books mentioned in Appendix C and so acquire the habit of seeking for information on their own.

The first course of *Plants and Animals* was a re-issue of the Biology chapters from *Elementary Science*, which was written primarily for Secondary Modern Schools. The scientific terms were omitted so that all could read and understand the subject. This new course, based on the Biology chapters of *Modern Science*, has been entirely re-written, and some scientific terms have been introduced which will be useful for pupils who intend to take the G.C.E. examination. Where scientific terms have been used, simple descriptions have also

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been given so that the book is suitable for all boys and girls in Secondary Modern Schools.

In Book I the work was based on the study of plants and animals found in habitats familiar to most boys and girls. It is impossible to study all the specimens that we find or see; but we can study families, each family consisting of animals or plants which are similar in structure. The first five chapters of Book II have been based on a simple study of families. This work not only incorporates the specimens described in Book I, but also gives an account of inhabitants of the sea shores, and of animals that can be seen in zoological gardens. Many common plants that do not have flowers have also been described. Simple experimental work has been given to enable pupils to study how a plant lives.

A chapter on Human Physiology has been included, as it is felt that all pupils should have some knowledge of the structure and functions of the body.

As far as possible, this book should be read with the living specimens at hand. Reading should guide observation. If animals are to be studied which cannot be brought to school, the teacher should illustrate the lesson by showing pictures (with or without epidiascope), film strips or films. Visits to a zoological garden or a museum would make the work more interesting.

M. A. GRIGG

27 July 1957

ILLUSTRATIONS

The following were drawn by Miss J. B. S. Willmore: 4 (*c*) and (*d*), 9, 10, 11 (*a*), 33 (*c*) and (*d*), 75, 76, 81, 88 and 113. The rest are the work of the late Mr J. C. Hill.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1. PLANTS AND ANIMALS. Reason for classification, *p.* 11. Differences between plants and animals, *p.* 12. Groups of living things, *p.* 14.

CHAPTER 2. FLOWERLESS PLANTS. Algae, *p.* 15. Seaweeds, *p.* 17. Fungi, *p.* 20. Harmful fungi, *p.* 22. Moulds, *p.* 25. Yeast, *p.* 29. Bacteria, *p.* 31. Useful bacteria, *p.* 32. Harmful bacteria, *p.* 33. Viruses, *p.* 34. Lichen, *p.* 36. Mosses, *p.* 37. Ferns, *p.* 38.

CHAPTER 3. SEED-PRODUCING PLANTS. Conifers, *p.* 42. Flowering plants, *p.* 46.

CHAPTER 4. ANIMALS: INVERTEBRATES. Single-celled animals or protozoa, *p.* 47. The hydra family or coelenterates, *p.* 49. The starfish family or echinoderms, *p.* 52. Worms, *p.* 55. Flat-worms, *p.* 55. Round-worms, *p.* 58. Segmented worms, *p.* 59. The snail family or molluscs, *p.* 59. Single-shelled animals or univalves, *p.* 60. Double-shelled animals or bivalves, *p.* 62. Arthropods, *p.* 63. Crustacea, *p.* 64. Arachnids, *p.* 67. Myriapods, *p.* 69. Insects, *p.* 69. I. Insects without wings, *p.* 70. II. Insects with wings, *p.* 71.

CHAPTER 5. ANIMALS: VERTEBRATES. Fish, *p.* 84. Amphibians, *p.* 86. Reptiles, *p.* 86. Birds, *p.* 90. Mammals, *p.* 92. Peculiar mammals, *p.* 92. Hoofed mammals or ungulates, *p.* 94. Whales, *p.* 99. Beasts of prey, *p.* 101. Gnawing mammals or rodents, *p.* 104. Insect-eaters or insectivores, *p.* 104. Bats, *p.* 105. Primates, *p.* 105.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-67200-0 - A New Course of Plants and Animals: Book II

M. A. Grigg

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CHAPTER 6. A STUDY OF THE SOIL. Formation of soil, *p.* 108. Types of soil, *p.* 110. Clay, *p.* 111. Sand, *p.* 112. Loam, *p.* 112. Peat, *p.* 112. Chalk, *p.* 115. Important factors in the soil, *p.* 115. Water supply, *p.* 115. Air supply, *p.* 118. Temperature, *p.* 118. Food supply, *p.* 119. Improvement of soil, *p.* 121. Cultural operations, *p.* 121. Manuring, *p.* 121. Rotation of crops, *p.* 125.

CHAPTER 7. HOW A PLANT LIVES. Intake of water, *p.* 127. Transpiration, *p.* 129. Prevention of loss of water by leaves, *p.* 132. Photosynthesis, *p.* 138. Tests for foods stored in plants, *p.* 142. Respiration, *p.* 143.

CHAPTER 8. HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY. The skeleton and its functions, *p.* 145. Muscles, *p.* 150. Teeth, *p.* 151. Structure of a tooth, *p.* 152. The digestive system, *p.* 152. Different kinds of food, *p.* 152. The principal vitamins, *p.* 154. Testing for foods, *p.* 156. Digestion, *p.* 156. Respiration, *p.* 159. The blood system, *p.* 161. Composition of the blood, *p.* 164. Work done by the blood, *p.* 166. The skin, *p.* 170. Nervous system, *p.* 171. Special sense organs, *p.* 172. The eyes, *p.* 173. The ears, *p.* 175.

CHAPTER 9. CHARACTERISTICS OF LIVING THINGS. Differences between living and non-living things, *p.* 178. Movement, *p.* 178. Feeding in plants, *p.* 179. Feeding in animals, *p.* 183. Growth, *p.* 185. Respiration, *p.* 185. Excretion, *p.* 186. Sensitivity, *p.* 186. Reproduction, *p.* 189. Care of the young, *p.* 192.

CHAPTER 10. EVOLUTION. Formation of the earth, *p.* 195. Movements of the earth, *p.* 197. The world in past ages, *p.* 197.

Cambridge University Press

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M. A. Grigg

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Origin of life on the earth, *p.* 198. Gradual change from life in water to life on land, *p.* 198. Plant evolution, *p.* 199. Animal evolution, *p.* 201. Fossil men, *p.* 203. Causes of evolution, *p.* 204. Heredity, *p.* 204. The struggle for existence, *p.* 205.

QUESTIONS, *p.* 206.

APPENDICES, *p.* 214.

INDEX, *p.* 229.