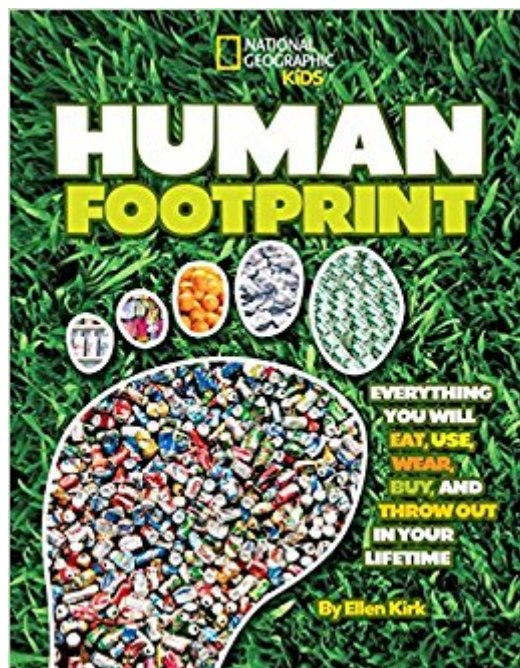




The book was found

Human Footprint: Everything You Will Eat, Use, Wear, Buy, And Throw Out In Your Lifetime (National Geographic Kids)



Synopsis

What is your human footprint? Well, it's 13,056 pints of milk, 28,433 showers, 12,888 oranges, 14,518 candy bars, and \$52,972 worth of clothes, all in one lifetime. Makes you want to step more lightly on the planet! Perfectly timed for Earth Day, this book doesn't preach or judge, but simply shows kids "in an exciting, visual way" how humans interact with the environment and how we can lessen our impact. Astonishing photography captures the full picture of consumption, documenting all the diapers you wore as a baby, the bread you'll eat in a lifetime, and the cans you'll recycle, based on national averages. Tying in with a National Geographic Channel production, Human Footprint is colorful and fun "yet also manages to be a powerful tool for kids to visualize the dimensions of consumption.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0890 (What's this?)

Series: National Geographic Kids

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: National Geographic Children's Books (March 8, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1426307675

ISBN-13: 978-1426307676

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.1 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #119,670 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Recycling & Green Living #95 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Environment & Ecology #178 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Ellen Kirk is a writer who enjoys making information fun and accessible for kids. She is the author of the National Geographic Kids book "Human Footprint: Everything You Will Eat, Use, Wear, Buy, and Throw Out in Your Lifetime."

This book is very eye-opening in terms of American consumerism. It's easy to ignore the vast amount of food, goods, and services that we use. The photographs are especially impressive. It would be hard to read this book and not feel a little guilty about all the stuff we, as Americans, use and throw out. I mean 43,371 cans of soda?! Think of all that sugar. What's even more mind-boggling is the picture on page 20-21 that shows all those cans. Each page also includes suggestions for becoming more environmentally-conscious consumers. This book could be used in many curricular ways, such as math (lots of numbers and statistics), environmental science, and human geography. In addition I think many students will be as fascinated by the information in this book as I was. Highly recommended.

The cover of this book promises a good look at conserving resources and a way to give examples to kids of the types of waste generated by daily life. But the book is unserious, beginning with proclamations of how long things take to "biodegrade" in landfills (HINT: NOTHING that goes in a landfill will biodegrade -- landfills are dry and anaerobic on purpose, and to biodegrade, there needs to be moisture and oxygen.), and then proceeding to assume that all kids are average. I guess the estimates are based on what is purchased in America, divided by the number of Americans and multiplied by an average 77-year lifespan. But it's a very static measurement for a very dynamic topic -- 77-year olds alive today threw away VERY DIFFERENT things across their lifespan than these pictures depict, and consumer packaging changes so quickly that most of the items on these pages did not exist 77 years ago and will be replaced long before the next 77 years passes by. Kids, if you are concerned about reducing household waste, concentrate on three areas: cancel your newspaper subscription (if your family has one), eat all the fruits and vegetables your mom buys at the store, and recycle aluminum cans. You'll be well above-average in the reducing-waste department if you do those three things. Backyard composting is another great way to reduce household waste -- check with your city utility to see whether they provide containers. (Disclosure: I have worked in waste management and hazardous materials disposal.)

This visual feast of facts really hit home with my soon-to-be-eight-year-old son. He was very impressed by the impact he makes on the earth and this has made him more conscious of his habits and what he can do to help make a positive difference. Think: reduce, reuse, recycle. Human Footprint does an excellent job of making the concept clear for kids (and adults, too!). - Biblio Reads Children's Book Review

You must be really thirsty. According to Kirk you will consume 13,056 pints of milk and 13,371 cans of soda too! Every wonder how many oranges you will eat or how many showers you will take? Readers will be astounded at how each of us leaves our mark on this world. Kids will learn lots of fun facts about each can of soda we drink, each diaper that is worn and how long it takes a cow to produce one gallon of milk for us to drink with our cookies. If you want to know how you can be green, Human Footprint will give you tips and resources for recycling just about everything. The magnificent photos give readers a very clear vision as to how much we all use in everyday products. Parents, teachers and kids will flip through the pages over and over again. This great book will have you thinking twice before you buy clothes, wash your hair and drive to the store. This is an excellent way to introduce readers about saving our world one choice at a time.

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