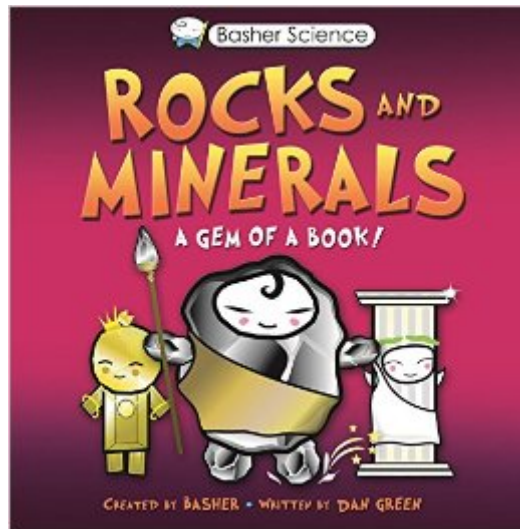


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# Basher: Rocks & Minerals: A Gem Of A Book



## Synopsis

Simon Basher is back with another zany primer to science! Following his 3 successful titles on the basics of chemistry, physics, and biology, **BASHER SCIENCE: ROCKS AND MINERALS** is an in-depth look at the ground beneath our feet. Like his other titles, Basher presents these topics through charming and adorable illustrations and pairs them with basic information told from a first person perspective. He develops a community of characters based on the things that form the foundations of our planet: rocks, gems, crystals, fossils and more. And what's more, he makes it understandable, interesting, and cute. It's not what you expect out of a science primer.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1050L (What's this?)

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Kingfisher; Pap/Pstr edition (September 29, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0753463148

ISBN-13: 978-0753463147

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.4 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (37 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #35,783 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Rocks & Minerals](#) #665 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#) #11252 in [Books > Reference](#)

Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

## Customer Reviews

First, I will say that I am overly critical of books pertaining to Rocks & minerals...being a Gemologist, "glorified Rockhound" and all. So, when my children and I spotted this book at our school book fair, we took a peek and discovered it is different from all the rest. Colorful, animated and informative!!!! I was engaged immediately with the easy to follow layout, which skips all the heavy scientific hoopla that will bore a child to pieces (and many adults as well). My children ages 5, 9 and 11 fell in love with the chubby, adorable stone and mineral characters. The significance of the details of the character are intriguing, so when you read the summary, you discover why the chubby fella is holding or doing certain things. I might also add that the paper quality and durability of this book is

top-notch. I have fallen in love again with certain stones I haven't encountered in a long while, and learned some new things too. Now, we plan to buy more of these fantastic books.....they're on my kid's Christmas wish list!

This and all other Dan Green illustrated books are fabulous! We make a point of seeking out quality science books and these remain at the top of our list. My boys are 7 and 9 but they have been in love with Dan Green books since they were 5. As with his other titles (Biology, Physics, Astronomy and Periodic Table) this book gives a face and a personality to scientific ideas and concepts which immediately connect with a child in. The topic becomes alive and interesting and there's no better way to engage a child and make his imagination soar. My boys take these books in the car, to grandmas house, to school, everywhere. The knowledge has given them great confidence in science because it is dispensed in a way that children can understand, and the characters are so lovable -- who wouldn't want to learn from them! Small, compact, not the least bit overwhelming, a must-have for little science lovers.

We now own all of the science books written by Basher and have also purchased a set for our son's school. What a gift to have science brought to life in such a creative and entertaining way for kids. (Plus, the posters are really fun!) Our 10-year-old can't get enough of them and it has really turned him on to science. We are anxiously awaiting the next release in the series.

This review applies to MOST of the Basher books as they all seem to share the same mix of excellence and failure. First, these books are GREAT in that they present some of the terminology/jargon of the subject matter in a way that seems to interest small children! (in my experience, ages 4-7 seems about right) This is actually a BIG DEAL, as the books reliably deal in wonderfully important subjects. For this, I highly recommend them and thank the authors and publishers for their effort! However... there are two ways in which I find these books to be terribly disappointing: 1) The attempts to make each entry clever and fun raise the effective reading level high above the target audience. Clever puns and delightfully descriptive diatribes do not go over so well with young children just beginning to read. My six year old is completely ready for the subject matter, but struggles to the point of giving up (!!) trying to manage the prose. 2) IMHO, the attempts at fun language and clever characterizations often work to obscure the simplicity of the subject matter at hand. As a scientist who understands many of the concepts under discussion, I often find myself marveling at how these descriptions express an opaque and incomprehensible version of

what are fundamentally simple ideas.\*sigh\*Basher Guys... I LOVE what you are trying to do. IMHO, if you can find a way to simplify the prose, and not let "characterizations" get in the way of "simple explanations", then you will be changing the WORLD!!So despite my reservations... BUY THESE BOOKS!... I think that as long as they use it to try to do better, these guys have TOTALLY earned our income!!

My son is seven years old and has been collecting rocks for years. He always talks about how he wants to be a Space Geologist when he grows up. This book presents factual information about rocks in a way that he can understand. The bright, colorful pictures keep him entertained while he reads the story of each rock. It's really cute that the information about each rock is presented from the rocks' point of view. He was so excited to get this book that he read it for over an hour when I gave it to him!This whole series of books is great! We've actually used several of them to supplement the curriculum in our home school.\*I paid full price for this item. This is my honest, unbiased opinion.

This did not work out as I had hoped. It is much too wordy. I was hoping to use it for Kindergarten Standards but it is much better for children nearing middle school or in middle school. The pictures are very small.

My homeschooled daughters all love these books. I use them along with our science curriculum, but they like to read them just for fun. If your child is into manga, they will probably enjoy these. We have one for physics, the periodic table, and rocks and minerals.

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Field Guide to the Centennial State (Rocks & Minerals Identification Guides) Rocks and Minerals of The World: Geology for Kids - Minerology and Sedimentology (Children's Rocks & Minerals Books) Rocks and Minerals: A Gem of a Book! Rocks for Kids: Rocks and Minerals for Kids - A Fun Fact Rock Book with FAQ, Pictures, Jokes, Games & Geology Basher Flashcards: Periodic Table (Basher Science) Collins German Phrasebook and Dictionary Gem Edition: Essential phrases and words (Collins Gem) (German Edition) Collins Gem Italian Phrasebook and Dictionary (Collins Gem) WÃfÂ¶rterbuch Deutsch-Englisch Gem Edition (Collins Gem) (German Edition) Collins Italian Phrasebook and Dictionary Gem Edition: Essential phrases and words (Collins Gem) (Italian Edition) Collins Gem Japanese Phrasebook and Dictionary (Collins Gem) Northeast Treasure Hunter's Gem and Mineral Guide 6/E: Where and How to Dig, Pan and Mine Your Own Gems and Minerals

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