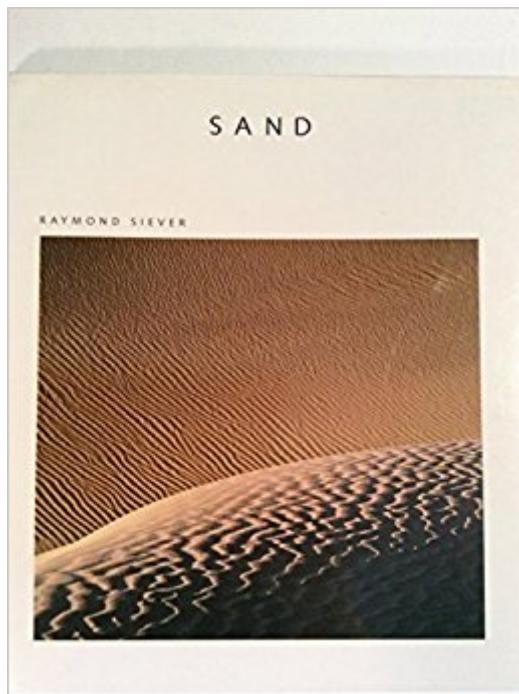


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Sand (Scientific American Library)



Book Information

Series: Scientific American Library (Book 24)

Hardcover: 237 pages

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Customer Reviews

You may wonder, why are Maine's beaches almost devoid of sand but beaches in Texas rich in it? Or, why are so many NYC houses made of brownstone? And what about the gypsum sands of New Mexico deserts, and Hawaiian black sand beaches? And why does oil tend to gush out violently when a deep enough drilling has been performed? This book beautifully presents core sedimentary concepts like flow separation, cross-bedding, sandstone formation, rounding of sand grains (and explaining the concepts of angularity and the like), and especially, how we can appreciate our beautiful planet with these concepts. Incidentally, there is strong argument for the importance of sand in the history of the earth, as discussed by the concepts of weathering, erosion, burial, etc. The relationship between humidity, temperature, altitude, and the very nature of certain sand-building minerals like quartz and feldspar is wonderfully discussed. Many adults may dismiss sand as a kiddie thing (as the book said!), but this book may change their perspective forever on sand and its by-products. Happy sand-castle building! (Just kidding)

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