

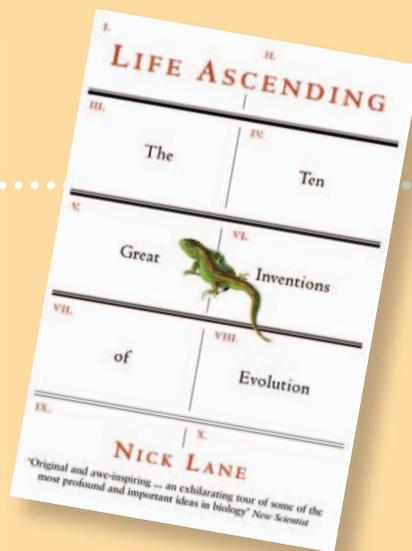


In issue 245 of the SSERC Bulletin in 2013 we reported that we were planning to produce a series of reviews of 'popular science' books in biology.

Biology books

Our focus with these reviews was to support the new areas of biology that have been introduced to the revised and CfE Higher Biology, Higher Human Biology and Advanced Higher Biology courses.

We have recently added the 10th review *Life Ascending - The Ten Great Inventions of Evolution*, Nick Lane, Profile Books, London, 2009.



All ten reviews are available on the SSERC website at www.sserc.org.uk/index.php/biology-2/biology-resources/book-reviews.

Health & Safety

A tale of two coats

Recently we received an enquiry from a school technician with a whole school remit. Their question was "Can I wear my Science lab coat in the Technical Education department?" In short the answer is no, but the detail of the answer requires more explanation. Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) must be provided to technicians to safely carry out their duties in a working school environment. However if a technician works for a period of time in a Science department wearing a traditional white lab coat, they run the risk of transferring any possible contagions to the new department visited. The same goes if a traditional blue dust coat is worn in a Technical cutting and preparation room. It is common that wood dust and plastic granules end up on the dust coat so wherever the technician goes next, they may transfer the wood dust and granules. The control measure is to simply have



your school provide you with a Science lab coat which is only worn within that department and also a second dust coat kept within the Technical Education department.