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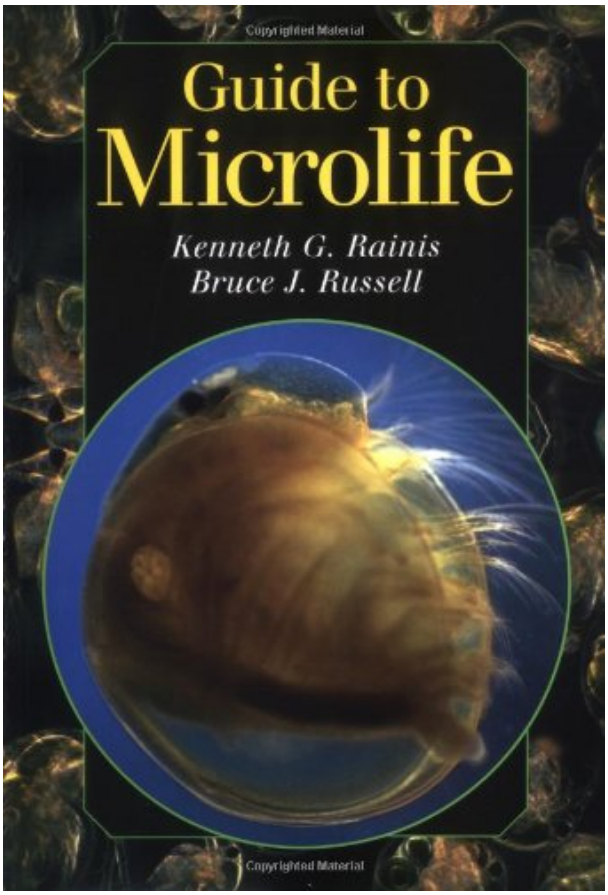

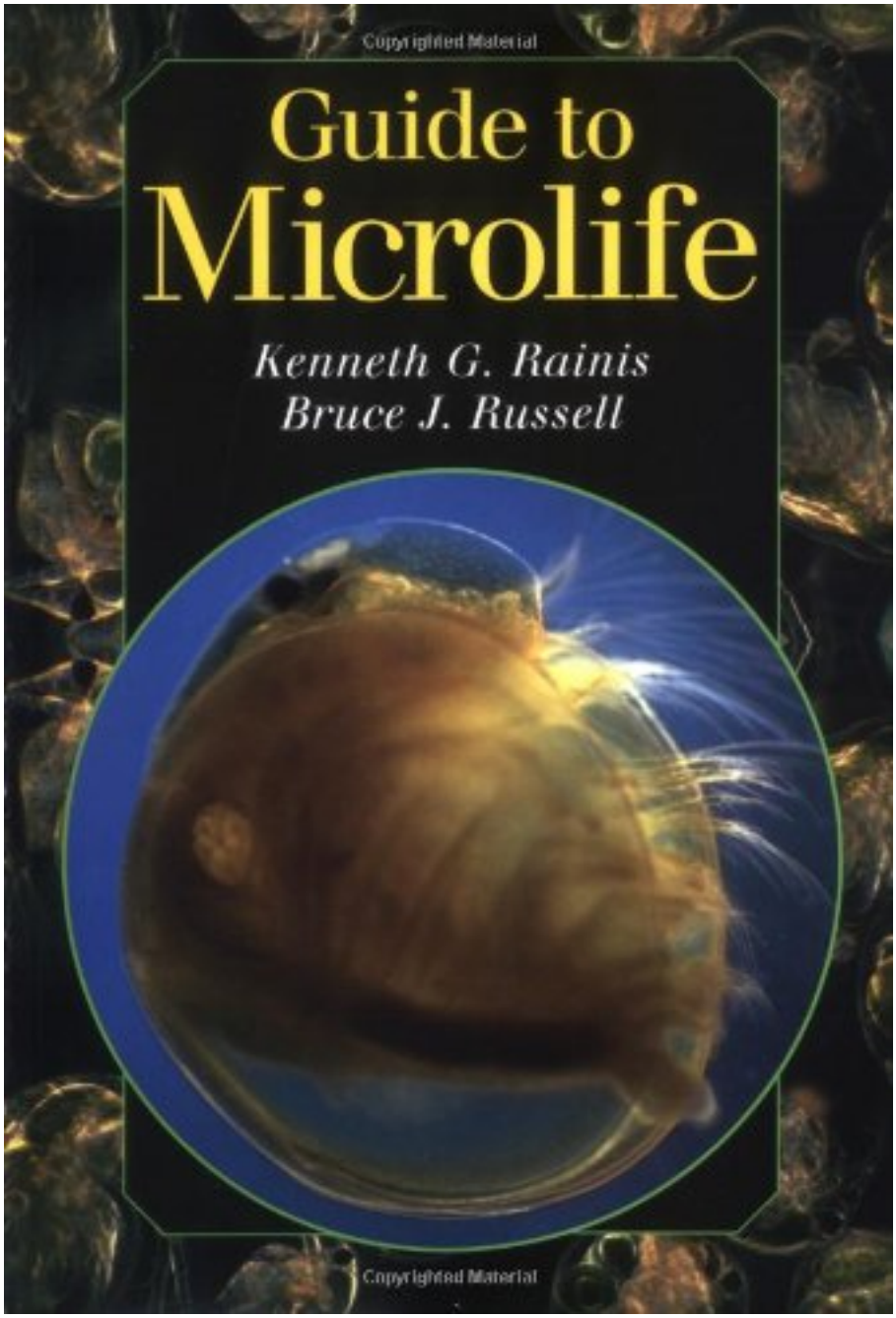

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Grade 9 Up. This useful, well-organized guide is divided into four sections: monerans (bacteria), microfungi, protists, and microanimals. Each organism is identified by its taxonomy, physical features, behavior, and environment. Drawings, color photographs of slides, and tips on how to view with a microscope are additional aids for each example. Appendixes provide a wealth of information about using microscopes, collecting specimens, preparing slides (safety precautions abound), and even an interesting, but brief look at filming images. Most of the featured organisms are readily available in homes, yards, woods, streams, and puddles, but a list of biological supply companies is also provided. A good resource for classrooms, this colorful volume is packed with information. For the hooked and truly adventuresome, move on to Werner Nachtigall's Exploring with the Microscope (Sterling, 1995).?Cynthia M. Sturgis, Ledding Library, Milwaukee, OR

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Gr. 7^-12. Although the authors follow the familiar color-coded, specimen-numbered format, this handbook is more than just a field guide to microscopic organisms. Besides thorough descriptions of seven microhabitats and an extensive, beautifully photographed, and well-written catalog of specimens, this also includes projects, six informative appendixes on topics ranging from collecting techniques to slide preparation, and a detailed bibliography of adult and children's resources. The "Microlife Catalogue" is the heart of the guide. Divided into sections on monerans, microfungi, protists, and microanimals, it provides introductory information on each group and descriptions of individual organisms. Each entry includes a clear color photograph that will be invaluable to student researchers. The hefty price is worth noting, but this belongs in both library collections and life sciences classrooms. Chris Sherman

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Guide To Microlife (Science: Life And Environmental Science) By Kenneth G. Rainis, Bruce J. Russell. In undertaking this life, lots of individuals constantly attempt to do and also obtain the ideal. New expertise, encounter, lesson, and every little thing that could improve the life will be done. Nonetheless, many individuals sometimes really feel perplexed to obtain those points. Really feeling the minimal of encounter and also sources to be much better is one of the does not have to possess. Nevertheless, there is an extremely easy point that can be done. This is exactly what your educator always manoeuvres you to do this. Yeah, reading is the answer. Reading a publication as this Guide To Microlife (Science: Life And Environmental Science) By Kenneth G. Rainis, Bruce J. Russell and various other references can enrich your life quality. Just how can it be?

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Serves as a guide to be used for the identification of microorganisms and provides information about microlife forms and how they affect other life forms, including human.

- Sales Rank: #453997 in Books
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- Binding: Paperback
- 288 pages

Features

- Used Book in Good Condition

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Most helpful customer reviews

44 of 45 people found the following review helpful.
A good start...
By Brenna E. Lorenz
Those of us who love looking at critters under a microscope definitely needed a book like this, a field guide to freshwater microfauna. This book provides stunningly beautiful photographs, useful hints on how and where to find the organisms and how to prepare them for observation, and so-so pen-and-ink sketches of the organisms. My main complaint is that the book doesn't go far enough and doesn't tell us enough. This is mainly noticeable in the tables where "Other Information" is provided along with each organism pictured. The information given is usually only the size of the organism, which is moderately useful (my microscope has no measuring device attached and I imagine most amateurs have the same problem), and occasionally another comment. Much more information should go here. For example, under Dero, the common freshwater Oligochaete, there is no mention of its ciliated anal gills, one of its most distinctive characteristics. A few comments about how to distinguish organism A from similar organisms B, C, and D would be very useful. In the planarian section, the drawings and information provided are too sketchy to be helpful. I have found about five freshwater turbellarians in the water here on Guam that I would love to identify, and I found I couldn't use this chart at all. So, this book is a good start, a good beginning, and in the next edition I would like to see a lot more organisms and a lot more information about the organisms!

23 of 24 people found the following review helpful.
A Beginning Text Only
By David B Richman
The "Guide to Microlife" by Kenneth G. Rainis and Bruce J. Russell could have been a better book. The color photos and general format promises a lot, but to me the book somehow does not quite deliver on that promise. Perhaps this is in part because it is apparently aimed at middle to high school students only and (at least in spots) this makes the book somewhat unsatisfactory to an amateur (or even high school student) who might want to go somewhat beyond this level. This tendency really comes across in the discussion of instruments with which to examine microscopic life. In addition to the rather simplified discussion of the microscope I found a few factual errors. For example I was irritated by the implication that 2000X is a reasonable high power for light microscopes. Except with very expensive equipment and/or some electronic means you would be hard pressed to use such magnification effectively. Commercial microscopes advertised with such high powers are usually junk. The highest usable magnification in even high quality light microscopes is generally 1000X (oil immersion). Higher powers or any power much above 500X used dry are simply empty magnification. Cheaper instruments should never magnify much over 50-100X. Generally, higher powered objectives have to be highly corrected to function well and are thus fairly expensive.

On the positive side the photos are good and generally well selected and the descriptions, while a bit short, are adequate to introduce the subject. The "Did you know..." sections contain some very interesting facts and the classification is reasonably up to date. Thus this book may serve as a reasonably solid short lived introduction to the subject.

I suspect, however, that anyone really interested in microscopy will go beyond this book level rapidly and the rest will never become deeply interested in the subject. On the whole I am not sure exactly why this text does not quite make it, but Nachtigall's "Exploring with the Microscope" is to my mind a better introduction to microlife. From there the enthusiast (including high and middle-school students) would go to more specialized volumes, such as those on diatoms, protozoa, fungi or algae, rather than bother further with the simplified descriptions in the "Guide to Microlife." However, I suspect that, unlike this text, Nachtigall's book will be retained in your library even after you go beyond it.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.
Perfect guide for IDing most pond/soil microlife
By kfuji
Guide contains sections for Monerans, microfungi, protists, and microanimals. Protists and microanimals are especially extensive sections. If this guide does not ID the organisms you see under the microscope it will at least get you in the ballpark. Information for organisms include name (sometimes to Genus level, sometimes species level), drawing, microhabitat and other key identifying info. "Microanatomy" shown for major groups represented. Many color plates throughout. Appendices include collecting and culturing techniques, slide prep (for hanging drop and microaquarium) and staining. I highly recommend this book for amateur naturalists or resource for science classroom.

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