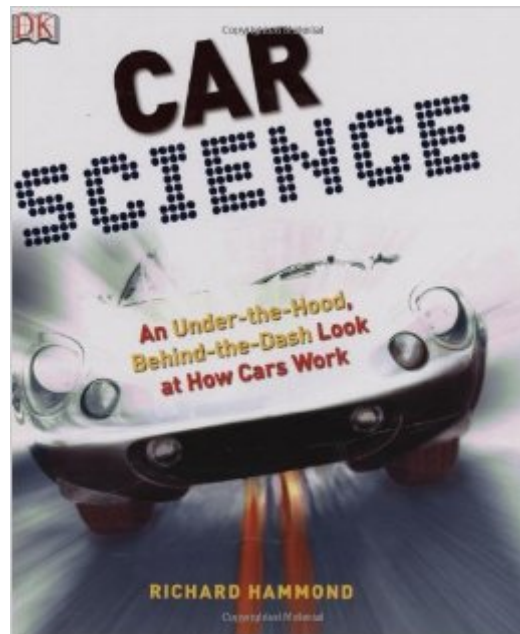


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# Car Science



## Synopsis

Physics comes alive when it's unveiled beneath the hood of the coolest, fastest science book around. Written in a no-nonsense style, this user-friendly science book features kids' favorite cars and contains experiments that readers can try at home. Full color.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 96 pages

Publisher: DK Children (September 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0756640261

ISBN-13: 978-0756640262

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 1.5 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (39 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #103,004 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Physics](#) #60 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > How Things Work](#) #64 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Experiments & Projects](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

Richard Hammond is an amusing dude. He wrote "Car Science" and infused his book with humor and fun information along with science. "Cars," he says, "are crammed full of science." If you understood this, you wouldn't follow so closely behind the car in front of you. What happens when he suddenly stops? What does science have to do with speed, you might ask. Mr. Hammond would tell you that cars and speed work by the laws of science: inertia and momentum, forces and gravity, and you in a smashed car. What do car enthusiasts and politicians have in common? Love of power. Do you know that a horse has only 0.7 horsepower? James Watt based his formula of horsepower on the power of ponies pulling so much coal up a hill in a minute, then re-figured for horses which are bigger. However, horses pull about the same power as ponies, making his figures wrong. Do you know that the history of the car is really the history of fuel? Or that the answer to the question, How does a car work, is "like a bicycle"--pumping action! That's how Car Science is explained: simply, verbally, visually. When Hammond uses terms like "powertrain," there is an illustration and several

plots of short paragraphs to explain it. There are pistons and here is how they work: pump, crankshaft, flywheel, and good ol' inertia. The largest engine in the world belongs to Liebherr T282, a truck which hauls vast heaps of mining rubble. Empty, it weighs 221 tons. Its 0-60 mph is never and its horsepower is 3500 (meaning it would take 3500 horses to pull this monster with an engine the size of a car). How about piston power? A two-page spread explains a single piston (lawnmower) up to a Wankel Rotary.

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