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Networks Choice:

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

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The idea behind Portland Press's 'Making Sense of Science' series is to get a prominent scientist to write a small, friendly book about their own specialty. It is a great series concept and has spawned a series of original, fascinating titles in which the author's passion for their subject - and knowledge of what is important - pays real dividends. Rose and Lichtenfels' **Brainbox** is about the brain and how it works, while Bellamy's **Poo** ... is about faces - both unusual and exciting topics for books at this level. Series editor Fran Balkwill has coaxed some clear, punchy text from both sets of authors - and David Bellamy makes the most of the scatological humour of his topic. You learn a great deal quickly and painlessly. And yet there is something just a little disappointing about both books. Text and pictures do not work well together and the artworks, while charming in some places, are rather 'arty' and dull. Bellamy's **Poo** rides over this with its infectious humour and fascinating insights into ecological connections, but **Brainbox** can sometimes seem just a little too worthy.

Running Order:

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