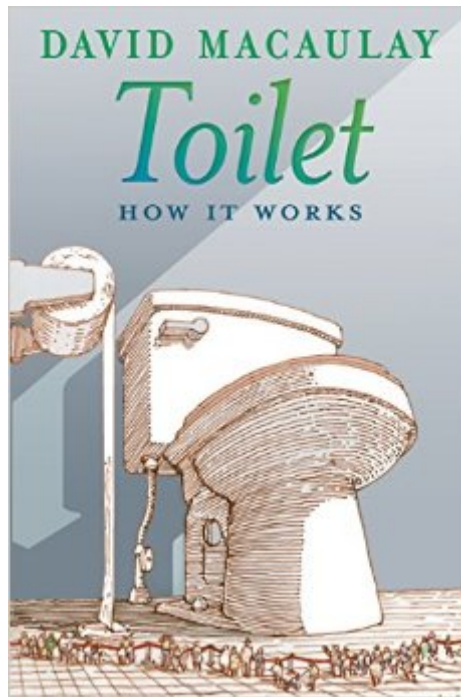


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# Toilet: How It Works



## Synopsis

Celebrated author-illustrator and master explainer David Macaulay brings his unique voice and style to high-interest nonfiction books for newly independent readers. Everyone knows what a toilet is for, right? But what exactly happens after you flush? Where does our waste go, and how is it made safe? With his unique blend of informative text and illustration, David Macaulay takes readers on a tour of the bathroom and the sewer system, from the familiar family toilet to the mysterious municipal water treatment plant. A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2013

## Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Square Fish (April 14, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1626722153

ISBN-13: 978-1626722156

Product Dimensions: 4.7 x 0.2 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #90,786 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > How Things Work](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

I'm always looking for non-animal focused, non-narrative texts for students to read. Having always been a fan of his adult "how it works" books, I've been curious about Macaulay's "how it works" series of books for children. Alas, I am disappointed. See my notes below "these might be helpful when you are considering nonfiction for your own classroom or library" [Toilet: How It Works (My Readers Series "Level 4, Macaulay, 2013) NOT ENOUGH INFO-READER MIGHT BE CONFUSED. On page 5, Macaulay mentions "bacteria" as being in the waste our bodies make and then he makes reference to bacteria multiple other times in the book. His intro to bacteria is in this sentence on page 5 "Bacteria produce useful nutrients. But if they get on our hands or back inside our bodies, they can make us sick." This is the first time he discusses bacteria and it's confusing "the student has to infer that when bacteria is IN your body, it's okay. (Nutrients is a vague term- what are they? why are they a good thing?) Later he

mentions bacteria in the aeration tank and there the water is checked to make sure there is enough bacteria – but there’s no explanation why bacteria are helpful. UGH. I just think if bacteria is going to be a thread, it needs more explanation. SEQUENCE STRUCTURE HAS GAPS. On page 10, Macaulay begins explaining what happens when you flush the toilet. The last line is “And keep your eye on that plastic float in the tank,” but when you turn the page, he doesn’t mention it again. On page 14, he returns to the float when he writes “As the float pulls down on the lever, fresh water enters the tank.” This is hard, folks. A student has to know that the float sinks as the water in the tank sinks. And then he writes, “Slowly the water rises, and so does the float.”

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