



The Biophilia Hypothesis Shearwater Book

By -

Island Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 496 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 1.5in. Biophilia is the term coined by Edward O. Wilson to describe what he believes is humanity's innate affinity for the natural world. In his landmark book *Biophilia*, he examined how our tendency to focus on life and lifelike processes might be a biologically based need, integral to our development as individuals and as a species. That idea has caught the imagination of diverse thinkers. *The Biophilia Hypothesis* brings together the views of some of the most creative scientists of our time, each attempting to amplify and refine the concept of biophilia. The variety of perspectives -- psychological, biological, cultural, symbolic, and aesthetic -- frame the theoretical issues by presenting empirical evidence that supports or refutes the hypothesis. Numerous examples illustrate the idea that biophilia and its converse, biophobia, have a genetic component: fear, and even full-blown phobias of snakes and spiders are quick to develop with very little negative reinforcement, while more threatening modern artifacts -- knives, guns, automobiles -- rarely elicit such a response. People find trees that are climbable and have a broad, umbrella-like canopy more attractive than trees without these characteristics...

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