



科技英语通俗读物

# 周围的世界

〔美〕 Jeanne Bendick 著

邹德孜 注释

商务印书馆

科技英语通俗读物

ALL AROUND YOU

A First Look At The World

周围的世界

〔美〕 Jeanne Bendick 著

邹德孜注释

商务印书馆

1979年·北京

Jeanne Bendick  
ALL AROUND YOU  
The Bodley Head, London  
1955

## 内 容 提 要

本书是一本英语科普读物,内容从日月星辰、风雨雷电到我们周围的动物、植物和矿物世界,都是些有趣的自然科学常识。

本书文字平易流畅。现为帮助读者理解起见,增加了较多的汉语注释,书末并附有英汉对照词汇表。本书可供高中学生或初学英语的读者阅读。

科技英语通俗读物

周围的世界

[美] Jeanne Bendick 著

邹德孜注释

---

商务印书馆出版

(北京王府井大街36号)

新华书店北京发行所发行

涿水县印刷厂印刷

---

787×1092 毫米 1/32 1 1/2 印张 25 千字

1964年4月第1版 1979年10月湖北第4次印刷

统一书号: 8017·491 定价: 0.15元

*THE WORLD is full of<sup>1</sup> wonderful things. The sun shines, the wind blows, the rain falls. We see a great flash of lightning<sup>2</sup> and we hear the loud thunder. We put a seed in the ground and soon a plant may grow. We are part of a great, exciting universe. It is fun to know as much as we can about it.<sup>3</sup>*

*Do you know*

*Why we need the sun?*

*Why the moon seems bright?*

*How green plants grow?*

*What your shadow is?*

*Have you ever wondered<sup>4</sup>*

*What makes rain and rainbows?*

*How fish breathe under water?*

*Why giraffes have long necks?*

*Whether ostriches can fly?*

*In this book, Jeanne Bendick answers these*

---

1. full of 充满了. 2. a great flash of lightning 一个大闪电.  
3. It is fun to know as much as we can about it. 对它了解得尽可能的多是很有趣的. 4. Have you ever wondered...? 你可曾对...感到过奇怪? (你是否很想知道...?)

questions and many others. You will have fun reading here about the world we live in. And you will have fun finding out even more things about the world by yourself, for there are many, many interesting things to see if we keep our eyes open.<sup>1</sup>

---

1. keep our eyes open 注意观察.

## CONTENTS

ALL AROUND YOU.....	5
THE DAY .....	5
THE SUN .....	6
THE NIGHT AND THE STARS.....	7
THE MOON .....	8
SHADOWS .....	8
CLOUDS AND THE BLUE SKY AND RAINBOWS .....	9
AIR, WIND, THUNDER, AND LIGHTNING .....	10
FOG AND RAIN .....	12
THE YEAR .....	12
SNOW.....	14
SLEET, HAIL, AND ICE .....	15
WATER .....	16
WATER EVERYWHERE .....	17
WHAT SOIL IS .....	17
UNDER THE GROUND .....	19
ABOUT SEEDS .....	21
PLANT FACTORIES.....	22
WHERE PLANTS GROW .....	23
HOW PLANTS TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES.....	25
THE ANIMALS CALLED MAMMALS .....	27
ANIMALS THAT LIVE IN WATER .....	29
AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES .....	30
BIRDS.....	32
INSECTS .....	33
ALL LIVING THINGS GROW.....	34
VOCABULARY .....	39



## ALL AROUND YOU

The world we live on is a big, big, BIG round ball. It is turning all the time, but you cannot see or feel this turning. There are other worlds, too, but the one we live on is called the Earth. It is made of<sup>1</sup> soil and rock, trees and grass, air and water, and all the other things around you.

The sun shines on the earth, the rain falls on it, the wind blows over it. The sun shines on you, the rain falls on you, and the wind blows your hat off.<sup>2</sup> You live on the earth, and everything around you is part of it.<sup>3</sup>

## THE DAY

Have you ever seen the day begin? The dark sky starts to look brighter.<sup>4</sup> Then suddenly the sky is all pink and red and gold and even a little green.

---

1. made of 用...做成. 2. the wind blows your hat off 风把你的帽子吹掉. 3. part of it 它(地球)的一部分. 4. The dark sky starts to look brighter. 阴暗的天空逐渐明朗起来.



The earth has turned until the sun is shining on the place where you are. This is what makes it day.<sup>1</sup>

## THE SUN

The sun looks like<sup>2</sup> a shiny gold plate, but it is really a big ball. It is glowing fiercely all the time, and its flames are much, much hotter and bigger than any fire you have ever seen.<sup>3</sup>

The sun gives more light than all the electric lights in the world and more heat than all the furnaces. It is like a gigantic heater that keeps the earth warm. Without the sun, nothing would grow in the world.

The sun is farther away than the farthest place you have ever been.<sup>4</sup> It is so far away that no one can go there, not even in the fastest rocket ever made.<sup>5</sup>

---

1. This is what makes it day. 白天就是这样来的。 2. look like ... 看起来像.... 3. and its flames are much, much hotter and bigger than any fire you have ever seen 它的火焰比你看见过的任何火都炽烈得多, 大得多。 4. The sun is farther away than the farthest place you have ever been. 太阳比你到过的最远的地方还要遥远。 5. It is so far away that no one can go there, not even in the fastest rocket ever made. 它(太阳)太远了, 誰也去不了, 即使坐上現在已經造成的最快的火箭也去不了。

## THE NIGHT AND THE STARS

The sun is always shining. But it can only shine on one side of the earth at a time. It cannot light the side that is turned away from it. When the sun is shining on the other side of the world, it is night where you are.<sup>1</sup>

At night, you can see the stars.

All day the stars are in the sky, but the light from the sun is so bright you cannot see them. When the sun is gone, the stars are bright enough to see. Stars look as tiny as pinheads,<sup>2</sup> but some are even bigger than the sun. Big things look little when they are far away. In the sky, airplanes look like toys, but on the ground you can see that they are big. Stars are millions of times bigger than<sup>3</sup> airplanes. They look very small because they are so far away. The sun is closer than the other stars, so it looks bigger.

---

1. **It is night where you are** 你所在的地方就是黑夜. 2. **as tiny as pinheads** 小得像针头一样. 3. **millions of times bigger than** 比...大几百万倍.

## THE MOON

The moon is a ball, too, like the earth and the sun. Sometimes it looks round and flat, like a plate. Sometimes it looks like half a plate, or like a thin slice of yellow melon. But whether you can see it or not,<sup>1</sup> the moon is always round. Part of it looks dark because it is turned away<sup>2</sup> from the sun.

The moon is smaller than the stars, but it is much nearer, so it looks bigger. And it has no light of its own.<sup>3</sup> This sounds funny,<sup>4</sup> but moonlight is only sunlight shining on the moon. You see the moon all lit up by this sunlight, even though the sun itself is out of sight.<sup>5</sup>

## SHADOWS

Do you know what a shadow is? A shadow is a place where no light shines. Do you know

---

1. whether you can see it or not 不管你看不看得见. 2. turn away 背过去; 轉过去. 3. it has no light of its own 它自己不发光. 4. This sounds funny 这个听起来很奇怪 (好笑). 5. out of sight 看不见了; 視線以外.

why no light shines there? Because something is in the way.<sup>1</sup> If you are standing between the sun and the pavement, there is a place just your shape<sup>2</sup> where the sun cannot shine, and that is your shadow.

Every shadow, whether it is yours or a tree's or the shadow of a skyscraper, is made the same way.

## CLOUDS AND THE BLUE SKY AND RAINBOWS

When clouds float in front of<sup>3</sup> the sun, they make shadows, too, because they keep sunlight from shining on the ground beneath them.<sup>4</sup> Sometimes clouds look like cotton and sometimes they look like gray smoke, but really they are made of billions of<sup>5</sup> tiny raindrops or bits of ice, so small and light that they float in the air like little balloons. All these raindrops or icedrops

---

1. **in the way** 妨碍; 挡着路. 2. **just your shape** 就跟你自己的体形一模一样的 (一块地方). 3. **in front of ...** 在...前面. 4. **keep ... from shining on the ground beneath them** 挡住阳光, 使它射不到它们 (云彩) 下面的大地. 5. **billions of** 亿万.

floating in a bunch<sup>1</sup> make a cloud. Even when the whole sky looks gray with these clouds, the sun is still there above the gray raindrops.

On fine days the sky looks very blue. Sunlight is made of many colours and some of these colours are scattered through the air better than others.<sup>2</sup> On clear days you can see blue shining from all over the sky.

Sometimes when the sun shines through millions of raindrops hanging in the air, we see all the colours of the sun's light -- red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet -- in a beautiful arch across the sky. We call that a rainbow. Perhaps you have seen little rainbows when sunlight shines into your soap bubbles.

## AIR, WIND, THUNDER, AND LIGHTNING

All around the earth there is air. We breathe air, and so do other animals and plants.<sup>3</sup> The

---

1. in a bunch 一串; 一团. 2. Some of these colours are scattered through the air better than others. 其中有几种颜色比别的颜色更清晰(容易)地透过大气层. 3. We breathe air, and so do other animals and plants. 我们呼吸空气, 其他动物和植物也是这样.

sun shines through it, the clouds float in it. Air holds up<sup>1</sup> birds and raindrops and airplanes.

When the air moves slowly, it is a breeze. When it moves faster, it is a wind. That is what wind is — air moving.<sup>2</sup>

Sometimes when the wind blows very hard there is a storm. And sometimes thunder and lightning come with<sup>3</sup> a storm. Do you know what lightning is? It is electricity in the sky. But electricity in the sky hasn't any wires to go through,<sup>4</sup> so it has to jump from one place to another.<sup>5</sup> A flash of lightning is electricity jumping — from cloud to cloud, or from a cloud to the ground.

Lightning heats the air through which it goes, making that air swell up.<sup>6</sup> This causes the big noise that is thunder.

---

1. **hold up** 举起; 支持住. 此处指空气可以托住鸟、飞机, 使之能在空中飞翔. 2. **That is what wind is — air moving.** 空气的流动 — 那就是风. 3. **come with ...** 随...而来. 4. **But electricity in the sky hasn't any wires to go through.** 但天空中的电却没有电线可以通过. to go through 通过; 传导. 5. **jump from one place to another** 从一处跃向另一处. 6. **Lightning heats the air through which it goes, making that air swell up.** 闪电通过空气, 使空气发热, 这样就使得那一片空气膨胀起来. swell up 膨胀.

## FOG AND RAIN

Sometimes the clouds are very low, so low they touch the ground and wrap themselves around the trees and float above the water. We call that fog, or mist.

When the tiny drops of water that make clouds or fog get very close together<sup>1</sup> they join and make bigger drops. These drops are too heavy to float in the air<sup>2</sup>, so they fall down. And that is rain.

## THE YEAR

A year is a long time — as long as it takes the earth to go around the sun,<sup>3</sup> as long as from one birthday to another. Lots of things<sup>4</sup> happen in a year — one Easter, one Thanksgiving, one Christmas, one spring, one summer, one autumn, and one winter.

---

1. get close together 紧挨在一起. 2. too heavy to float in the air 太重了, 不能飘浮在空气中. too...to 太..., 不能.... 3. as long as it takes the earth to go around the sun 和地球繞太阳轉一周的时间一样长. 4. lots of things 許多事物.

Spring is the morning of the year, when everything wakes up.<sup>1</sup> Leaves pop out<sup>2</sup> of the trees, flower plants come out of the ground, and animals that have slept all winter pop out of their holes. Spring is the time for planting. Then the ground is soft and warm from the rain and the sun.

Summer is the daytime of the year. It is the time for growing. The sunshine is hot and bright and all the growing things stretch up<sup>3</sup> to meet it. Plants cannot be strong and healthy without the sun. Flowers get bright and fruits get ripe.<sup>4</sup> Birds sing, and all kinds of things grow and stretch.

Autumn is the evening of the year, the harvest time.<sup>5</sup> The last fruits and grains ripen and are picked. Some animals grow thicker coats, and they will be warm when winter comes. Some animals store food. They will not be hungry when there is no food to find. Plants finish making their seeds. Leaves fall to the ground. After

---

1. **wake up** 唤醒; 苏醒. 2. **pop out** (突然) 伸出; 爆出.  
3. **stretch up** 伸出; 展开. 4. **Flowers get bright and fruits get ripe.** 花儿越来越鲜艳美丽, 果实逐渐成熟. 5. **harvest time** 收获季节.



a while they crumble and become part of the soil.

Winter is the night time of the year, the time for resting. In cold places, gardens and fields rest, and so do seeds, waiting for<sup>1</sup> the warmth of spring. Many animals rest in their caves and holes and hardly do a thing but breathe.<sup>2</sup> This is the time of year when the days are short and the nights are very long.

## SNOW

In some parts of the world it always stays warm,<sup>3</sup> but in other places winter is the time of cold and snow and frozen things.

There is always water in the air. When the air is very cold, snowflakes fall instead of<sup>4</sup> rain. Millions and millions of snowflakes come down, and no two are ever exactly alike.<sup>5</sup>

---

1. wait for 等待. 2. hardly do a thing but breathe 除了呼吸以外, 几乎什么都不干. 3. it always stays warm 它(气候)总是一直暖和的. 4. instead of 不..., 而... (此处意思: 不下雨, 而下雪.) 5. no two are exactly alike 没有两片雪是完全相像的. (雪片的形状各不相同.)