

# 2002 Grades 6 – 7 Science Textbook Rating

Texas has approved the Grades 6 – 7 Science programs of three major publishers for 2002 local adoption. State law requires them to present scientific strengths *and weaknesses* of scientific theories. Based on their conformity to this rule in ***treatment of evolution***, they rank as follows:

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade		7 <sup>th</sup> Grade		
Prentice is better overall.	Better	<i>Science Explorer</i> (Prentice, 2002)	Better	<i>Science Explorer</i> (Prentice, 2002)
	Better	<i>Texas Science</i> (Glencoe, 2002)	Poor	<i>Texas Science</i> (Glencoe, 2002)
	Poor	<i>Holt Science &amp; Technology</i> (Holt, 2002)	Poor	<i>Holt Science &amp; Technology</i> (Holt, 2002)

Why do we rate Science books only by their conformity to state law on evolution? This is important to Texas teachers. In 1998, the two most conforming Biology I books (out of seven) took 58% state market share. In 2000, the two most conforming Grade 5 Science programs (out of four) sold 68% of Texas. In 2002, the two most conforming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science texts outsold the least conforming book by about 4 to 1.

If you live outside Texas, insist on the *final Texas editions*, which correct factual errors. No publisher funded our reviews in any way. We have no financial stake in any textbook company. Unlike publisher sales reps, we have no monetary interest in any textbook adoption outcome. Our support comes from concerned individuals and a few small foundations, which to our knowledge have no ties to the public school textbook industry.

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