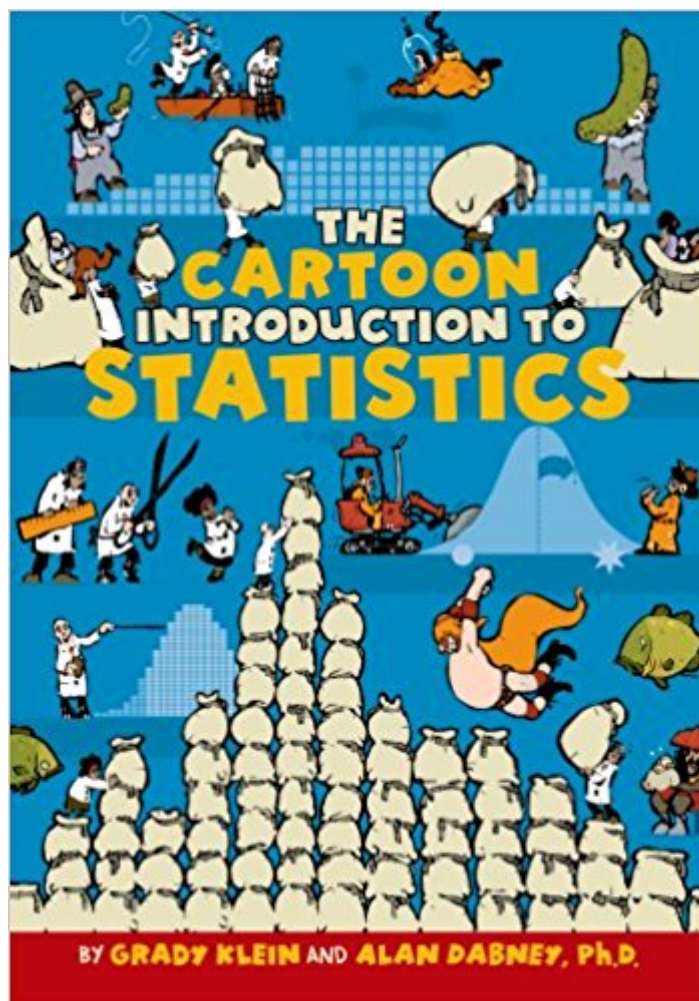The book was found

The Cartoon Introduction To Statistics

Synopsis

The Cartoon Introduction to Statistics is the most imaginative and accessible introductory statistics course you'll ever take. Employing an irresistible cast of dragon-riding Vikings, lizard-throwing giants, and feuding aliens, the renowned illustrator Grady Klein and the award-winning statistician Alan Dabney teach you how to collect reliable data, make confident statements based on limited information, and judge the usefulness of polls and the other numbers that you're bombarded with every day. If you want to go beyond the basics, they've created the ultimate resource: "The Math Cave," where they reveal the more advanced formulas and concepts.Timely, authoritative, and hilarious, The Cartoon Introduction to Statistics is an essential guide for anyone who wants to better navigate our data-driven world.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars   36 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

YouÃ¢â¬â„¢ve gotta give it to comics-creator Klein. HeÃ¢â¬â„¢s entirely undaunted by the dreariest subject matter. In two volumes of The Cartoon Introduction to Economics, he (and economist Yoram Bauman) made the dismal science sorta festive. Now, with the help of statistician Dabney, he makes statistics pretty painless, tooÃ¢â¬â •for instance, by relegating mathematical explanations and details to the all-too-Ã Â- appropriately named appendix, The Math Cave! (every time math is mentioned in the main text, someone runs away, screaming). Amusing exemplary setupsÃ¢â¬â •trying to ascertain the number of fish in a lake or the average length of the worms used to catch themÃ¢â¬â •afford wisecracking opportunities, while the bookÃ¢â¬â„¢s first half outlines random sampling, generating descriptions of the data in the sample, and checking for

mistakes. Using such tools as the central limit theorem, inference via probability calculations, and testing hypotheses to get to confidently drawn conclusions is the meat of the second half (the wisecracks continue, fortunately). Stressing that what statistics aims for is probability, not certainty, this is a nifty reference and refresher. --Ray Olson

Ã¢â ¬Å"Like a superhero coming to save the day, in flies The Cartoon Introduction to Statistics . . . Its biggest contribution is to tackle the difficulties that arise from collecting data Ã¢â ¬Ëœin the wild'--in the real world and not in the laboratory. This makes the book more useful than those that just stick to the concepts . . . If statistics can ever be made fun, then this book shows how.Ã¢â ¬Å• Ã¢â ¬â ¢The EconomistÃ¢â ¬Å"A statistician and an artist team up to demystify data crunching for the masses. Through comical tales of dragon racing, worm collecting and soda guzzling, Klein and Dabney illustrate how statisticians gather data and make predictions . . . Entertaining yet thorough.Ã¢â ¬Å• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Scientific AmericanÃ¢â ¬Å"[A] delightful introduction to statistics . . . The genius of the book is in its layout . . . The book's good humor, clear prose, and intelligent layout should give it a probability of success with its readers approaching 100%.Ã¢â ¬Å• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Publishers WeeklyÃ¢â ¬Å"A gentle, pleasantly illustrated induction into the strange world of bell curves and chi squares . . . A smart, enjoyable overview of this most useful branch of mathematics.Ã¢â ¬Å• Ã¢â ¬â ¢KirkusÃ¢â ¬Å"[The Cartoon Introduction to Statistics] manages to amuse and enlighten . . . Grady Klein's . . . grasp of body language makes [the illustrations] expressive and even charming. He builds a cast of characters including scientists (in white lab coats, of course), worm farmers, dragons, pirates, and more through a blocky approach with extreme variations in line width. The authors hatch some genuinely funny jokes.Ã¢â ¬Å• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Paste MagazineÃ¢â ¬Å"Working with Dr. Alan Dabney, Klein runs his agreeable little scientist characters through examples of mathematicians using numbers to quantify, analyze, and make decisions . . . The study of statistics is an ideal subject for comics, since the representation of data as graphs and symbols is akin to what cartoonists do: reducing ideas to pictures, for clarity's sake. Klein goes one step further, turning graphs into a collection of tiny drawings: of dragons, of sacks, of boxes, etc.Ã¢â ¬Å• Ã¢â ¬â ¢A.V. ClubÃ¢â ¬Å"Present[s] the basics of how statistics work, how they're generated, what they actually mean, and how they can be manipulated. Klein grounds the whole thing into a narrative-based presentation to keep it from being too dry, and even amusing. Math Ã¢â ¬Ëœamusing'? I know, unthinkable! . . . If this is how I learned math, my life would probably be much different.Ã¢â ¬Å• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Comic Book ResourcesÃ¢â ¬Å"This book is a perfect treatment for anyone with a phobia of statistics or numbers. It is fun, clear, and wonderfully

intuitive.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Charles Wheelan, author of Naked Statistics: Stripping the Dread from the DataÃ¢â ¬Å"Thank goodness someone finally wrote a book on statistics that is actually fun to read. Be careful when you buy this book--you might not put it down until you read it all the way to the end.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Sebastian Thrun, Google Fellow and CEO of UdacityÃ¢â ¬Å"It's a well-kept secret that statistics is fun, relevant to everyone, and intellectually rewarding. Grady Klein and Alan Dabney have let the cat out of the bag with their approachable and humorous journey through the fundamental ideas that make statistics indispensable in today's data-rich world.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢John Storey, Professor of Genomics and Statistics, Princeton University

This book is not "bad". Sadly, it isn't too great either.A great deal of time is spent explaining the principles behind statistical conceptions, though only the most basic topics are actually addressed and a reader possessing no familiarity with the subject matter would still not be able to use statistics (or even remotely understand principles like standard error, sampling distributions, etc). If you are thinking of buying this, please don't use this as your main source of research --the other "Cartoon Guide to Statistics" (by Gonick) is a much more thorough, albeit slightly more challenging, read. I'd recommend it in conjunction with other educational resources (like Khan Academy). This should be saved for those folks that are barred from the Ferris wheel due to height restrictions.

Cartoons are difficult to read (tiny print). Not too much explanation for things like regression, chi-squared, etc. My advice is to buy The Cartoon Guide to Statistics. I needed a stats book ASAP and this one shipped next day, but in hindsight I should have bought the other one.

To me statistics is a thoroughly fascinating study of how to put information about almost any subject which deals with controversial (or otherwise) variables in perspective. However, I have family and friends who illogically fear the undertaking of this study more than a root canal without anesthesia. It is for those that this book was written. It very gently leads the reader into the basics of the subject in an extremely friendly and non-threatening comic book format which, in all honesty, is actually humorous with some truly hilarious puns throughout the dialogue.This book is highly recommended for any student who may be facing a required course in college statistics with trepidation or for any adult who is searching for an effective, easily understood primer to introduce them to a fascinating way to use numbers and/or questionnaires to reach conclusions.

Fun reading and very informative. Excellent introduction of some of the most important principles of

statistics. Statistics are used by politicians, businesses, and drug companies many times to try and lead to unwarranted conclusions. This book shows how to use statistics properly and how to judge whether statistics are valid. I would recommend this book to anyone with a curious mind.

I have been recommending this book to my public policy doctoral students for a decade, and used to assign a chapter as supplemental background reading in my econ class when we covered Bayes rule. Now that I'm teaching a section of our MPA stats course, it is a required reading. I wouldn't want this to be the only book my students read on stats, but I think it is an extremely useful supplement. (I always needed to read three textbooks in parallel when I was learning this stuff.) He pulls out the core ideas in a parsimious, readable, and humorous fashion.It is an old book, but intro stats is still intro stats.

I got a copy of this after seeing it reviewed in Scientific American. Although I have had statistics classes and used the fundamentals for years, this book brought back the fundamentals of statistics. It really helps you visualize the data and how to best apply the tools. I am getting copies for everyone who works for me. Lucky them.

My son loves this book. I am all in favor or raising nerds and not jocks. The subject matter is for slightly older kids but he has had no problem understanding and following it. I ordered him these guys intro to Economics too.

not that helpful

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