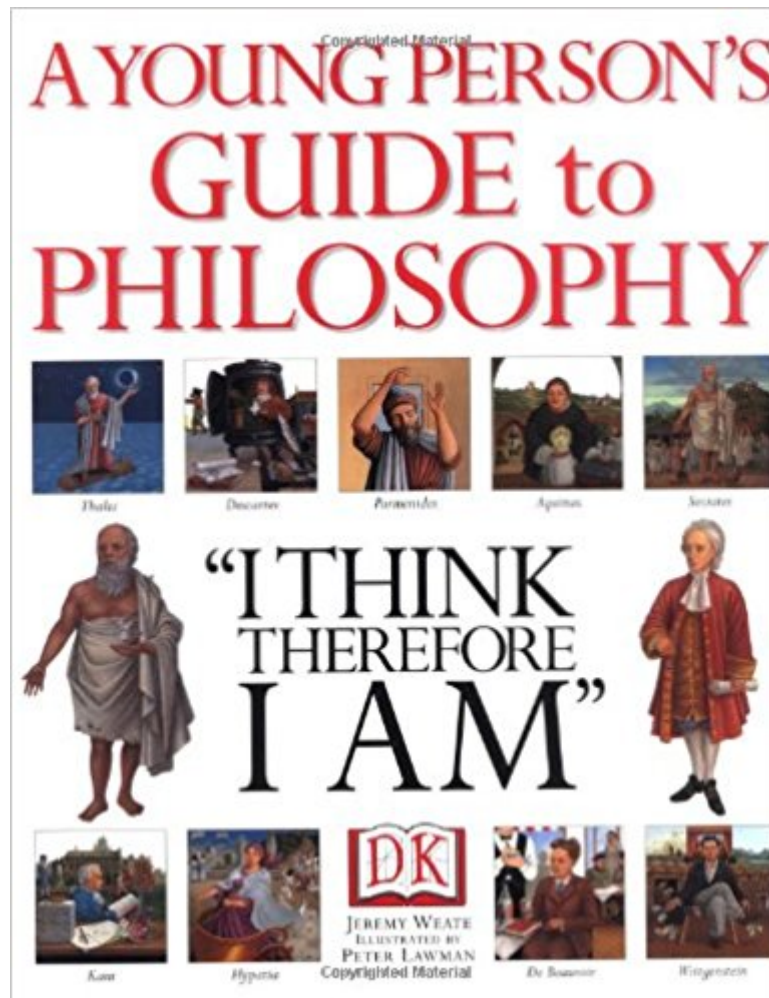




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# Young Person's Guide To Philosophy



## Synopsis

From Socrates and Plato to Kant, Sartre, and Simone de Beauvoir, here is an entertaining look at the world's greatest thinkers and their ideas, presented in a lively way that makes this intriguing subject accessible to all ages. Full color.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 64 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

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[Books > Education & Reference > Philosophy](#) #4152 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 5-8-An overly ambitious attempt to answer questions that kids may not even be asking. This title takes DK's "snippet" approach to nonfiction, offering little bits of loosely correlated information along with attractive illustrations. In this case, the complexity of the subject and its unfamiliarity to readers make this title problematic. Major Western philosophers (e.g., Plato, Socrates, Nietzsche, Aquinas) are introduced on two-page spreads, while those less well known (e.g., Thales, Anaximander) are treated in smaller paragraphs. The cartoon illustrations of each of these thinkers are highlighted with chatty personal tidbits reminiscent of Kathleen Krull's "Lives of..." books (Harcourt). However, the format is not as successful here. Short captioned illustrations depicting important symbols, occurrences, or people of the time appear as sidebars. A section titled "Philosophy Today" provides a few scant sentences about modern-day thinkers such as Michael Foucault and Jacques Derrida. In the final chapter, schools of thought (e.g., the Empiricists and the Rationalists) are broken down chronologically. In addition to introducing new concepts, this portion goes into greater detail on some of the philosophers presented earlier. It is distracting to have to flip back and forth to get all of the information on an individual. Although this visually appealing book might catch the eye of an otherwise uninterested child, the difficult subject matter and complicated

presentation limit its audience. Christy Norris Blanchette, Valley Cottage Library, NYC Copyright 1999  
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[...]I bought this philosophy book for my school library because our collection has none (books about philosophy). It is difficult to explain philosophy and psychology as a Dewey Decimal category without any philosophy or psychology books to show as examples. According to the product description, this book is aimed at the age 4-8 audience, a laughable designation unless there really is a budding philosophy genius in that age group. Another description shows a designation of grades 5-8, a more realistic assessment. In fact, I can't wait to put this book into the hands of one of our incoming 8th graders in August. What's in "A Young Person's Guide to Philosophy"? The first few pages explain the great unanswerable questions that thinking persons have asked since man had a cognitive brain. Why am I here? Where did the universe come from? Where do we go when we die? And so on. Then the story of philosophy begins chronologically with the Early Greeks and their individual, almost single-minded focus and extends through Post-modernism. One full-page color illustration shows each philosopher in his setting (and one "her" setting) with little splats of information all around him. The facing page outlines his background, time period, and philosophical beliefs (very briefly identified). After the major figures of Western Philosophical Thought are identified, then Schools of Philosophy are pursued and a more detailed structure developed. Each philosopher is placed in his proper school. "A Young Person's Guide to Philosophy" perfectly suits what I want in our library: a fairly simple philosophy book with enough detail to interest the hardest and heartiest learner.

The book is a good introduction for kids. Though not particularly very much inclusive when it comes to the choice of philosophers, it does give a fairly good introductory idea to totally new students to the study of philosophy of the ones chosen. The drawings by Lawman are beautiful. I liked very much the inclusion of Hypatia, which, to my mind, is something absolutely new to any history of philosophy. With the exception of Beauvoir, it is a pity that no other women had been chosen. On the whole, the book is wonderfully produced (a truism when it comes to DK publications), and well written.

This is absolutely the best introductory philosophy book for children I have ever seen. The philosophers are covered in historical order starting with the presocratics and ending with living philosophers. The pictures are stunning in the first half of the book. My 9yo loves it!

Interesting read in a great DK format. We are using this in conjunction with an other philosophy book which asks you to think like the different philosophers. It is nice to be able to cross reference these two books and learn about the different thinkers of our time.

Outstanding product, delivery and service. Thank you so much.

We paid overdue fines at the library on this book as we waited for interested family members to finish reading it. Now we're buying it to keep on hand as a good reference tool. It's a children's book but was also a good review/overview for adults too.

I just wonder what the publisher thought when the idea of an overview of philosophy for young people was first proposed. Luckily, they must not have been paying much attention because this extraordinary book is in print. It's really amazing that they could pull this book off. How do you explain what the great thinkers throughout history have thought to teenagers and younger? Somehow, Jeremy Weate was able to break down philosophies to their most basic forms. Weate was also aided by his sense of humor and by the pictures of Peter Layman which can help keep interest from swaying. This really is a very valuable resource. This book is supposed to be directed toward readers of the ages 4-8, but I think it is better for a little older audience. I was able use it very effectively in some college English courses I took in high school. A Young Person's Guide to Philosophy is really excellent. It is really an interesting read and can be very useful.

very kind and the best seller. delivery on time receive it next day , Nice and valuable. For a home product, for the price, this is quite good. I prefer a heavier product altogether, but I was surprised with the quality considering how inexpensive this product is. Coming from a professional background, I'd say this is a great piece to start with. for my friend ,

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