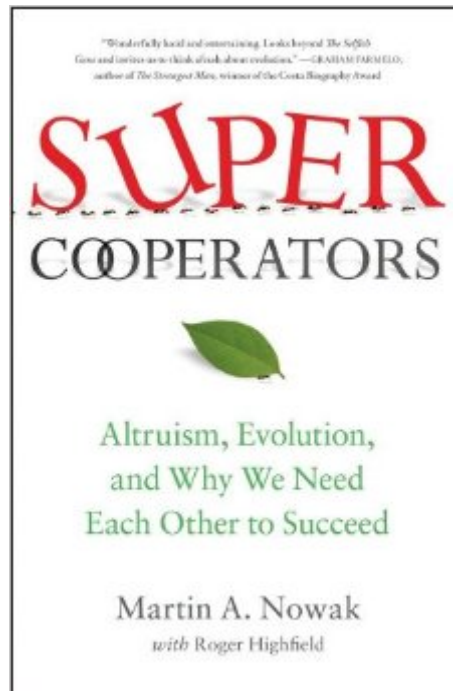


The book was found

SuperCooperators: Altruism, Evolution, And Why We Need Each Other To Succeed



Synopsis

EVOLUTION IS OFTEN PRESENTED AS A STRICTLY COMPETITIVE ENDEAVOR. This point of view has had serious implications for the way we see the mechanics of both science and culture. But scientists have long wondered how societies could have evolved without some measure of cooperation. And if there was cooperation involved, how could it have arisen from nature's tooth and claw? Martin Nowak, one of the world's experts on evolution and game theory, working here with bestselling science writer Roger Highfield, turns an important aspect of evolutionary theory on its head to explain why cooperation, not competition, has always been the key to the evolution of complexity. He offers a new explanation for the origin of life and a new theory for the origins of language, biology's second greatest information revolution after the emergence of genes. SuperCooperators also brings to light his game-changing work on disease. Cancer is fundamentally a failure of the body's cells to cooperate, Nowak has discovered, but organs are cleverly designed to foster cooperation, and he explains how this new understanding can be used in novel cancer treatments. Nowak and Highfield examine the phenomena of reciprocity, reputation, and reward, explaining how selfless behavior arises naturally from competition; how forgiveness, generosity, and kindness have a mathematical rationale; how companies can be better designed to promote cooperation; and how there is remarkable overlap between the recipe for cooperation that arises from quantitative analysis and the codes of conduct seen in major religions, such as the Golden Rule. In his first book written for a wide audience, this hugely influential scientist explains his cutting-edge research into the mysteries of cooperation, from the rise of multicellular life to Good Samaritans. With wit and clarity, Nowak and Highfield make the case that cooperation, not competition, is the defining human trait. SuperCooperators will expand our understanding of evolution and provoke debate for years to come.

Book Information

File Size: 1142 KB

Print Length: 354 pages

Publisher: Free Press; Reprint edition (March 22, 2011)

Publication Date: March 22, 2011

Sold by: Simon and Schuster Digital Sales Inc

Language: English

ASIN: B003UV8TC2

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #304,155 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #25

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Science > Mathematics > Applied > Game Theory

#107 in Books > Science & Math > Evolution > Game Theory #277 in Kindle Store > Kindle

eBooks > Nonfiction > Science > Evolution

Customer Reviews

I read a lot, but I rarely suggest books to people I am acquainted with (you know, people get sick of that sort of thing); however, since I finished reading this book, I can honestly say that this is the one volume I have actually recommended to my friends and family. This book covers a crucial aspect of our modern life and is far-and-away one of the most indispensable pieces of scientific writing I have read to date. For example, take this quote from the Preface: "Many problems that challenge us today can be traced back to a profound tension between what is good and desirable for society as a whole and what is good and desirable for an individual. That conflict can be found in global problems such as climate change, pollution, resource depletion, poverty, hunger, and overpopulation. The biggest issues of all - saving the planet and maximizing the collective lifetime of the species *Homo sapiens* - cannot be solved by technology alone. They require novel ways for us to work in harmony. If we are to continue to thrive, we have but one option. We now have to manage the planet as a whole. If we are to win the struggle for existence, and avoid a precipitous fall, there's no choice but to harness this extraordinary creative force. We now have to refine and to extend our ability to cooperate. We must become familiar with the science of cooperation. Now, more than ever, the world needs SuperCooperators." One reviewer called Martin Nowak a virtuoso, this is most certainly true, and it may even be an understatement. It would seem that Dr. Nowak has his hands in nearly every discipline and knows nearly everyone who is anyone in the scientific community.

For Martin Nowak cooperation is the master architect of evolution. This man is obsessed with the idea that cooperation is an indispensable driving force of evolution at any level - mutation, selection and cooperation. Without cooperation among RNAs in the primordial soup, you and me would be still one of them. Is he crazy? Nowak has been Professor of Mathematical Biology at Oxford, the

first head of the Program in Theoretical Biology at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study, and now he is full professor of Biology and Mathematics at Harvard University in his own institute called "Nowakia". Of his numerous papers more than 50 were published in Nature or Science. Nowak is a leading evolutionary theorist of our time. Why is he crazy for cooperation? Cooperation has always been Nowak's main subject that he studies mostly with only one technique: mathematics. "We can capture the way it (evolution) works with mathematics, distilling its essence into the form of equations." "SuperCooperators" is the grand review of his oeuvre on cooperation, a kind of textbook that reads like a bestselling novel with a wonderfully lucid and enthusiastic style, thanks to Nowak's ghost-writer and kind of co-author ("with" instead of "and") Roger Highfield, an ingenious science writer and the editor of the New Scientist magazine. A layperson could enjoy just reading this book and finally has happened to learn most about a fascinating part of biology. Imagine all textbooks were written this way! Try this appetizer from the chapter on the evolution of language: "Gossip. Banter. Chat. Let's talk. Let's organize a colloquium. Even better, let's have a party! Language allows people to work together, to exchange their ideas, their thoughts, and their dreams.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

SuperCooperators: Altruism, Evolution, and Why We Need Each Other to Succeed
The Most Useful Gift: Altruism and the Public Policy of Organ Transplants (Jossey Bass/Aha Press Series)
The Most Good You Can Do: How Effective Altruism Is Changing Ideas About Living Ethically
Giddy Up, Eunice: (Because Women Need Each Other)
12 Week Triathlete, 2nd Edition-Revised and Updated: Everything You Need to Know to Train and Succeed in Any Triathlon in Just Three Months - No Matter Your Skill Level
Why Marriages Succeed or Fail: And How You Can Make Yours Last
Six Battles Every Man Must Win: . . . and the Ancient Secrets You'll Need to Succeed
The College Student's Research Companion: Finding, Evaluating, and Citing the Resources You Need to Succeed, Fifth Edition
Northwest Top 10 Garden Guide: The 10 Best Roses, 10 Best Trees--the 10 Best of Everything You Need - The Plants Most Likely to Thrive in Your Garden ...
Most Important Tasks in the Garden Each Month
School-Based Interventions: The Tools You Need To Succeed * Social Rules for Kids-The Top 100 Social Rules Kids Need to Succeed
Sleeping Your Way to the Top: How to Get the Sleep You Need to Succeed
Why Can't My Child Behave?: Why Can't She Cope? Why Can't He Learn?
The Feingold Diet updated for today's busy families
IS THIS WHY AFRICA IS? (Why Africa is poor, Why Africa is not developing, What Africa needs, What Africa needs to develop): Africa, Africa, Africa, Africa
Africa, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola
Heirs and Rebels: Letters Written to Each Other and Occasional Writings on Music
The Essential Conversation: What Parents and Teachers Can Learn from Each Other
Pathways to Possibility:

Transforming Our Relationship with Ourselves, Each Other, and the World Empathy in
Psychotherapy: How Therapists and Clients Understand Each Other I'm Like You, You're Like Me:
A Child's Book About Understanding and Celebrating Each Other Entropy, Information, and
Evolution: New Perspective on Physical and Biological Evolution (Bradford Books)

[Dmca](#)