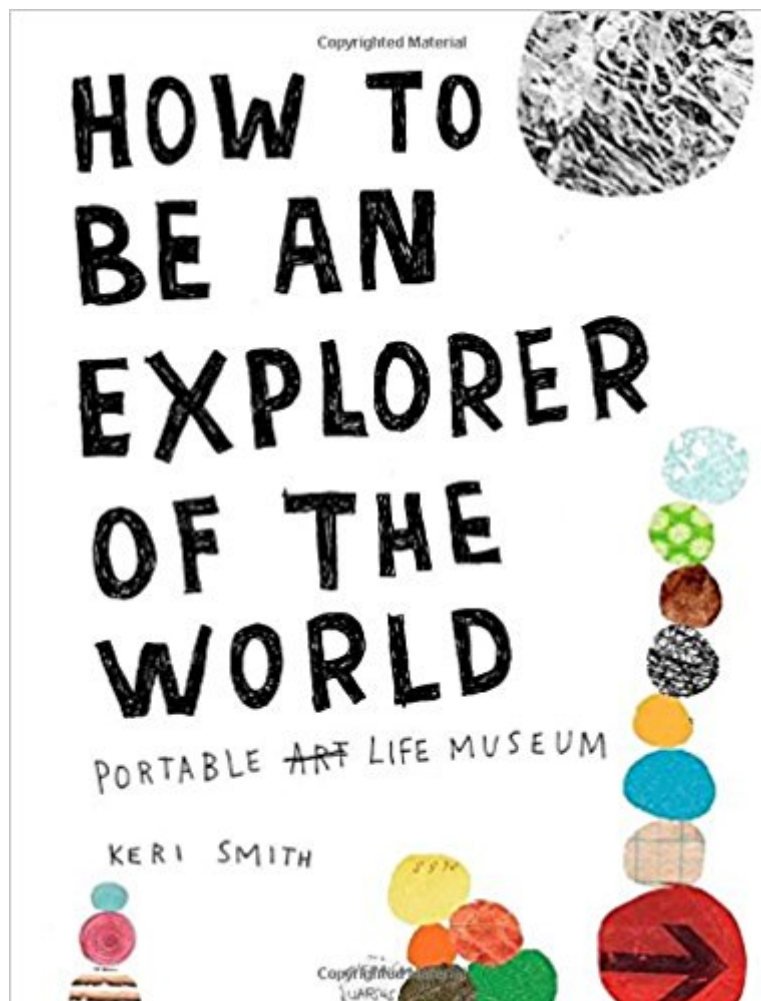




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# How To Be An Explorer Of The World: Portable Life Museum



## Synopsis

From the internationally bestselling creator of *Wreck This Journal*, an interactive guide for exploring and documenting the art and science of everyday life. Artists and scientists analyze the world around them in surprisingly similar ways, by observing, collecting, documenting, analyzing, and comparing. In this captivating guided journal, readers are encouraged to explore their world as both artists and scientists. The mission Smith proposes? To document and observe the world around you as if you’ve never seen it before. Take notes. Collect things you find on your travels. Document findings. Notice patterns. Copy. Trace. Focus on one thing at a time. Record what you are drawn to. Through this series of beautifully hand-illustrated interactive prompts, readers will enjoy exploring and discovering the world in ways they never even imagined.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Praise for *How to Be an Explorer of the World* “Both daring and meditative, *How to Be an Explorer of the World* is part Maira Kalman, part Wendy MacNaughton, part its very own kind of whimsy, delivering beautifully exactly what it says on the tin, with an invitation to be just a little bit more alive each day.” “Brain Pickings” “This book serves as an example of what the author is trying to teach us: creating, documenting, collecting. Analog instead of digital, natural in place of artificial.” “Wired” “What Keri Smith achieves in this book is one of the most accessible articulations of a psychogeographic mindset I’ve come across. This book is an optimistic treat, a wonderfully practical, fun and

engaging encouragement to open our eyes and minds to the mundane minutiae of the world around us and see revealed the beauty in things might otherwise go unnoticed. • The Museum of Thin Objects • “The book is deliciously simple but thought-provoking. [Smith] engages you to try and deviate from the norm when it comes to living your life • living consciously, rather than unconsciously strolling through life. • Pikaland Praise for Keri Smith • “Keri Smith may well be the self-help guru this DIY generation deserves. • The Believer • “A conceptual artist and author luring kids into questioning the world and appreciating every smell, texture and mystery in it. • TIME Magazine

Keri Smith is a bestselling author, illustrator, and thinker. Her books include *Wreck This Journal*, *The Wander Society*, *This is Not a Book*, *How to Be an Explorer of the World*, *Mess, Finish This Book*, *The Pocket Scavenger*, *Wreck This Journal Everywhere*, *Everything Is Connected*, and *The Imaginary World of...* as well as *Wreck This App*, *This is Not an App*, and the *Pocket Scavenger* app. She enjoys spending time with her husband, experimental musician Jefferson Pitcher, and two children.

I purchased this book for my daughter, Sarah. She wrote in it and underlined words and left it a rag tag mess. After she passed away in a car accident when she was 16, I loved flipping through the pages seeing her thoughts and observations.

I purchased two of these books for different children, and each is using the book in their own ways to learn about the world in which they live. Not a day goes by that one or the other doesn't discover, on their own, something else amazing about the environment they occupy. Want to get your child away from the video games? Off the cell phone for hours at a time? Offer this book as a gift, and watch their knowledge grow page by page as they themselves become to authors of their own experiences in learning. These books are truly amazing, and do not have to be limited to children. Many bored adults who could use an inspiration that life doesn't have to be mundane can benefit from the use of this book. I recommend it for all ages and a book for each family member. If each one has his own book, discussions can begin at any time with everyone participating on different discoveries while the book has given each person the same suggestion for an 'assignment.' Fun and informative gift for anyone for any occasion.

How fun! There is a list of ingredients for you to get, things like a feather, some buttons, coins, found items. You can pick them up wherever you go. It is supposed to get you to go out and notice your world, looking for things that you'd normally not notice. Then when you collect a bunch of things there are art projects to do with the objects.

I haven't gotten through the whole book as of yet. But I will say I'm already seeing the world around me in a different way. I notice things that I wouldn't otherwise have noticed. I pay more attention to the people and things that are going on around me. I've started collecting things and I soon hope to explore a bit further out of my comfort zone. I highly recommend this book!

The entire family and my child's school mates all loved this book.

Bought this as a holiday gift for a loved one several years ago, and she loved it so much I repeated the gift for another friend this year. Perfect for those with an artistic soul, a healthy skepticism of coloring inside the lines, and a strong sense of wanderlust.

I bought two more copies of this for creative friends and as a family gift. I am using mine every day -- not always to "follow instructions," but to see how my creative processes work already. As a family gift I see a lot of openings for free family field trips where all ages can discover/contribute, each from his or her own strengths, as the idea that artists and scientists both think creatively is played out many times.

I like this book more every time I pick it up. When I first opened it and flipped through the pages I was slightly disappointed. The structure of the book seemed like it was put together slapdash without any real thought, and it seemed to me that all of the fun pictures were there to serve the purpose of filling in blank space. After giving the book several chances it started to grow on me and I realized that its real purpose was to make the reader start thinking in a different way by challenging the reader to complete odd tasks, or at least tasks that are out of the ordinary. One of the book's main challenges is to get the reader, or explorer, to start recognizing patterns in an every day environment. The book challenges the reader to do this in many different ways, and starts to seem redundant. When I realized that most of the exercises were designed to achieve the same goal, I felt a little cheated. However, after thinking about it more, I suppose repetition is necessary when learning something new. Especially when that something is a new way to think. On the whole, I enjoy

the book. Though I think that it would have been better with half the pages and half the price.

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