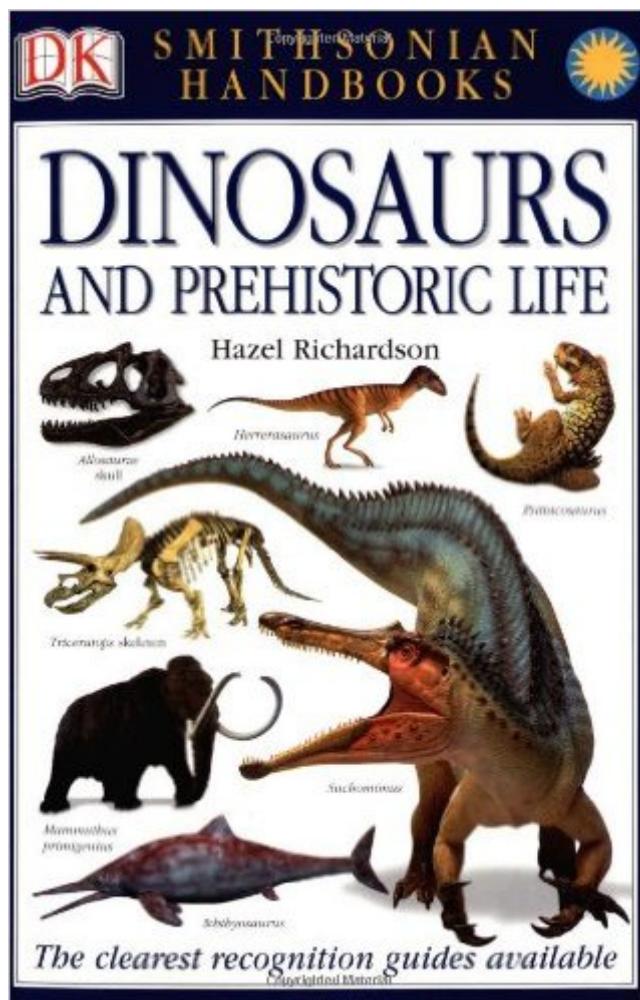


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Dinosaurs And Other Prehistoric Animals (Smithsonian Handbooks)



Synopsis

The newest addition to the DK Handbooks series, Smithsonian Handbook to Dinosaurs and Other Prehistoric Animals features detailed profiles of 200 dinosaur species, full-color illustrations and photographs showing actual excavation sites.

Book Information

Series: Smithsonian Handbooks

Paperback: 224 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (20 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #352,965 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Dinosaurs #7696 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology

Customer Reviews

Paleontology field guides are exercises in speculation regarding the appearances and habits of the subjects. This book is easy on the eye but would have benefitted from closer scrutiny by the author and editor. As another reviewer noted, the small drawings comparing the animals depicted to a human or parts thereof are sometimes of inconsistent scale; for example a 13' beast appears larger than a 20' one on the next page. But the worst defects are the weights attributed to the creatures depicted. Among the more laughable such instances is a pterosaur with a 3' wingspan is said to weigh 45 pounds!

Truthfully, I wasn't very impressed with this one. It tries to be a good book, really it does... it just isn't. There are some places where the text is obviously (at least to me) inaccurate, the size scales are frequently inaccurate, and I wasn't very impressed with the CG illustrations. Some of these appear to be actual three-dimensional models (like the marine reptile on the cover), while others appear to have been created at least partly through photo manipulation. Frankly, I could have done a better job than the artist(s) did in many cases; they pasted an ostrich's head and beak on

Aepyornis, for instance. Which is not only sloppy, it's completely inaccurate as far as what the animal should look like. Was being able to put "high tech" computer art in the book really worth sacrificing accuracy? All in all, I rate this book with a fairly nondescript "meh". I've seen worse, but it isn't that great, and I was sorry I'd paid \$25 for it. If you really have to have it, buy it used, or better yet, see if you can find it at your local library.

Great book, except not totally up to date. Dinosaur information is very thorough. Modern information about the Ordovician mass extinction could be added in a revision of this book, showing that a possible cause may have been a gamma ray burst. This, however is a minor issue, and doesn't take anything away from 5 stars I give this book. If you want this kind of information without reading a long text book, then this book is perfect! It's small size makes it easy to carry on a trip. Well worth the money!

My son, age 6, carries this book with him everywhere. He absolutely loves it and references it as he watches dinosaur shows on TV or the internet. We've had the book now for over a month and he's still finding new things in it. There's a lot of info in this book. I strongly recommend.

i havent read a whole book since graduate school but have never stopped learning about things. we have the entire collection and i now devour them cover to cover. i purchased almost all of them on for \$5-\$13 each (verses the \$20 cover price). my kids and i LOVE to read these books and learn about the rocks, fossils and nature we find camping and fishing.

My son discovered dinosaurs so I figured I'd get this for his 2nd birthday and he could grow into it rather than out of it. It's a handy smaller "handbook" size. Pictures and info on every page. When I gave him this and a similar caliber dinosaur book on his birthday, all of a sudden his new toys he just got werent near as cool as his new books. This one is still his favorite

This book I keep for myself, I am almost finished reading the book and I have learned a lot of our past and what lived in our past. Book is great. I would have liked a longer description of the animals, where their remains were found and some other pertant facts. But as said what was there was good. I particularly liked is that the name of each animal was given so that a novice could prenounce it. Good thinking. I personally have about six of your books and have only one complaint about one of them...That book is "Birds of North America". I did, once before, tell you what was

wrong with that book but never heard a word from anybody. However, I still keep buying them. Generally they are great.

This will be a helpful book for my granddaughters school project. It was a good review of the Smithsonian display, and will serve to provide new information or as a review for the student.

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