

Smithsonian Handbooks Fossils

The clearest and sharpest recognition guide to over 500 invertebrate, vertebrate, and plant fossils from around the world. This comprehensive e-guide is the perfect introduction to finding, identifying, and collecting fossils. It features more than 500 species of plant and animal fossils, from trilobites and megafauna to dinosaurs and ancient trees. This ebook cuts through the complicated identification process with expertly written and thoroughly vetted text that features precise description, enabling you to recognize a species instantly. Over 1,000 photographs, with illuminating annotations, help you to pick out a fossil's chief characteristics and distinguishing features, while a colour illustration shows the fossil as a living plant or animal. The detailed introduction explains what a fossil is and how they are classified. Start building your own collection with advice on where to look for fossils, what tools and safety equipment are needed for collecting, and how best to organize a fossil collection. To help you in the initial stages of identification, this book provides a visual identification key that makes it easy to recognize a fossil and place it in its correct group. Finally, a concise glossary gives instant understanding of technical and scientific terms.

A comprehensive introduction explains how and where to find rocks and minerals, and makes identification of specimens simple.

This fact-filled, accessibly written book encourages young readers to start exploring our rocky world and discover the treasures that lie beneath our feet, from fascinating fossils to precious gemstones.

A beginner's field guide to North American geology identifies common rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, and land formations.

This book presents a comprehensive overview of the science of the history of life. Paleobiologists bring many analytical tools to bear in interpreting the fossil record and the book introduces the latest techniques, from multivariate investigations of biogeography and biostratigraphy to engineering analysis of dinosaur skulls, and from homeobox genes to cladistics. All the well-known fossil groups are included, including microfossils and invertebrates, but an important feature is the thorough coverage of plants, vertebrates and trace fossils together with discussion of the origins of both life and the metazoans. All key related subjects are introduced, such as systematics, ecology, evolution and development, stratigraphy and their roles in understanding where life came from and how it evolved and diversified. Unique features of the book are the numerous case studies from current research that lead students to the primary literature, analytical and mathematical explanations and tools, together with associated problem sets and practical schedules for instructors and students. "...any serious student of geology who does not pick this book off the shelf will be putting themselves at a huge disadvantage. The material may be complex, but the text is extremely accessible and well organized, and the book ought to be essential reading for palaeontologists at undergraduate, postgraduate and more advanced levels—both in Britain as well as in North America." Falcon-Lang, H., Proc. Geol. Assoc. 2010 "...this is an excellent introduction to palaeontology in general. It is well structured, accessibly written and pleasantly informative I would recommend this as a standard reference text to all my students without hesitation." David Norman Geol Mag 2010 Companion website This book includes a companion website at:

<http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/paleobiology> www.blackwellpublishing.com/paleobiology/a The website includes: - An ongoing database of additional Practical's prepared by the authors - Figures from the text for downloading - Useful links for each chapter - Updates from the authors

Presents an introduction to minerals, discussing how they are formed, their shape, color, hardness, how they are used, and how to start a collection.

Where do fossils come from and how can scientists learn about a different time from them? Let your child read and learn from the valuable information presented in this small book of big facts.

The combination of pictures and texts make this book a highly effective learning resource for home and school use. Secure a copy today!

Stunning photographic guide to bugs, from the beautiful to the bizarre and every bug in between Smithsonian Handbook of Interesting Insects presents striking photographic profiles of insects, each one specially selected from the 34 million specimens found in one of the oldest and most important entomology collections in the world, held by London's Natural History Museum. The book showcases more than one hundred significant bug species, including the ruby-tailed wasp, the garden tiger moth, the jewel beetle, the flying stick insect, the orchid bee, and many others. Magnificent full-color photographs show the bugs in detail, so that readers can learn to distinguish, for example, the translucent abdomen of the great pied hoverfly from the yellow or orange markings on a giant scoliid wasp. Each detailed and dazzling photograph is accompanied by a caption describing the bug's lifestyle, distribution, size, and key characteristics. An insightful introduction also explores the different orders and families found in the insect classes and an explanation of how they have evolved. Based on the most up-to-date science and accessibly written, the book will appeal to scientists and amateur science readers alike.

Lavishly illustrated with full-color photographs, this latest addition to the Smithsonian Handbook series is filled with in-depth descriptions, fascinating facts, and annotated profiles of more than five hundred species of animals throughout the world.

How were the Appalachian Mountains formed? Are the barrier islands moving? Is there gold in the Carolinas? The answers to these questions and many more appear in this reader-friendly guide to the geology of North Carolina and South Carolina. Exploring the Geology of the Carolinas pairs a brief geological history of the region with 31 field trips to easily accessible, often familiar sites in both states where readers can observe firsthand the evidence of geologic change found in rocks, river basins, mountains, waterfalls, and coastal land formations. Geologist Kevin Stewart and science writer Mary-Russell Roberson begin by explaining techniques geologists use to "read" rocks, the science of plate tectonics, and the formation of the Carolinas. The field trips that follow are arranged geographically by region, from the Blue Ridge to the Piedmont to the Coastal Plain. Richly illustrated and accompanied by a helpful glossary of geologic terms, this field guide is a handy and informative carry-along for hikers, tourists, teachers, and families--anyone interested in the science behind the sights at their favorite Carolina spots. Includes field trips to: Grandfather Mountain, N.C. Linville Falls, N.C. Caesars Head State Park, S.C. Reed Gold Mine, N.C. Pilot Mountain State Park, N.C. Raven Rock State Park, N.C. Sugarloaf Mountain, S.C. Santee State Park, S.C. Jockey's Ridge State Park, N.C. Carolina Beach State Park, N.C. and 21 more sites in the Carolinas! Southern Gateways Guide is a registered trademark of the University of North Carolina Press

A new edition of the clearest, most authoritative guide to reptiles and amphibians you will find From the Tomato Frog to the Cornsnake, discover over 400 species of reptiles and amphibians from around the world. 600 incredible photos, annotations and detailed descriptions highlighting chief characteristics and distinguishing marks will help you to identify different species quickly and easily. Covers everything

from anatomy and lifecycle to behaviour and includes maps showing you the geographical distribution of each species. Perfect for nature lovers.

A gorgeously illustrated, entertaining, and educational guide to the wonderful whales, dolphins, and porpoises of the world. Some of the world's most fascinating and beloved animals, cetaceans have captivated the human imagination for centuries. Whales: An Illustrated Celebration explores the most interesting and illuminating facts about these marine mammals, from the enormous blue whale (which has a heart the size of a car!) to the Amazon river dolphin (which is pink!). Gorgeously illustrated with full-color art on every page, this giftable guide delves into cetaceans' mysterious evolution (from land to water mammals), their place in mythology, and their ecology, habitats, and behaviors (such as singing, fluking, beaching, bubble feeding, and more). Perfect for nature and animal lovers from eight to eighty, Whales also covers the current state of wild and captive cetaceans worldwide, why we should care, and what we can do to help our beautiful marine mammal friends.

This detailed and easy-to-use guide contains striking photography of rocks and minerals from around the globe, and is designed to help readers and collectors identify specimens of these compounds, which are formed by geological processes in the earth's crust. Useful for beginners and serious collectors alike, this handy volume features special color photography of specimens from the Natural History Museum in London, which holds one of the largest collections in the world. •Beautiful color photographs •Comprehensive, up-to-date information •Suitable for serious collectors and those new to the field •Special photography of unique specimens from the Natural History Museum in London

A lavish showcase of paleoartist Jay Matternes's spectacular murals and sketches For half a century, the artwork of Jay Matternes adorned the fossil halls of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. These treasured Matternes murals documenting mammal evolution over the past 56 million years and dioramas showing dinosaurs from the Mesozoic Era are significant works of one of the most influential paleoartists in history. Simultaneously epic in size and scope and minutely detailed, they also provide a window into the study and interpretation of vertebrate paleontology and paleoecology.

Visions of Lost Worlds presents these unparalleled works of art, and also includes the sketches and drawings Matternes prepared as he planned the murals. Known for his technical genius and eye for detail, Matternes sketched from skeletons in museum collections and added muscle, skin, and fur to bring mammals and dinosaurs from prehistory to vivid life. This book offers a close look at these works of art, a peek inside the artist's process, and an examination of the works' impact and legacy.

Collects annotated photographs and descriptions of over 300 species of insects, crustaceans, and arachnids, such as mayflies, bees, isopods, scorpions, and spiders.

Discusses more than 500 specimens, includes color photographs, and provides concise descriptions and essential identification information.

A new edition of the clearest, most authoritative guide to gemstones you will find. From Amber to Rubellite, discover over 130 varieties of cut and uncut stones, organic gemstones and precious metals. 800 incredible photos, precise annotations and detailed descriptions, including everything from gemstone shapes to their composition, will help you to identify different stones quickly and easily. Covers everything from what a gemstone is and where they occur to the natural properties they have and how they have been fashioned and imitated through the ages. Perfect for gemstone lovers and a comprehensive guide for collectors.

From Tyrannosaurus and saber-toothed cats, to ferns and woolly mammoths, every page will captivate young readers as they travel through the history of the Earth. This collection of amazing dinosaurs, plants, and other prehistoric life will wow children and many adults, too. Showcasing more than 90 remarkable fossils, such as a fearsome Tyrannosaurus skull, delicate fern leaf, and perfectly preserved woolly mammoth, everyone will find something to be captivated by. Each plant or animal is shown both photographically and illustrated, and children will love poring over the detailed close-up images. The storybook descriptions let you discover the myths and legends surrounding the organisms, as well as key facts about their natural history. Find out why Pachycephalosaurus had such a thick head, how a coral fossil can be used to work out how long a prehistoric year was, and which fossil was thought to protect people from poison. This beautiful treasury lets you find the things that interest you and uncover new favorites along the way. Organized into the Palaeozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic eras, travel through time from the first life on Earth right up to our early human ancestors. With reference pages including information you'll go away knowing something you didn't before, and you'll return time and again. An attractive gift for children who can't get enough of dinosaurs, Dinosaurs and other Prehistoric Life is perfect for kids to explore by themselves or for bedtime stories. Go on a time-travelling adventure and marvel at the plants and animals from the Earth's primeval past in this stunning ebook about dinosaurs and prehistoric life.

An illustrated look at dogs discusses the appearance, habits, and development of more than three hundred breeds.

Discover Earth's most beautiful and fascinating natural landmarks. From the spectacular granite domes of Yosemite to the reefs of the Bahama Banks and the ice sheets of the Antarctic, this is an unparalleled survey of the world's natural treasures. From the Rocky Mountains to the Great barrier Reef and everything in between, Natural Wonders of the World combines breathtaking landscape photography and illustrations with 3-D terrain models and other explanatory artworks to reveal what lies beneath the surface and explain the geological processes to show how the features were formed.

Plants and animals that inhabit each environment are also included, making Natural Wonders of the World a complete celebration of our world. Produced in association with the Smithsonian Institution.

The Healing Forces of Music explores the shamanistic practices and musical cosmologies of the ancient world, the worlds of Eastern and Western classical forms, as well as contemporary resources.

McClellan takes us into basic acoustics, the process of hearing and the vibratory nature of the human body. He presents a healing method through "cymatics" (the effect of vibration on physical matter), and also systems of healing with sound, voice and mantra, Tantric therapies and the utilization of the Endocrine Gland system and Chakra energies. He presents a thorough investigation of the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual effects of music, the characteristics of healing music, procedures for using music as a healing agent and advocates a new philosophy of music as a transcendent experience.

"A scholarly survey of the history, theory and practice of sound and music healing, remarkable in its cross-cultural and historical perspectives...very well received by professionals in the field." —David Lorimer, Noetic Sciences Review

"A major piece of work on music therapy in its widest meaning that would be of great value to musicians and non-musicians alike. Of special interest is his analysis of the physical, emotional and spiritual effects of music, including the characteristics of music for meditation." —James D'Angelo, Caduceus Magazine

"Singular work in the fields of historical perspective and potential clinical applications of music as a health promoting modality. We have no knowledge of any other individual with Dr. McClellan's background in this field." —Dr. Jonathan Klate, Journal of Alternative Medicine

"Innovative and important to a high degree...I consider this one of the two most far-reaching books on music that I have read. Dr. McClellan's role in defining the full nature of music promises to be one of unusual distinction." —David McAllester, Ph.D., Journal of Ethnomusicology

Explore the history of life on Earth through every type of fossil, from marine invertebrates such as ammonites, to fishes, plants, early amphibians, dinosaurs, birds, mammals, and even humans with DK Eyewitness Fossils.

From the origin of life, through the age of dinosaurs stalked by the terrifying Tyrannosaurus rex, to the earliest humans, this book tells the story of life on Earth. Dinosaurs may be the stars of the show, but the book is truly comprehensive, with fossil plants, invertebrates, amphibians, fish, birds, reptiles, mammals, and even early bacteria conjuring up an entire past world. To put all of these extinct species in context,

the book explores geological time and the way life forms are classified. It also looks at how fossils preserve the story of evolution and how that story can be deciphered. The "Young Earth" chapter explains how forces shaped Earth and steered the course of life. The main part of the book, "Life on Earth," lays out and catalogs the rich story of life, from its beginnings 4 billion years ago, through each geological period, such as the Jurassic and Cretaceous, to the present. The stunning visuals and authoritative text make Dinosaurs and Prehistoric Life a fascinating and revealing encyclopedia that will appeal to the whole family.

FossilsDk Pub

Bats: An Illustrated Guide to All Species looks in detail at the more than 1,300 species known today. Nocturnal, fast-flying and secretive, they are endlessly fascinating, yet extremely difficult to observe and catalogue. The diversity of bats is both rich and underestimated and the threats they face from humans are very real. This guide illuminates the world of bats and reveals their true nature as intelligent, social and deeply misunderstood creatures. This extravagantly illustrated handbook features the work of famed nature photographer Merlin D. Tuttle and in-depth profiles of 288 bats, from the Large Flying Fox, which has a wingspan of more than five feet, to the Bumblebee Bat, contender for the world's smallest mammal. Bats includes close-up images of these animals' delicate and intricate forms and faces, each shaped by evolution to meet the demands of an extraordinarily specialized life, and a thorough introduction which explores their natural history and unique adaptations to life on the wing.

Millions of years before humans began visiting Atlantic and Gulf coast beaches, amazing creatures roamed this region. They are gone now but left behind fossil treasures you can pick up today. A Beachcomber's Guide to Fossils uses hundreds of color close-up photos and detailed descriptions to show you how to recognize these exciting finds. This field guide will help you uncover mysteries hiding among the seashells, sand, and driftwood. You'll learn to identify remnant bones and teeth from mammoths, sharks, armadillos, tortoises, and many other prehistoric giants.

A comprehensive visual directory presents the fossils in easy to follow chronological order. Each entry has its own full color identification photograph, an artwork reconstruction showing just what the fossilized plant or animal may have looked like and a factfile of essential information.

A new edition of the clearest, most authoritative guide to rocks and minerals 600 incredible photos, precise annotations and detailed descriptions - from the distinguishing features of rocks, to which crystal system and mineral belongs to. This DK Handbook will help you identify different rocks and minerals quickly and easily. Covers everything from what rocks or minerals are to how they are classified and how to start a collection. Perfect for rocks and mineral lovers and an excellent comprehensive guide for collectors.

Describes the properties and distinguishing characteristics of more than 500 rocks and minerals around the world, and includes a color photograph of each specimen.

The clearest and sharpest recognition e-guide to over 500 invertebrate, vertebrate, and plant fossils from around the world. This comprehensive e-guide is the perfect introduction to finding, identifying, and collecting fossils. It features more than 500 species of plant and animal fossils, from trilobites and megafauna to dinosaurs and ancient trees. This ebook cuts through the complicated identification process with expertly written and thoroughly vetted text that features precise description, enabling you to recognize a species instantly. Over 1,000 photographs, with illuminating annotations, help you pick out a fossil's chief characteristics and distinguishing features, while a color illustration shows the fossil as a living plant or animal. The detailed introduction explains what a fossil is and how they are classified. Start building your own collection with advice on where to look for fossils, what tools and safety equipment are needed for collecting, and how best to organize a fossil collection. To help you in the initial stages of identification, this ebook provides a visual identification key that makes it easy to recognize a fossil and place it in its correct group. Finally, a concise glossary gives instant understanding of technical and scientific terms.

Provides illustrated profiles of two hundred different dinosaur species, accompanied by photographs of paleontological excavation sites and information on the habitats in which these prehistoric creatures lived.

Expanded edition of definitive guide for professionals and amateurs presents valuable information about finding, preserving, and studying fossils. Over 1,500 drawings and photographs. "Readable . . . and remarkably comprehensive." — Chicago Sunday Tribune.

Aids in identifying eight hundred species of common North American fossils with color photographs and line drawings

Newly updated edition: a guide to fossils of the world and fossil hunting, including how to plan a field trip, with a fully illustrated directory of more than 375 fossils.

A guide to seashells from around the world provides color photographs and concise descriptions of more than 500 species of seashells

Text and photographs examine the creation, importance, erosion, mining, and uses of rocks and minerals.

"This book introduces readers to fossils"--

See the animal kingdom in all its glory, from jellyfish to polar bears, with up-close details of their unique features from head to toe. Filled with magnificent photographs that were specially commissioned for this book and cannot be seen anywhere else. Written in association with the Smithsonian Institution. This visual reference book starts with the question "what is an animal?" and takes you through the animal kingdom - mammals, reptiles, birds, and sea creatures. It uses a unique head-to-toe approach that showcases in spectacular detail special features like the flight feathers of a parrot, the antenna of a moth, or the tentacles of coral. This visual encyclopedia is filled with clear and fascinating information on everything about the social lives of animals. Read exciting stories like how animals communicate, defend their territories, and attract mates. Learn how evolution has helped wildlife to adapt to their unique environments, whether it's the ability to live in difficult habitats, adjust to specific diets, or how they work physically. Humans have drawn and painted animals for thousands of years. Zoology has included some of these, like early rock art that depicts our awe of the animal kingdom or natural history artworks like those commissioned by the Mughal Courts in the 1600s. Dramatic Wildlife Photography Spectacular, never-before-seen photographs that will bring you close to many of the world's most captivating and intriguing inhabitants. This book offers an extraordinary introduction to the animal world by taking you through chapters that details their diversity. Go from head to toe in Zoology: - The animal kingdom - Shape and size - Skeletons - Skins, coats, and armor - Senses - Mouth and jaws - Legs, arms, tentacles, and tails - Fins, flippers, and paddles - Wings and parachutes - Eggs and offspring

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