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National Geographic Kids Ultimate Dinopedia: The Most Complete Dinosaur Reference Ever



Synopsis

In the crowded field of dinosaur books, this is the very first to offer children ages 7 to 10 those at the height of their enthusiasm for the prehistoric giants. complete coverage of all the known dinosaurs. Don Lessem, author of more than 60 books—most of them about dinosaurs—teams up with Franco Tempesta, a talented illustrator with a fresh and appealing style. The exciting result is an accessible, visually stunning book that is packed with facts that kids can use to impress their friends and families. The Ultimate Dinopedia is organized by the periods that are well known to young enthusiasts: Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous. It includes almost every dinosaur ever discovered, and highlights 125 species that scientists know sufficiently to describe in rich detail. Special features include How We Know What They Looked Like, Baby Dinosaurs, Great Dinosaur Goofs, and much more. Every featured dino gets a fact box that delivers important information at a glance—Scientific Name, Discoverer, Place and Date of Discovery, Length, Habitat, Diet, Fossils, Fun Facts, and Range Map. This book provides—in fabulously illustrated, kid-friendly form—all the information an 8-year-old fact hound needs to lord that knowledge over parents and teachers!

Book Information

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Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

The subtitle, The Most Complete Dinosaur Reference Ever, sets its sights high, but this impressive, oversize volume lives up to the claim. Lessem has written more than 40 books on dinosaurs, and in the opening chapter here, he presents broad basics on their behavior and habitats as well as a look at major discoveries in paleontology. However, it's the later chapters, which devote two pages each to specific dinosaurs, that will hook hard-core dino lovers. The etymology of each dinosaur name is explained, and each is written phonetically so that readers can share their newly acquired knowledge with perfect pronunciation. Tempesta's full-page illustrations appear on every spread and jump off the page, and the dynamic layout, with fact boxes, captions, and a main text, is immensely appealing. A concluding 40-page "Dino-Dictionary" keys each dinosaur to its family group and provides additional fodder for dinosaur trivia. Books on this topic are certainly nothing new, but Lessem's comprehensive overview will satisfy the interested browser as much as the ardent dinosaur enthusiast. Grades 3-6. --Erin Anderson

Don Lessem has written more than 50 books on dinosaurs and other animals for children and adults. He led the construction of the largest dinosaur skeleton, *Argentinosaurus*, and the largest meat-eating dinosaur, *Gigantosaurus*. Lessem was an adviser on the movie *Jurassic Park*, has hosted and written television documentaries, creates museum exhibitions on dinosaurs, and founded the two largest charities for dinosaur research. Franco Tempesta is an illustrator who specializes in the depiction of dinosaurs and other primitive mammals. A member of the Italian Illustrators Association, he has worked with National Geographic Children's Books, Random House, and the Smithsonian Institution. His work can be seen in titles such as *Little Kids First Big Book of Dinosaurs*. Tempesta lives in Verona, Italy. To learn more, visit francotempesta.eu. Rodolfo Coria is a paleontologist who works with the National Scientific and Technical Research Council of Argentina. He is renowned for studying and naming some of the largest known dinosaurs, including the *Argentinosaurus* and *Giganotosaurus*. A member of the Paleontological Society and the Explorers Club, he specializes in dinosaurs from Patagonia.

My 8 yr old son absolutely loves this! He is obsessed with dinosaurs so I didn't know how much he would get out of it but he has learned so much! Every day he gives us dinosaur trivia based on what he has learned in the book. It is a large, solid and colorful book that has kept his attention constantly. Great purchase, so happy that I bought it for my Dino lover.

Great for young kids.

Wonderful wonderful book. My 5 year old "paleontologist" reads it on a daily basis. Many different species spotlighted and classified by diet in then into the smaller families. If you own Other NatGeo dinosaur books you'll see many of the same dinosaurs with the same pictures, but my son doesn't mind. Only complaint is that after 2 months of daily reading the binding has come off the book.

This was a Christmas gift for my 8yr old and he has had a lot of fun reading it and telling us all about the dinosaurs. Great gift idea!

When I saw this listed on , I immediately thought of one of my grandson's who is infatuated with dinosaurs. Out of all the gifts he received (and there were a lot) this was his favorite! He wouldn't put it down even while he still had other gifts to open! : Thanks for posting this one. National Geographic: Thanks for producing the book, and, Dear Lord: Thanks for leading me to it. I look good thanks to all of you! Highly recommend to anyone looking for a book for a child who is interested in this portion of the world's history of our earth and life from the past. Great buy! W>

Son loves this book! He wants to read it every night and has memorized many of the details about the various dinosaurs that are covered. Some of the information is too high-level for him at age 5, but that just means it will grow with him. Personally I am a bit disappointed that the scientific community seems ready to acknowledge new dinosaurs from very few bones (seiously, two teeth or a parial femur!), so I have made sure to point out those things to him. I've also been sure to explain that much of what is stated about dinosaur behavior is only assumed, and even though experts base it on similar behavior of reptiles and birds we know of today, it is still assumption. That is not so much a complaint about the book but about all dinosaur information in general. The book illustrations are VERY colorful and detailed, and it is clear that much work went into that aspect as well.

I am pleased with this book. I am sure my great-great nephew will love it as he is very into dinosaurs, T-rex being his favorite.

My six-year-old asked for a book about dinosaurs, and boy, this is a book about dinosaurs. The best part is the first section, which provides an overview of all things dinosaur--how we learn about them, why they went extinct, how much we still don't know. After that, it's basically exactly what it says: a

reference book where each main dinosaur gets a full-page illustration + a page with a chunk of text and two factoids. For the blood thirsty, there are also plenty of pictures of dinosaurs ripping into each other with just the right amount of blood and guts. And while my four-year-old claims the book is boring (as is just about everything else ever, especially toothbrushing...), even he is intrigued by the gore. In short, there's something for everyone.

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