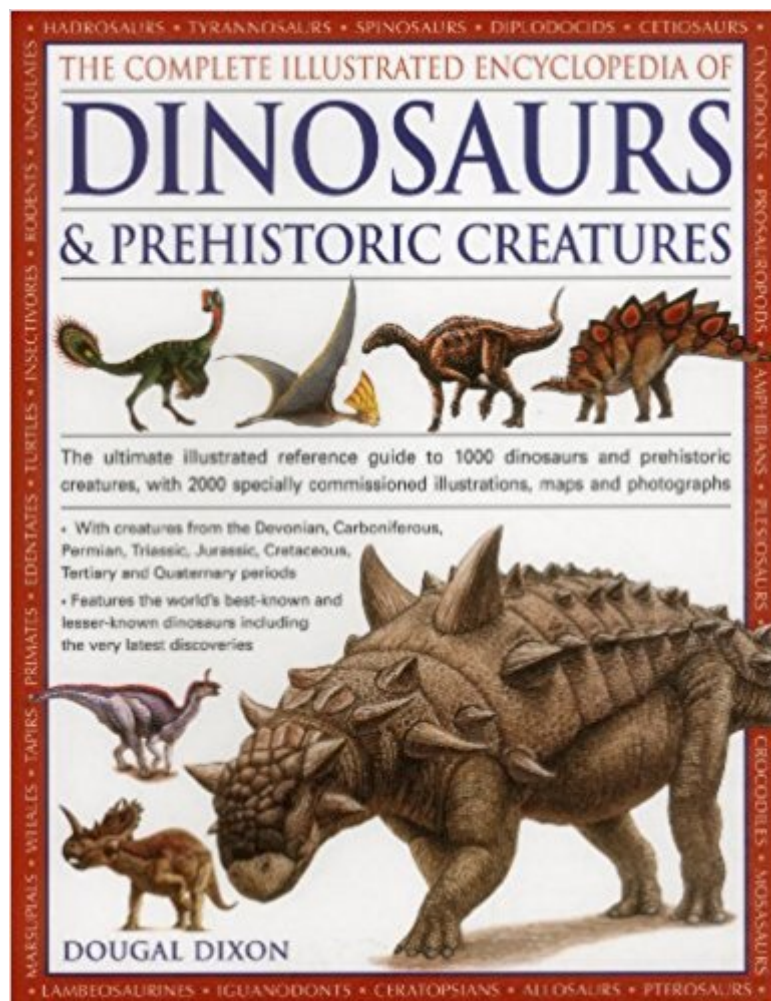


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# The Complete Illustrated Encyclopedia Of Dinosaurs & Prehistoric Creatures: The Ultimate Illustrated Reference Guide To 1000 Dinosaurs And Prehistoric ... Commissioned Artworks, Maps And Photographs





## Synopsis

Profiles all known dinosaurs and prehistoric creatures, from the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous eras and beyond. Each main entry has a highly detailed and technically accurate illustration, and a map showing the sites where fossils have been found.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dougal Dixon is a trustee of the Dinosaur Society, and a writer and geologist specializing in earth sciences.

If you're looking for a fairly comprehensive book describing many dinosaur species, this is a good choice. I would recommend this mostly to those who are just beginning to have an interest in paleontology, or those who want a refresher or easy reference book. There's plenty of good stuff in this book, but there are also some not so good. Let's start with what's good! This book doesn't get overly technical or weighed down by scientific jargon, so it's easy to pick up and read at any time. When a scientific or anatomical term is presented, it's always given a definition, and there's a small glossary in the back if you need a reminder. There's a nice, but short, introduction section at the beginning that briefly covers some basics on evolution and how the species in the book are related to one another. It also describes how fossils are formed and some examples of prehistoric landscapes. My favorite bits in the introduction are the full spread illustrations that clearly mark the flora and fauna. The encyclopedia section of the book (which is the majority of what you're getting

here!) features species starting with the Devonian period. Each animal has a short description describing its distinguishing features, where it has been found, etc. This is great for a quick look-up of a species to get some basic info. Each entry has its own illustration. The illustrations in the book are mostly very nice, but they do have some inaccuracies. Primarily, most suffer from "shrink-wrapping", a popular trend in paleoart that gives the animals a 'skin and bones' appearance- this is most notable on the heads. The theropods (traditionally, the bipedal carnivorous dinosaurs) are frequently illustrated with "bunny wrists", when we now know that their palms would have been facing each other. There are quite a few grammatical errors in the book, including a mix-up of words in one sentence that got a laugh out of me: "It has been accepted for some time that \*dinosaurs\* evolved from \*birds\*." Of course, dinosaurs and birds should be swapped there. Generally, though, the text is pretty good. Keep in mind that the author is from Scotland, so some of the "british english" spellings of words may seem odd to Americans reading it. For example, maneuver vs. manoeuvre. The most recent dinosaur finds are not included in this book, so don't expect to find entries on Yi Qi, Wendiceratops, or the updated quadrupedal stance of Spinosaurus. A sentence at the very beginning of the book describes this best, "New discoveries are being made so quickly, that before this book is on the bookshelves there will have been an overwhelming number of new finds and developments in the understanding of the subject." In light of this, it would behoove the reader to do a bit more research on any given species they're introduced to in this book, if they're interested in learning more. All in all, it's a nice book if you're looking for some basic facts, or like the encyclopedia layout of it. Kids will probably enjoy the illustrations, but may not be interested in the text; this isn't a wow-factor book for very small children. If they're really passionate and interested in prehistoric life, then I'd say go for it, otherwise this might be more suitable for early teens and up. As a side note, the size of the book is much more compact than I thought it would be; I've included a photo with a coke can for scale, for those who ignored the dimensions in the description, like me, haha. My copy arrived somewhat dinged up, on the back cover particularly, though is usually pretty good with their packaging- since it's a somewhat heavy book, I might suggest having it gift wrapped when sent to you, to avoid it getting smashed up corners.

First, this is a great reference book. I originally purchased this when it came out about three years ago. This volume contains no new information - it is simply a paperback edition of that same book, which is a real disappointment considering the number of discoveries made during that time. If you don't already own this book, it's highly recommended. If you do already own it, no need to purchase again.

This book contains so many facts and examples in both graphic and text that it pretty much out-paces most others out there. That its published date is a little old now means nothing. One question for other owners perhaps - does this book come in any other edition that I don't see? The text is really small for my mature eyes, and would dearly love to have something larger. I fully realize this format necessarily keeps the volume much handier, but sure would love to have more legible text.

I like reading about dinosaurs but many dinosaur books lack pictures or they have vague illustrations. I have an encyclopedia of dinosaurs, 20 years out of date. So I got this one to have a newer copy and it is very nice. Each animal is pictured and annotated. Also there are more than dinos in here and that is a big plus.

My son is obsessed with dinosaurs. This book was the perfect Christmas present. It has everything in it. Absolutely perfect for any dinosaur fans out there.

Heck yes! Perfect for my little cousin and all the dino toys I am getting him. He is only 3.5 and hunts them down and tries to learn how to say their names and asks 100 questions about them. Amazing and vibrant learning tool!

I used to be a nerd growing up loving dinosaurs! This is very educational and fun for anyone, especially kids, who want to learn about these mysterious creatures.

This is a really good book. There are four monsters for each family and pictures for them as well. Also, each family of creature has an overview. I really liked finding more than just dinosaurs in this book because the mammals are hard to get information on. The only minor thing is there is no good way to tell the size of each animal since there is no size illustration. There is text, however. For the price this is a great read. It is not over-scientific either. I was very happy to find my favorite animals as well as more. Very good large book.

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