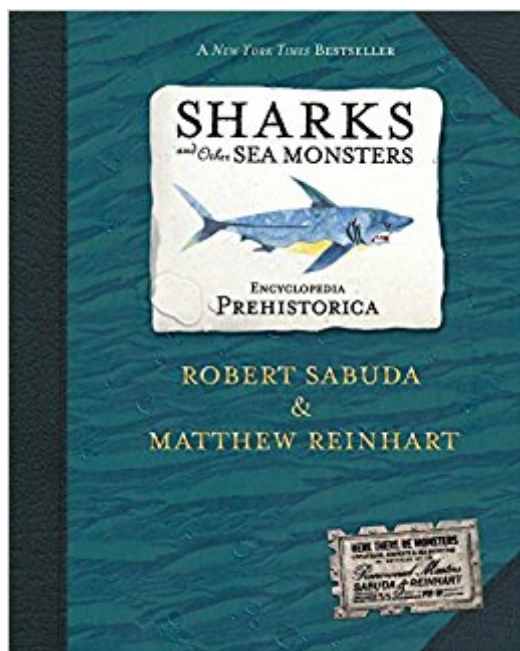


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Encyclopedia Prehistorica: Sharks And Other Sea Monsters



Synopsis

Just when you thought it was safe to go in the water! The second astonishing ENCYCLOPEDIA PREHISTORICA book from Robert Sabuda and Matthew Reinhart is about to pop up everywhere. While dinosaurs patrolled the lands, massive prehistoric sharks, giant scorpions, and colossal squid cruised the ancient oceans - most with just one thing in mind: eat or be eaten. In this companion volume to the best-selling ENCYCLOPEDIA PREHISTORICA: DINOSAURS, pop-up masters Robert Sabuda and Matthew Reinhart explore the prehistoric underwater world, where monsters like megalodon ruled the waves. Full of captivating facts and more than 35 breathtaking pop-ups, this incredible volume is sure to astonish and amaze everyone from budding marine biologists to confirmed landlubbers. After all, if prehistoric coelacanths and crocodiles are still around, what else might be lurking in today's largely unexplored oceans?

Book Information

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Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

Grade 1-5 - This companion to Encyclopedia Prehistorica: Dinosaurs (Candlewick, 2005) uses equally amazing pop-up illustrations to introduce a fascinating array of ancient sea creatures. From the creepy-crawly invertebrates of the Paleozoic Era to the toothy reptiles of the Mesozoic to the mammoth mammals of the Cenozoic, the enjoyably chatty text offers brief sketches of the

changing environment and its inhabitants. The colorful spreads feature large, often breathtaking paper-engineered renderings of prehistoric species, supplemented by smaller, booklike foldouts that provide additional information along with more visual fireworks. Readers will meet a feisty pterygotus (a lobster look-alike that grew to seven feet), an eight-ton sarcosuchus (a crocodylian with a horrendous overbite, and nearly 100 teeth, some the size of railroad spikes!), and a massive megalodon (a shark ancestor with jaws that could open wide enough to swallow a hippopotamus whole). Spectacular effects include a three-dimensional kronosaurus skeleton with intricately sculpted vertebrae, tinted plastic inserts that evoke murky underwater scenes, and an action-packed, pop-up battle between two long-necked behemoths. There is not much detail here, but the authors do include amusing tidbits about outlandish fossil hunters and references to legendary monsters (Kraken, giant sea snakes, etc). Fun from cover to cover, this attention-grabbing offering will captivate readers, despite its delicate structure and limited shelf life.

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Gr. 1-3. The focus of this second entry in the Encyclopedia Prehistorica series of pop-up informational books, which began with *Dinosaurs* (2005), is not as narrow as the title suggests. An overview of the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic eras starts things off, and the lively facts about high-profile predators (a massive megalodon could "swallow a hippopotamus whole") are interspersed with information about not particularly monstrous creatures and sidebars about paleontological research. The pops, however, are the main event. On one spread, a gape-mouthed shark plunges toward unsuspecting readers; on another, frosted plastic mimics the ocean's surface. Gatefolds and inset minibooks expand the capacity of the book's seven spreads. Unfortunately, the paper sculptures occasionally obscure the text or catch on the booklets' pages, the artwork often lacks identifying captions, and some of the creatures are introduced without referencing their proper time period. But even if children find the details difficult to synthesize, the sheer wonder generated by the collaborators' dimensional sleight-of-hand will more than justify purchase.

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Most collectors of Pop-ups go through stages, ranging from things that strike our values to books we find artistically challenging. Sabuda's work is always very creative, HIGHLY original, and his engineering is complicated. This book is no exception. It is grand to look at, colorful (unlike his white works), and the largeness of his Pop-ups makes you feel the sharks are coming off the page. I would

not classify this book as for kids. Its not a fun read, there is no story. Its an encyclopedia, with facts about prehistoric sea creatures. The pop-ups in some places dont go back nicely, and it might take a delicate touch, something that isnt found in your average 6 year old. IM not saying that it isnt a book for a child. In fact my 6 year old dinosaur loving daughter LOVES this book, but since dad is a collector of pop-ups, we treat it carefully and read it together. A great book, but consider who you are buying it for.

The more Pop-up Sabuda Reinhardt books I collect, the more amazing they seem to become!! Their Encyclopedia series of pop-ups are just beautiful and incredible! Looking at all 3 PREHISTORICA books makes me think of the artistic awe that I always feel watching the Rite of Spring animation in the classic 1940 FANTASIA! That 70 year old hand drawn animation is far more fascinating for me then the cold and stupid JURASSIC PARK movie even though FANTASIA'S dinosaurs would be considered out of date today because of recent research! Besides the drama of survival and it's march to the death of the dieing dinosaurs, Rite Of Spring has gorgeous hand painted, hand drawn art made in the style of Charles M. Knight whose paintings of prehistoric life have been on display in the Natural History Museum in New York City for decades. The pop-ups of all 3 PREHISTORICA ENCYCLOPEDIA books including SHARKS AND OTHER SEA MONSTERS are painted in a streamlined style that reminds me of FANTASIA'S dinosaurs and pleiosaurs. The first 2 page spread has a mini pop-up underneath a prehistoric lobster, that depicts early amphibians, fish and insects in the Paleozoic era before the Meseizoic age of dinosaurs! It even has a frosted plastic in front of the sea creatures to give the effect of being underwater! The next mini page shows pleiosaurs in the water and pteradactyls in the air of the dinosaur age and then the last pages depicted a huge megalodon shark attacking a whale! All this in just this little first pop-up!! WOW!! The next pages display a gigantic crocodile named sarccsuchus that wheighed more then 8 tons and is shown leaping out the water about to swallow an unlucky dino trying to get away!! As I pull open the pages the jaws of the giant gator are closing in on the pop-up dino! It made me think of the huge prehistoric fosselised gator skull in the Natural History museum I saw so many years ago!! A smaller pop-up above the big one has a cameroseras squid that was 36 feet long and that made me think of recent film footage of a real giant squid that I saw on the tv news!! Like the DINOSAURS and MEGA BEAST pop-up books, there are plenty of surrprise pop-ups throughout this book! One reviewer said there is only one shark in this book but if you look at the megalodon shark head pop-up that is beautifully detailed with open pink inside jaws and shark teeth, there is a side pop-up pages that when you open it reveals 3 bizzarre exstict sharks, the helicoprion, the xenacanthus and

the stethacanthus, all with strange shapes, teeth and weird fins that would scare the cast of JAWS out of their mind!!! I love the choice of colour patterns on their swimming bodies! An undersea kronosaurus pop-up skeleton in swimming position swims in the middle of the next pages! The bone ribbed pop-ups of prehistoric animals in these books are so cool! A pop-up porpoise like ichthyosaur is in the top right pop-up on this page representing fish reptiles! Long Necked sea lizards such as pleiosaurs, mosasaurs and long necked elasmosaurus are rendered in shades of red and blues as they pop-up out of the sea pages in violent action! And a lower horizontal pop-up opens up to reveal a red shelled giant turtle called archelon who weighed more than 10,000 pounds!! Writing this review has been real educational for me and I'm in my 50s! So this book is truly informative and great for all ages! Highly recommended!!

As pretty much every reviewer has stated, this book is amazing. I purchased it for a third grader that I was a reading mentor for. I knew that he was a little young for this book--I was constantly saying "ooh be careful!" and "don't pull on that" at first, but realized that his love of sharks and undersea monsters overshadowed the need for this book to be treated gingerly. There's so many things on each page--one main popup scene, and several little popup pages inset, many with moveable or interactive elements. The only real problem is that now I want my own copy!

This is an awesome pop out book. The amount of detail is amazing. Great for older children

I am going to give this book 5 stars. This book has brought out the inner kid in me when I first stumble across this series of prehistoric pop-ups. My nephews loves these books and they are well illustrated and fun to read and show young children.

My grandson was just 5. He is shark crazy. When his sister was about 5 and into dinosaurs, I bought her the first in the series of Reinhart/Sabuda books. She loves it still. I got her "Jungle Book" for her birthday in February (she's 7 and a voracious reader), and I promised her brother I would not forget books on sharks for his birthday. He unwrapped it and was trembling with excitement. We went through all the pop ups (there are 35). He was THRILLED. These books are fascinating to the children and also to adults. I remember the joy of pop-ups myself when I was little. Some of the pop-ups are so intricate, they need a little bit of help closing, but I would never worry about a child being too young to appreciate the text or the art of the pop-up. Visually, they are incredible pieces of art. They are also well written and beckon the child to read on. I will buy more at each holiday and

birthday until their sets are complete.

Very little to do with sharks. Awesome pop-up action as always, but should be "The Prehistoric Sea" and one page about a Megalodon

This book is stunning. There is a lot to read (unlike the Narnia one) plus there are additional mini books to read on each page. The pop ups are awesome. My son loves sharks, and knows endless facts about them, yet in this book there were countless creatures he had still never heard of. You definitely get your money's worth. The only con is that a few of our pop ups came damaged. Nothing major, mostly on the mini ones, but still, a little upsetting. I would still buy it regardless.

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