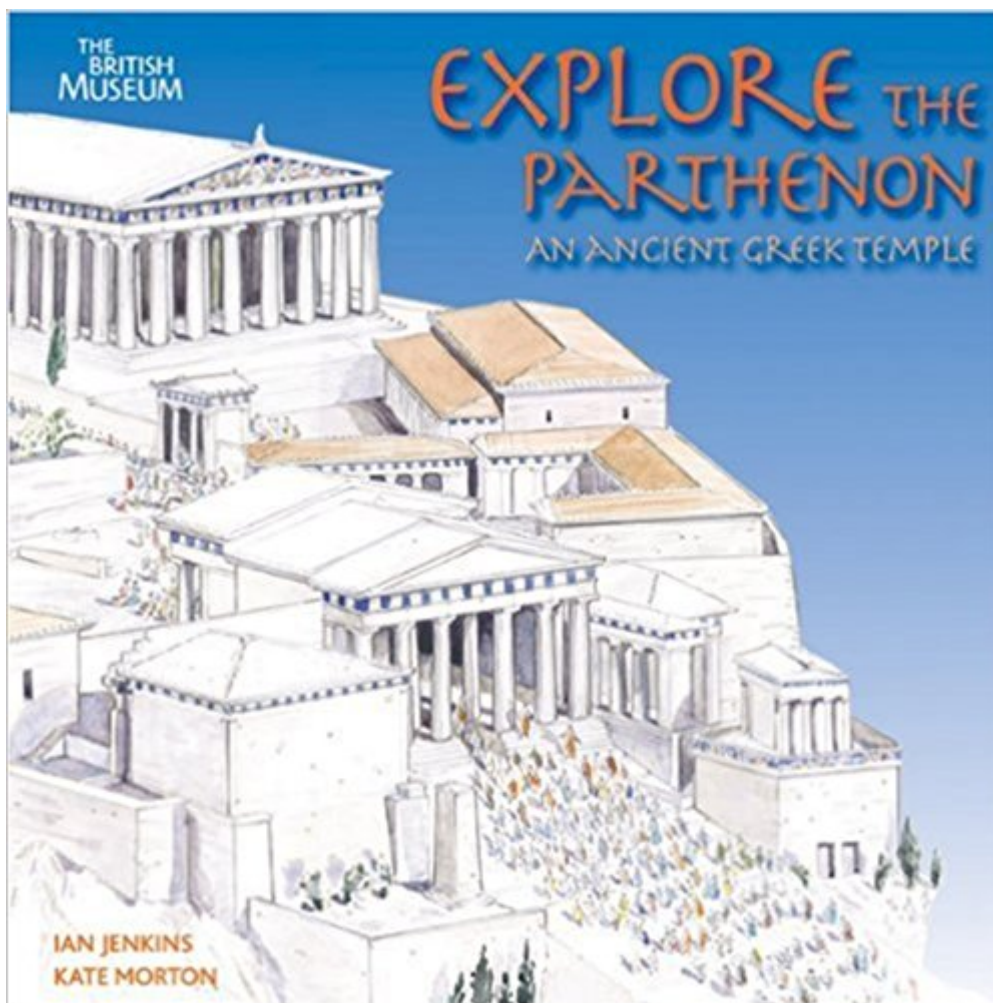


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Explore The Parthenon: An Ancient Greek Temple And Its Sculptures



Synopsis

The Parthenon in Athens is the most famous Greek temple in the world and an icon of Ancient Greek art. It was built to house a colossal statue of the goddess Athena, and the temple itself was decorated with sculptures and reliefs of the most magnificent quality. These sculptures are now on display in London and Athens, and are admired by thousands of visitors each year. This book explores in detail these lovely carvings, with the aid of new detailed digital photography. Who are the people, animals, and gods and goddesses shown on the frieze and what are they doing? Why were they shown on a temple? How were the sculptures made, and how did the carvers give such an amazing illusion of ranks of horsemen, chariots and people in carvings only a few centimetres deep? Ian Jenkins, a world expert on Ancient Greek sculpture, describes and explains these wonderful sculptures in a vivid and simple way for children, and puts them in the context of Ancient Greek religion, life and art. Children will enjoy discovering the wonders of the Parthenon sculptures for themselves but in the process they will also gain a much greater understanding of the people who created the Parthenon and of the world of classical Athens.

Book Information

Paperback: 36 pages

Publisher: British Museum Press (September 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 071413130X

ISBN-13: 978-0714131306

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.3 x 8.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #490,366 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #203 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Sculpture > Appreciation](#)

Customer Reviews

This is an incredibly rich book written in accessible language covering a really wide range of topics relating to the Parthenon (art, religion, architecture, language). I learned many things although I thought I was already quite familiar with the Parthenon. The author weaves his own scholarship into the text rather than talking down to his audience, but he does it in a concrete way that children can understand. He doesn't hesitate to use big words and name specifics and even include Greek words here and there, but he is so clear and the book is so well illustrated that I don't think there can

be much confusion for a bright 6 year old. Also, the text and pictures are not some scattered mishmash like those DK books (which I hate, by the way). They are presented in a logical order and the text is absolutely necessary to the picture and vice versa. The pictures are full size (as opposed to squinting size). Also note that Mr. Jenkins does not shy away from the religious aspects of the temple and what the people believed, giving detail on the actual ceremonies and function of the temple and its outlying buildings. It is very objectively presented.

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