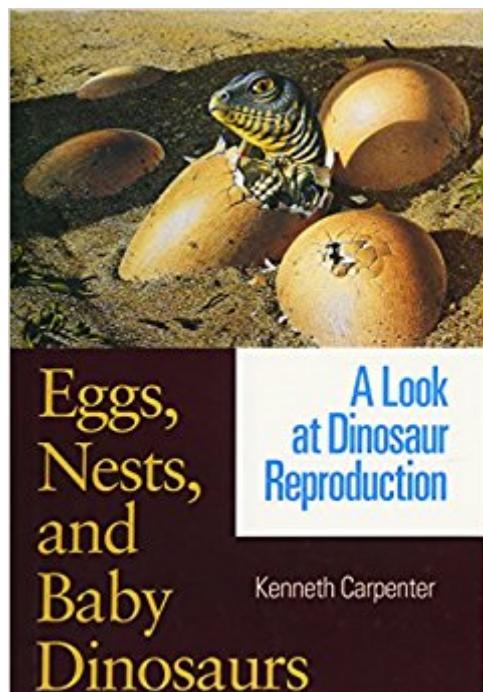


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Eggs, Nests, And Baby Dinosaurs: A Look At Dinosaur Reproduction (Life Of The Past)



Synopsis

"... a brilliant combination of imagination and science" and one of the best popular science books of the year." Library Journal (starred review)Presented with clarity and wit, Carpenter's exploration offers the very latest information on dinosaur eggs, hatchlings and babies, as well as a detailed look at dinosaur courtship, mating, nests, and physical development. Included: an extensive directory of dinosaur egg and baby discovery sites.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Carpenter, who is affiliated with the Denver Museum of Natural History, previously edited a collection of scholarly papers on this same topic (Dinosaur Eggs and Babies, Cambridge Univ., 1994). This time he has a little fun--or at least what scientists would consider fun--with his subject: he indulges in fanciful speculation about dinosaur courtship, sexual behavior, nesting, egg laying, and infancy. "Face it," he writes in Chapter 5, "having gotten this far, you want to know how a pair of three-ton Stegosaurus did it--probably like porcupines: very carefully." Drawing from what we know about the mating and reproductive behavior of living birds and reptiles, from detailed knowledge of the physiology and development of eggs, and from slim fossil evidence, he imagines the sex lives of dinosaurs. Thorough illustrations range from hypothetical dinosaur courtship dances to detailed scientific diagrams of how eggshells form. Admittedly, most of his speculations cannot be verified. Still, this is a brilliant combination of imagination and science--and one of the best popular science

books of the year. For public and academic libraries. [This is the first title in a new series, "Life of the Past," from Indiana University Press.--Ed.]--Amy Brunvand, Univ. of Utah Lib., Salt Lake Cit.--Amy Brunvand, Univ. of Utah Lib., Salt Lake City Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"Overall, a fine addition to libraries serving the public." —D. Bardack, University of Illinois at Chicago, Choice, September 2000

I have not started reading the book yet because the print is extremely small. I will definitely have to use a magnifying glass.

A good book on the subject if college level reading on this subject interests you.

If you're a serious "Dino-geek", like me, then Eggs, Nest, and Baby Dinosaurs may be just the book for you. Author, Paleontologist, Kenneth Carpenter has written an in depth treatment of Dinosaur reproduction in an ancient world. While accessible to the interested layperson the book seems to be directed primarily towards the professional and student reader who are comfortable with technical terminology, anatomical details and a little (very little!) statistical mathematics. Not to worry though, Dr Carpenter will help you through these difficulties. His writing is clear and "reader-friendly" with a bit of added humor (How do Stegosaurs make love? Very carefully!). Technically, some of the subjects followed are; How do you name a dinosaur? Where do you find dinosaur eggs and nests? I had no idea that an egg was so complex, different parts and multiple layers all working in unison for the support and benefit of the embryo. Also the nest and the nest-site are just as vital for the baby's survival. Is the nest too wet or too dry? Is there too much vegetation or not enough? The wrong temperature, too high or low, can drastically change the outcome and could even be fatal for the embryo. Like bowls of porridge the temperature needs to be "just right" and it's up to the parent to manage that problem. Using modern day animals as models, scientist are able to speculate on how dinosaurs went about "bringing up baby". These ideas are not just idle musings on a spring day but are based on a solid foundation of knowledge derived from fossil evidence, established facts on extant animals, and the work of countless paleontologist the world over. Tracing the evolution of vertebrate reproduction from earliest times to today the author discusses how dinosaurs played at the "the mating game", picked a nesting ground and constructed the nest. At times this book can be very technical; the anatomy of both the egg and the embryo; how a scientist goes about studying the fossil egg and the importance of parental care (or lack of) for the survival of the nestling. The

book closes with a look at the infamous KT extinction event and a few of the many suggested causes; gender imbalance, changes in the environment, possible imbalance of carbon dioxide and oxygen in the atmosphere. Did predatory mammals or small dinosaurs play a part in the extinction? And how about eggshell thickness (too thick or too thin)? The list is very long and for the most part not supported by much evidence, but all pertain directly to dinosaur eggs and babies. Of special note are extensive volcanic episodes covering thousands of miles and, of course, the asteroid impact. Any Mass Extinction Theory must not only explain the extinction itself but also explain the organisms that survived: crocodiles and other reptiles for example. Why did some birds make it through while others perished? And, most importantly, frogs and other amphibians. If things were as bad as some of the "dooms day" scenarios have it then there wouldn't be any of these soft bodied vertebrates around today. Carpenter covers all of these issues and more in thoroughly engrossing manner. The book is extensively illustrated with numerous charts and graphs and art work by various artist like Gregory Paul and Luis Rey. Archival and new photos along with SEM images of fossils. As a bonus there is also several pages of color plates depicting working scientist, fossil sites and famous paintings of dinosaurs. All in all a great book for anyone curious about life and death in the Age of Dinosaurs. Last Ranger

This is an intensely fascinating book that immediately gets into the surprisingly large amount of information to be learned about dinosaur eggs. Open it to any page and you are immediately hooked. It contains a very thorough treatment of dinosaur reproduction, the process in which an egg forms, how fossil eggs are studied and classified, egg types, nomenclature, fossil nest types, fossil embryos and hatching, where eggs have been found, a thorough synthesis of scholarly papers that have erected the various genera and species of fossil eggs currently known to science, and much more. It also covers dinosaur mating as well, but not to the great extent that you'd assume by reading the editorial above. The photos are numerous, pertinent, and enlightening (including one amusing one of a painting by Luis Rey entitled "Carnotaurus sex!"). Due to the advanced level of material covered, this is not a book for a child under (say) twelve years old, but it is essential reading for anyone over that age with a passion for dinosaurs and their fossilized eggs. I've found no other book with the breadth and depth of information in this one, and thus I recommend this volume as *the* one to own on the topic. As a major fossil dealer, I read this book cover to cover about once a year to keep sharp on the topic. And I recommend it enthusiastically to my customers when they ask me about reference material.

fast shipping. great, and very happy. low price and high quality. This is a wonderful product at an awesome price point. Out of the packaging, it was ready to use, with no sharpening required. No tearing, no pulling, easy to clean, and a nice grip. my sister,

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