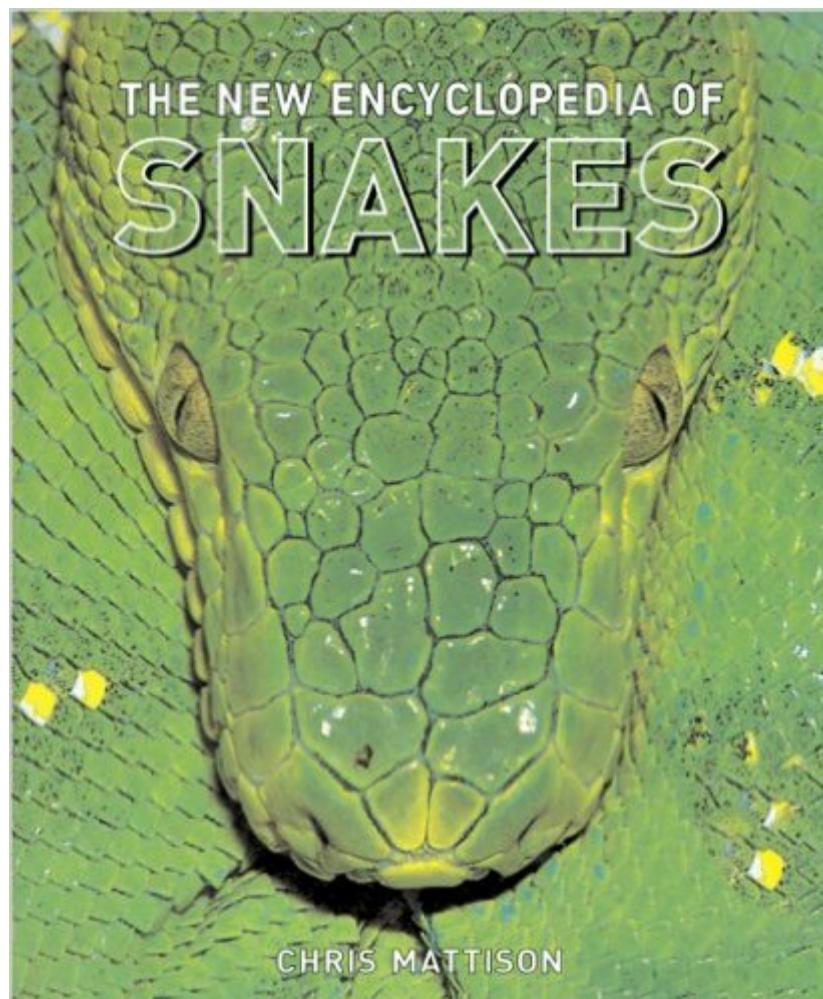


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The New Encyclopedia Of Snakes



Synopsis

Comprehensive, up-to-date, and richly illustrated with some 200 color photographs, The New Encyclopedia of Snakes is the best single-volume reference on snakes. A thorough revision of the highly successful Encyclopedia of Snakes, Chris Mattison's new book is the only one of its kind to deal in detail with snakes from around the world. Addressing the natural history of snakes and their relationship with each other and with other groups of animals, the book incorporates new information on snake biology and classification and includes a complete list of every family and genus, with notes on each. Throughout, photographs show the fascinating variety of snake coloration and camouflage, and illustrate and clarify the many topics covered. Organized thematically, the book addresses the origin and evolution of snakes; their morphology and function; how and where they live; their methods of feeding, defense, and reproduction; their taxonomy and classification; and their interaction with humans. The New Encyclopedia of Snakes is the ideal reference for anyone interested in snakes--whether they come across them in the wild, go looking for them, keep them captive, or are simply fascinated by them. A comprehensive, up-to-date, and richly illustrated reference Text enhanced by some 200 color photographs of snakes from all over the world Easy-to-read fact boxes about topics of special interest

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Chris Mattison has done it again. What a wonderful book - both the photographs and writing. It is chock full of fascinating information about the world of snakes. It is a great general book - snakes

overall - but also quite detailed about some specific species and interesting tidbits. It is updated from the first edition, with new photos, research, and classifications (e.g. Boidae and Pythonidae are now separate). A must have for any snake aficionado!

My fourth grade son checked this book out of his school library for most of last year. When library visits started this year, guess which book was the first one he brought home and showed me with excitement. I noted the ragged shape it is in (probably from having spent nearly 9 months in his backpack last year!), and realized I have to buy him his own copy. He's a snake-lover, and has more snake books than many branch libraries, but this is the one he reads over and over.

As a nature writer and speaker, I own a large collection of natural history encyclopedias. The New Encyclopedia of Snakes is one of my favorite reference books for two reasons: Although some snake guides have more pictures, the photography in this one is outstanding. The photos are generally large and often show the surrounding habitat. If you want to identify a particular species of snake, this book is a great place to start. What I like best in this book, however, are its extensive natural history sections. Subjects range from evolution to senses to locomotion to habitats to hunting methods to reproduction to predators to defense strategies. I recommend The New Encyclopedia of Snakes not only for adult snake lovers, but also for budding young naturalists. If this book were available when I was a kid, I would have had every page memorized in no time. If you buy this book for a child (fourth grade or older), don't be surprised if a college major in herpetology becomes part of his or her plan! Marty Essen, author of Cool Creatures, Hot Planet: Exploring the Seven Continents

This book was a gift for my girlfriend's 10 yo nephew, who owns 5 exotic snakes. He was delighted with its thoroughness and the photos. My girlfriend and I agreed that it was of a sophisticated enough level that we would enjoy it ourselves, and her nephew will probably continue to appreciate it for years to come.

I was SO SO worried when I got this book that it was entirely too wordy. Yes, it had so many wonderful pictures and so many different kinds of snakes, but it also had a ton of informative content as well. I just wasn't sure if it would be good for a 6 year old! But as it turns out, he LOVES it! He reads it all the time, brings it to his cousin's to show off, brings it in the car.. It will be a gift that he will enjoy for years to come - I couldn't be happier!

This book is an excellent source for studying the biology of snakes. However, I was looking more for a book that covered species identification. That is not to say that I don't like this book. I do and I plan to read every page of it. The photos are beautiful too!

I bought this book for my 6 year old son who is a snake enthusiast. This book has great facts and not just one or two sentences either. It goes into great detail with page after page of information about cool snakes. The illustrations are absolutely beautiful and the book is a nice sturdy hardbound. I gave it five stars because it is beautifully made and well thought out. It is a great book for any snake lover or someone who just wants to know a lot about snakes. This would also be a great addition to your classroom library if you are looking to add informational text to your collection. The picture does not do this book justice (very vibrant colors).

One of the most intriguing aspects of such a book is undoubtedly the quality of the pictures taken of the snakes. Mattison's Encyclopedia seeks not only to provide information about these beautiful organisms, but to gravitate the attention of the reader and to fully address the inherent beauty these creatures possess - through the detail and intricacy of the pictures captured. Regardless - the reason I gave this book 4/5 is simply because some information is simply a recycling, or a gathering - of the countless documentaries and National Geographic programs which have been made about Snakes. Truly, I have yet to come across a book which dives into snakes and studies them on a molecular level - in an attempt to understand fully how they function as reptiles. Despite this minor setback, there is plenty of information here which I have not stumbled upon as of yet, concerning snake interaction with habitat and humans. One of the nicest sections at the end of this includes one which classifies snakes, making this an amazing reference point for any true herpetologist to refer to in times of need.

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