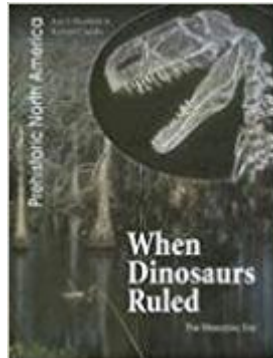




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When Dinosaurs Ruled (Prehistoric North America)



Synopsis

Imagine a world with volcanoes erupting as a single supercontinent slowly breaks apart. Fierce creatures over 16 feet tall and 40 feet long with huge, sharp teeth. Flying reptiles with a 30-foot wingspan prowling the skies. This is not a nightmare vision. This is our planet, Earth, over 100 million years ago! Journey into the distant past with this book and witness the earliest events in what would become North America; when life flourished and the dinosaurs ruled the land, only to be wiped out when a meteorite from outer space exploded on Earth.

Book Information

Series: Prehistoric North America

Hardcover: 80 pages

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Customer Reviews

Grade 6-9 These four titles trace the evolution of life and the geological progress of the planet over time. Coverage ranges from the four billion years of Precambrian time in *Land, Sea, and Life* to the comparatively brief Pleistocene Epoch of just under two million years in *Ice*. Well-organized texts present these significant time spans in clear language, progressing smoothly from general statements to more specific details. A wealth of illustrative matter helps to make the information easy to digest. An extensive discussion of glaciers, for example, includes several color photographs, clear maps, and useful diagrams, all neatly placed to provide effective visual references. The development of scientific knowledge is a consistent theme, as the authors note how our understanding of prehistory has changed over time. Recent finds are included, such as a reference to a 2004 discovery of a dinosaur-eating mammal, *Repenomamus*. Prehistoric time spans are often mentioned in dinosaur books, but are rarely explained with the level of detail found here, while most books on plate tectonics focus more on geology, with less emphasis on the biological

impact of Earth's changes. With so much ground to cover, the amount of information gets a bit overwhelming at times. Occasionally, sentences are oversimplified; referring to the last few years of the Precambrian, for instance, is misleading when describing a period of several billion years. In general, though, these titles are attractive additions with a wealth of in-depth, accessible information. Steven Engelfried, Beaverton City Library, OR Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Jean F. Blashfield is a Heinemann-Raintree author.

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