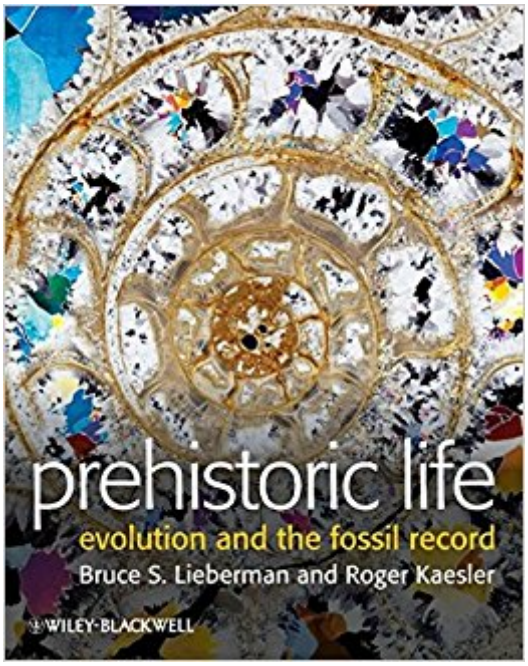
Prehistoric Life: Evolution And The Fossil Record



Synopsis

Prehistoric life is the archive of evolution preserved in the fossil record.Ã Â This book focuses on the meaning and significance of that archive and is designed for introductory college science students, including non-science majors, enrolled in survey courses emphasizing paleontology, geology and biology. From the origins of animals to the evolution of rap music, from ancient mass extinctions to the current biodiversity crisis, and from the Snowball Earth to present day climate change this book covers it, with an eye towards showing how past life on Earth puts the modern world into its proper context. The history of life and the patterns and processes of evolution are especially emphasized, as are the interconnections between our planet, its climate system, and its varied life forms. The book does not just describe the history of life, but uses actual examples from lifeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s history to illustrate important concepts and theories.

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Customer Reviews

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Bruce S. Lieberman is a Professor in the Department of Geology and a Senior Curator of Invertebrate Paleontology in the Natural History Museum/Biodiversity Research Center (NHM/BRC) at the University of Kansas (KU), U.S.A. His research focuses on the study of evolution in the fossil record, including the origin of animals, macroevolutionary theory, and biogeography. Roger L. Kaesler passed away in 2007. He was Director of the Paleontological Institute as well as a Professor in the Department of Geology and a Senior Curator of Invertebrate Paleontology in the NHM/BRC at KU. His research focused on paleoecology and fossil arthropods.

This is BY FAR the worst textbook I have ever spent money on. The only reason I purchased this book is because my instructor made it required for the Evolution course which he taught. This book is extremely "dumbed down" and is definitely not written for college students. Concepts in this book are extremely convoluted upon explanation by the author, and the works which he references are simply other colleagues of his who also work at the University of Kansas. A simple paperback book which is a much more enjoyable read, "The Beak of the Finch" by Jonathan Weiner does a much better job of outlining evolution in genera,l and cites works which are relevant. I cannot wait to be done with the terrible book, I intend on throwing it away directly after my final in my evolution course. Please, for the love of Darwin DO NOT BUY THIS BOOK!!!

Great seller A+

This is a must read for anyone who is interested in geology. It is clearly written and organized and it explained prehistoric life in a way that my students and I could relate to.

Very general work of the concepts associated with contemporary theories of prehistoric life. Lacks a lot of detail and the photos and illustrations are mediocre.

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