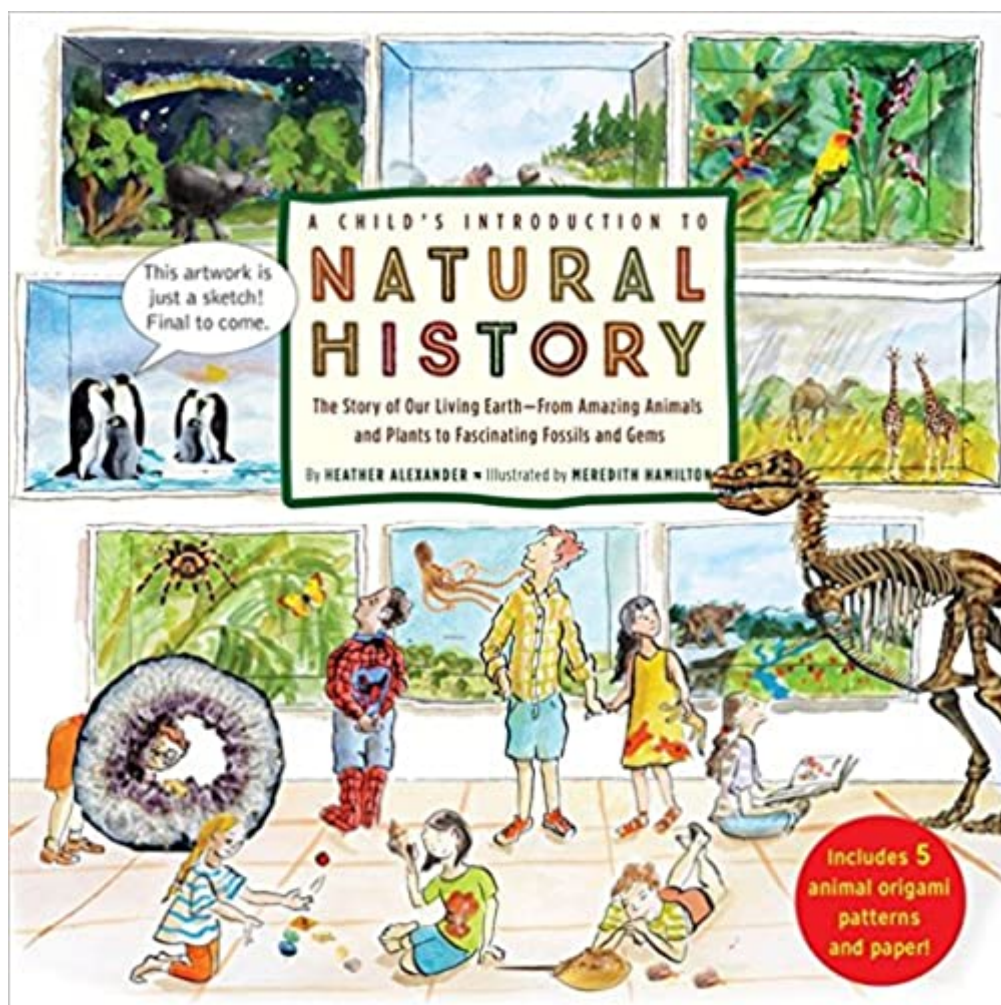




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A Child's Introduction To Natural History: The Story Of Our Living Earth–From Amazing Animals And Plants To Fascinating Fossils And Gems





Synopsis

In the tradition of Black Dog's best-selling Child's Introduction books, which include *The Story of the Orchestra* and *A Child's Introduction to the Night Sky*, *A Child's Introduction to Natural History* introduces readers ages 8 to 12 to the fascinating wonders of our natural world. Highlighting every kingdom of life--plants, bacteria, mammals, birds, amphibians, insects, rocks and minerals--the book is also full of charming and witty illustrations by Meredith Hamilton plus 30 photographs throughout. The book delves into topics like geology; prehistoric times, including fossils and dinosaurs; how animals move and fly; evolution; biomes; and more. Sidebars throughout offer biographies of naturalists like Charles Darwin, Mary Anning, and Charles Henry Turner. Also includes fun, hands-on projects for kids to do on their own or with adults and 5 origami patterns to create your own paper fox, whale, penguin, and more. Beautifully illustrated and designed, this is an entertaining and educational look at our natural history.

Book Information

Hardcover: 96 pages

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Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Heather Alexander has written numerous books for children and young adults including previous titles in this series, *A Child's Introduction to the World*, *A Child's Introduction to Greek Mythology*, and *A Child's Introduction to Art*. She is a former book editor and lives in Basking Ridge, NJ.

Meredith Hamilton has illustrated the previous eight books in the Child's Intro series. Her other illustration work includes apps for children, cookbooks, and Steuben glass. She lives in Brooklyn, NY.

This was a Christmas gift for our niece who is a science enthusiast. She adores this book and has talked numerous times about things she has learned from it.

The most damning remark I can make is that the Smithsonian "Natural History" is so extraordinarily good, and so graphically rich that the text doesn't matter much, that my five-year-old prefers it. I am happy to have both. The descriptions of animals, plants and minerals are pitched very well for a child. It is enough information that they are interested. In this day in which print must compete with media, this is a very powerful competitor. My son constantly pesters me to look for videos on the Internet of things like leopards killing antelope and such. I would far rather that he get his information from reading. The written word is a faster way to convey information, and the information is somewhat more objective, less laden with emotion than the video image. For that reason I am extremely happy to have this book to read together with him. When you read together with the child there is a bond that is absent when you merely sit together and witness the same events on video. The child's brain needs conversation in order to develop, and a book provides the opportunity for such conversation. In summary, this book was very much worth the cost and will be read for several years to come. The English is at a very approachable level, which means that my son will be able to share it with his friends even though English is to them a second language. Five stars.

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