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From Mud Huts To Skyscrapers



Synopsis

Children will be utterly absorbed by this journey through the history of architecture, from the earliest mud huts to today's soaring towers. Chronologically arranged, this large-format book gives each iconic building its own double-page spread featuring an exquisite watercolor illustration and clearly written descriptions, facts, and features. These vibrantly detailed pages are filled with people, animals, and other objects that help bring the buildings to life. A detailed appendix includes a timeline, a world map that points out where each building can be found, and an extensive glossary. Children will enjoy poring over this book and will come away with a fundamental understanding of not only the most common architectural terms, but also of how the built world has evolved marvelously over time.

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Gr 4-6-Budding architects are likely to spend hours poring over the gorgeous drawings and fascinating trivia in this large-format title. Beginning with the first man-made huts 400,000 years ago, the book takes readers on a journey through time, exploring well-known structures such as the pyramids, Hagia Sophia, Versailles, and the Guggenheim Museum. Each spread is dedicated to a single building; in addition to a detailed illustration of the structure, it also includes information about the architect, the architectural style, and/or definitions of particular details. For example, readers learn that Westminster Palace was made from limestone, which is easy to carve into elaborate, decorative formations, but it is also highly susceptible to air-pollution damage. Readers also learn

about porticos, Doric columns, and other assorted aspects of a building's facade. The bullet-point style of the writing and detailed artwork invite browsing and repeated viewings; readers will also be inspired to look up photos of the actual buildings depicted in the illustrations. The back matter includes a detailed time line and an excellent glossary; the latter is especially important as there are a lot of unfamiliar terms here for young researchers. This title will pair nicely with David Macaulay's *Castle* (1977) and *Cathedral* (1973, both Houghton Mifflin), as well as Andrea Beaty's *Iggie Peck, Architect* (Abrams, 2007).-Laura Lutz, Pratt Institute, New York City
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How about a historical overview of architectural styles mixed with a bit about each style's time period and the people who lived there? Each two-page spread introduces a historical period through a short narrative about the architectural type, a specific architect, pictures of one or more buildings, and numbered explanations of various parts of the building(s). An asterisk indicates words included in the glossary. The subtitle of the book is misleading: the book shouldn't be limited to children. It has plenty to offer young adults and adults who desire a brief glimpse at architecture and how styles have changed through the millennia. Besides the well-known architectural styles, readers learn about blobitecture and futuristic forms of eco-architecture. The time line at the end further explains each period, from before 10,000 BCE to today. The aforementioned glossary is thorough, though a thumbprint picture of each term would be helpful to keep readers from flipping back through pages. Grades 4-8. --J. B. Petty

I bought this for myself...the history of architecture for non-architecture majors. Lots of real world examples of buildings every passionate traveler should see.

I was looking for architecture books for my granddaughter. That is all she wanted for Christmas. This was a good child's version.

After I bought the different kinds of ARCHEQUEST's "CULTURAL ARCHITECTURAL" BLOCK SETS ---- I started to build a library of ARCHITECTURAL~related themes of Books, and other Hands-on Materials . . . W - A - A - A - H ~ H ~ H !!! Really wanting to excite every readers' MULTI~Intelligences & Sensory*Motor Skills . . .

Great illustrations of buildings through history. Nice timeline at the back of the book.

This book is a wonderful, visual timeline of living spaces for people through time. It starts with caves of the nomads and moves to present time of huge skyscrapers, and mentions famous buildings and architects.

good read

a great review of architecture. i bought it for my gifted nine year-old with several other books on architecture and she loved it.

Perfect

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