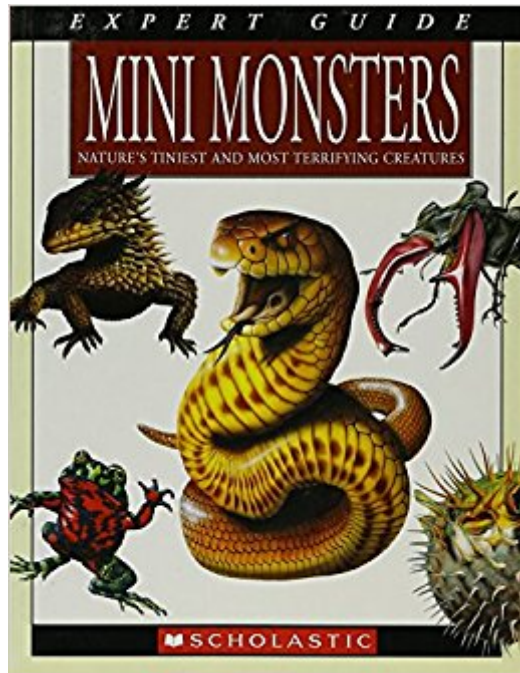




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Mini Monsters Nature's Tiniest And Most Terrifying Creatures



Synopsis

actuaaly a light cardboard cover, not a paperback, not a hardcover

Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Tangerine Press (Scholastic) (2005)

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Customer Reviews

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Well for one thing, with a title like "Mini Monsters" you can guarantee that this book was intended for children, maybe even tweens. It's definitely not like other books in the series: "Birds" & "Marine Life" (which I also own) were written by different authors and have a different atmosphere than "Mini Monsters", it treats the reader seriously. This book feels like it knows its subject, but at the same time is going off in different directions. For one thing, the book doesn't just deal with dangerous creatures of small statue, it just seems to deal wit any small creature that looks interesting enough... or rather, "like a monster". I don't know of anyone calling a seahorse, frog, or chameleon a "monster" per say, but they get their own entries in this book. Well... I guess a chameleon is a monster to an insect or something. It doesn't help that each image of a particular species is shown with rather menacing foreshortening. You can make just about anything look like a monster when you look at it from the right angle. In some images, you're literally face-to-face with an organisms... well... face! Sometimes even its proboscis or feeding organ. Don't like bed bugs? How about ticks? Flies? You're in for an unexpected treat here. The scope isn't even very consistent though. For a book about small animals, I'm surprised to see the Oarfish, Anaconda, Salvador's Monitor, and Sawfish (among others) in here, when these guys are pretty large. The Oarfish alone can grow to 26

feet long, longer than most land mammals. The one thing I do like about this book (and very much so) is the introduction. The author has done an amazing job of translating the ways of life in the natural world for a human audience. We're told that "the lifestyles of most animals are not dictated by whims and fancies. They cannot choose where and how to live. They are simply the product of trial and error." It's true, that's how nature and evolution work. We may not like that a particular species feasts on another's young, sometimes even while it's alive, but that's just it. Life is complex, and nature doesn't favor anyone's opinions. So above all... okay book. But that's it.

Great condition!

A good little read if you want a surface view of nature's creepy crawlies

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