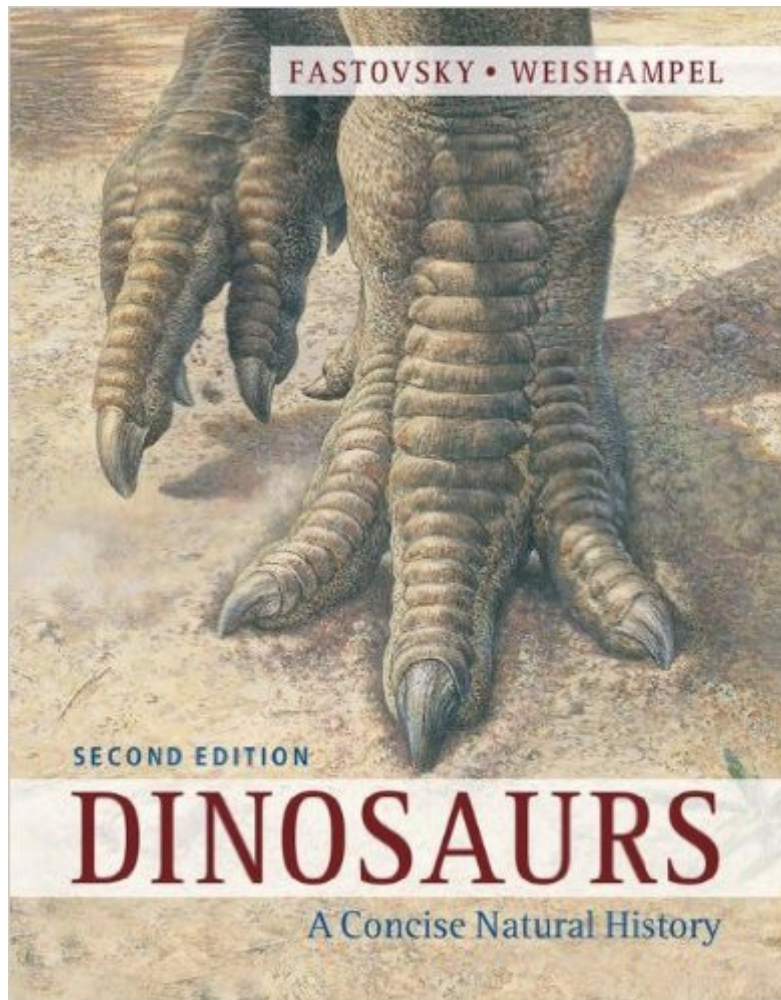


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# Dinosaurs: A Concise Natural History



## Synopsis

Updated with the material that instructors want, *Dinosaurs* continues to make science exciting and understandable to non-science majors through its narrative of scientific concepts rather than endless facts. It now contains new material on pterosaurs, an expanded section on the evolution of the dinosaurs and new photographs to help students engage with geology, natural history and evolution. The authors ground the text in the language of modern evolutionary biology, phylogenetic systematics, and teach students to examine the paleontology of dinosaurs exactly as the professionals in the field do using these methods to reconstruct dinosaur relationships. Beautifully illustrated, lively and engaging, this edition continues to encourage students to ask questions and assess data critically, enabling them to think like a scientist.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I wish some version of this book had existed, and been available to me, twenty or even ten years ago. *Dinosaurs: A Concise Natural History* is a college-level (or perhaps late high-school) textbook on every known aspect of the dinosauria. Subjects include the use of cladograms; evolution of the dinosauria; skeletal structures and nomenclature; feathers; geology; dietary preferences; and many others too varied to mention. The book includes a useful glossary, and end-of-chapter questions for those wishing to "test" themselves on what they have learned. I'd recommend this book to any budding paleontologist ready to move to the next level, or an amateur looking to put a finer polish to their knowledge base. I've thoroughly enjoyed this book, and will be using it as a reference manual

for years to come.

I find the book informative and enlightening. It will be added to my collection of reference materials as I try to get a better understanding of that subject. It's humorous but informative and approaches the topic in an academic way which is what I've been looking for. Even though they're not in color the John Sibbick's illustrations are a big plus.

Fine book. I like the interplay of diagrams, photographs, graphs, blue-backgrounded text boxes with special information, and the regular text. Those broken up pages allow the reader to move from section to section at will rather than reading what would otherwise be overwhelmingly dense material; the information is highly technical.

Dinosaurs: A Concise Natural History is an awesome comprehensive look at the kingdom of the dinosaurs in its fullness. From the Triassic Period through the end of the Cretaceous these amazing animals are looked at in depth in these pages. Written for those who are actually at university and pursuing a degree in paleontology--but available to the public--this will more than satisfy the amateur as well as professional scientist.

Excellent for the aspiring dinosaur student. Also, those who may have been "out of the loop" for perhaps twenty years and are seeking to get caught back up on all the latest information regarding dinosaur science.

I have never wanted to go into the field and dig up dinosaurs so much after reading this for my class. Not only that, but it's pretty interesting too, with jokes scattered all over for you to excavate yourself.

A very good entry level text book for the non-specialist. Does a nice job of using evolutionary structure to build the understanding of the group. Having said all this, some of the chapters (especially the early evolution of vertebrates) could be improved. In a couple of chapters the authors limit their discussion of important topics. This does help newer readers, but fails to help them understand the importance of discussing continece issues. On the other hand, the chapters are up to date, and the latest research is incorporated. The authors have clearly made an effort to reduce cost (few colors, soft cover) and I applaud them for it. The book receives 5 stars because it

completes its mission (bring people in and provide a basic but well rounded understanding of Dinosauria) with flying colors, but if you are more advanced in the topic you will not find much new here.

Great book that contains information on the dinosaurs and some of the flora during the Mesozoic era. Although not dinosaurs, had hoped there would be some information on the other organisms that lived in the same era, like pterosaurs and some of the aquatic ones like mosasaurs. There wasn't enough information on them in the book when they were also covered in class and would appear on exams.

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