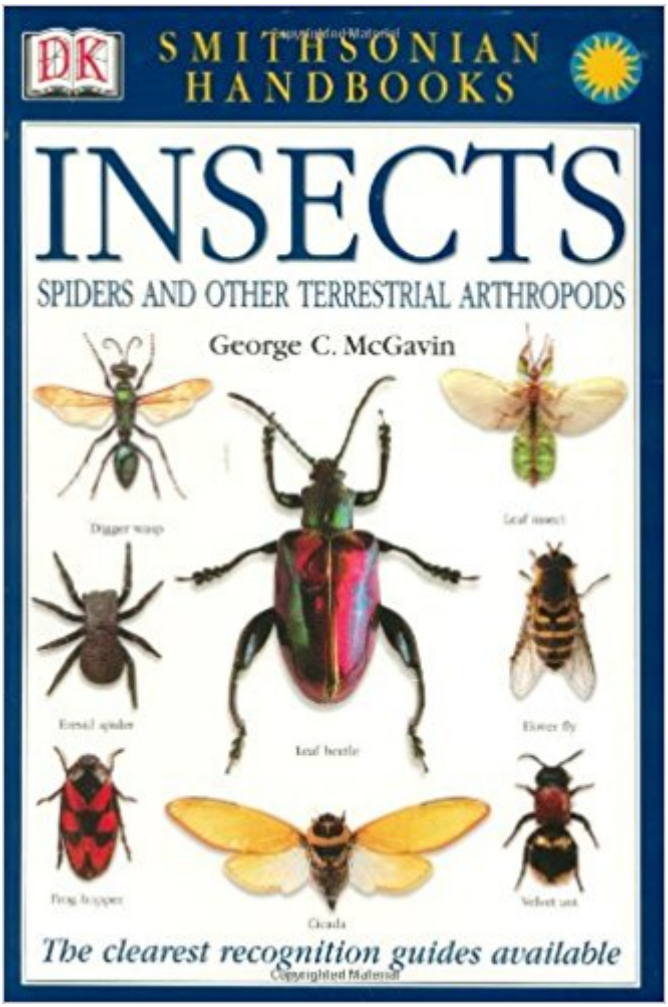
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Smithsonian Handbooks: Insects (Smithsonian Handbooks)



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Synopsis

Smithsonian Handbooks are the most visually appealing guides on the natural world in the book marketplace. Featuring more than 500 full-color illustrations and photographs, along with detailed annotations, Smithsonian Handbooks make identification easy and accurate.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dorling Kindersly publishing is known for their beautiful and informative books, covering a huge range of topics, including science and nature. This DK insect handbook’s lush photos and thorough information make it an excellent beginning resource for the insectophile. While not comprehensive enough to replace an entomology handbook, and not specific enough to be a perfect field guide, Insects rests comfortably in the handbook territory. Its sturdy binding and quick reference features make it a natural to take along on family outings. Each page is lavished with full-color photo layouts showing close-up detail of major insect and arachnid groups, and the accompanying text provides basic information on life cycles, ranges, special habits and features, and trivia. The author, George C. McGavin, is a respected entomologist specializing in insect ecology. For quick identification of major bugs and arachnids, as well as tips on how to observe terrestrial arthropods in nature, this handbook can’t be beat. --Therese Littleton --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

George C. McGavin, PhD., is a lecturer in Zoology at Oxford University and Assistant Curator of the

Hope Entomological Collections at the Oxford University Museum. He has contributed many pieces to scientific journals, lectured widely, and has contributed extensively to the Oxford History of Natural History and The Encyclopedia of Insects. He specializes in the study of hemiptera, the interaction of insects and their host plants, and the insect faunas of tropical caves and forests. He is currently involved in the Mkomazi Ecological Research Program in northern Tanzania, which seeks to explian patterns of species distribution and diversity in order to devise and foster conservation management planning for the area. Louis N. Sorkin is an arachnologist and board--certified entomologist at the American Museum of Natural History.

This book is great if you want to get a complete overview of all possible different insect orders and families. It presents pictures of representative species from butterflies to lice. But if you're looking for a field guide for identification, this may not be the best choice. You will be able to determine a species' family, but the amount of species per family is limited. The good thing is that because of the focus on families, several insects that you normally wouldn't find in a field guide are still listed in this book, even just for the sake of completeness.

The pictures are somewhat small.

This was a gift for a seven year old boy. It is his favorite thing in the world along with his reptile guidebook. He takes them everywhere! This is not a children's book, as such, but we read it together.

As a bug fanatic I was impressed with this book because of how well it is organized, all the pictures it has, and the way they present relevant information so clearly. They also tell you how to collect insects, what tools to use and other options, as in live or dead. I recommend this book highly.

Great quality. Good information. Pictures are well done, and the layout is easy and clean.

I'm taking an insects class right now and this was a required book, but I'm glad it was because it contains a simple way of introducing insect orders and other arthropods to people who do know much about the topic. Also, great images and descriptions a few families of that order.

This is a great book, probably a good and unusual gift idea for people not necessary looking for an

insect guide since it tells so much about different types of insects and has great pictures. It is more interesting to read then I thought!

This is really a nicely done guide and almost fits in my coat pocket. The pictures are fabulous and the insects are divided up into their respective families with very clear identifying traits. I'm really impressed, so much easy-to-use information in such a small book. This would be a great precursor to an entomology class. Some of my favorite critters are in the Psuedoscorpion order and are the cheliferids and chernetids, both of which look like tiny ticks with claws. So very cool. I actually found one once in Washington state--in my kitchen! It was very, very tiny. I digress. A book like this is handy if you are always finding insects and wondering what the heck you are looking at. A good value!

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