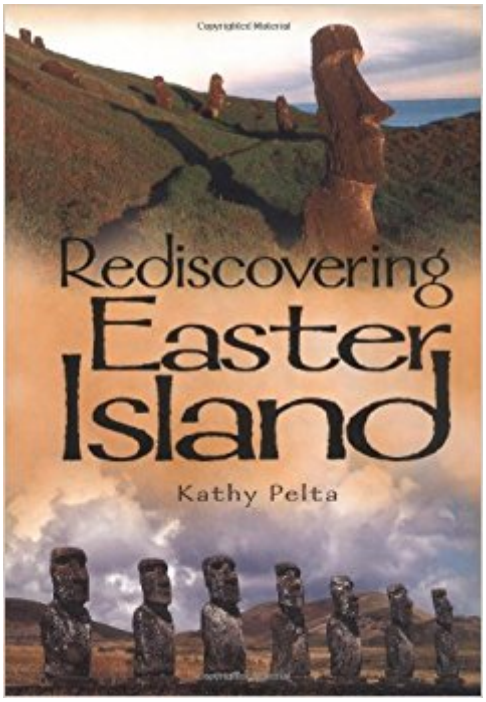
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Rediscovering Easter Island (How History Is Invented)



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Synopsis

Spotlighted in Booklist as an established series that continue[s] to turn out titles of high quality and appeal. Supports the national curriculum standards Culture; Time, Continuity, and Change; People, Places, and Environments; Individuals, Groups, and Institutions; and Global Connections as outlined by the National Council for the Social Studies.

Book Information

Series: How History is Invented

Library Binding: 112 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #5,593,804 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Australia & Oceania

Customer Reviews

Grade 5 & Up--The story of this mysterious island is documented in this attractive, lively volume. Recorded history is related chronologically in eight chapters. Various theories surrounding the origins of the Easter Islanders, including Thor Heyerdahl’s Kon Tiki expedition, are described. Beautiful full-color photographs of the stone statues and artifacts are interwoven with the text, along with historical photographs, illustrations, and a map. Four special inserts, designed to resemble parchment, highlight the legend of how people came to the island, the art of tattooing, the Cult of the Birdman, and the battle of Poike Ditch. Pelta describes her research methodology at the end of the book, listing her sources that include many primary documents. She includes an appropriate quote by missionary Father Sebastian Englert: "Development of knowledge-consists of the constant correction of errors-and when the subject is enigmatic Easter Island, no man’s knowledge is complete or secure." Two pages of notes referring readers to bibliographic sources are appended. This book is a welcome addition when compared to Caroline Arnold’s much briefer treatment in Easter Island: Giant Stone Statues Tell of a Rich and Tragic Past (Clarion, 2000; o.p.).Doris Gebel, Northport-East Northport Public Library, NYCopyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

The subtitle is appropriate to this latest in a long list of of young readers books about Easter Island. While not as bad as most, i.e. The Blind Guards of Easter Island, it is not up to the standard set by Peggy Mann's Easter Island, Land of Mysteries in 1976.The photographs are nice and the format is well suited for the age group targeted (9-12). Ms.Pelta gets the gist of the history right, but its the details that she doesn't have a good handle on. In describing the kidnapping incident of the Nancy she talks of several Easter Island girls who were thrown overboard in the harbor, only to swim safely ashore. The facts are that 12 men and 10 women were kidnapped after a "bloody combat with the natives." Three days out from the island they were allowed on deck and promptly jumped overboard to escape, and of course were never heard from again.(Metreaux,1940)This type of mistake is inexcusable, as this particular incident helped to establish a deep mistrust of outsiders that persists to the present day. There are other examples but my space is limited so I end with ... not terrible ,but certainly not great.

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