Sedimentary Geology By Donald R Prothero

EvolutionBringing Fossils to LifeThe Story of Evolution in 25 DiscoveriesFantastic FossilsThe Story of Life in 25 FossilsThe Story of the Dinosaurs in 25 DiscoveriesVertebrate EvolutionFossil Record 3Greenhouse of the DinosaursThe Evolving EarthThe Story of Earth's Climate in 25 DiscoveriesEvolution of Tertiary Mammals of North America: Volume 1, Terrestrial Carnivores, Ungulates, and Ungulate Like MammalsDinosaur MemoriesFossil Record 6 Volume 1FOSSIL RECORD 8FOSSIL RECORD 7California's Amazing GeologyFossil Record 6 Volume 2Reality CheckThe Story of the Earth in 25 Rocks Donald R. Prothero Robert M. Sullivan Donald R. Prothero Donald R. Prothero Donald R. Prothero Christine M. Janis Allen A. Debus Spencer G. Lucas Spencer G. Lucas Spencer G. Lucas Donald R. Prothero Spencer G. Lucas Donald R. Prothero Donald R. Proth

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over the years paleontologists have made tremendous fossil discoveries which includes an amazing diversity of fossil humans suggesting we walked upright long before we acquired large brains this work tackles subjects ranging from flood geology and rock dating to neo darwinism and macroevolution

the leading textbook in its field this work applies paleobiological principles to the fossil record while detailing the evolutionary history of major plant and animal phyla it incorporates current research from biology ecology and population genetics written for biology and geology undergrads the text bridges the gap between purely theoretical paleobiology and solely descriptive invertebrate paleobiology books emphasizing the cataloguing of live organisms over dead objects this third edition revises art and research throughout expands the coverage of invertebrates includes a discussion of new methodologies and adds a chapter on the origin and early evolution

of life

the theory of evolution unites the past present and future of living things it puts humanity s place in the universe into necessary perspective despite a history of controversy the evidence for evolution continues to accumulate as a result of many separate strands of amazing scientific sleuthing in the story of evolution in 25 discoveries donald r prothero explores the most fascinating breakthroughs in piecing together the evidence for evolution in twenty five vignettes he recounts the dramatic stories of the people who made crucial discoveries placing each moment in the context of what it represented for the progress of science he tackles topics like what it means to see evolution in action and what the many transitional fossils show us about evolution following figures from darwin to lesser known researchers as they unlock the mysteries of the fossil record the earth and the universe the book also features the stories of animal species strange and familiar including humans and our ties to some of our closest relatives and more distant cousins prothero s wide ranging tales showcase awe inspiring and bizarre aspects of nature and the powerful insights they give us into the way that life works brisk and entertaining while firmly grounded in fundamental science the story of evolution in 25 discoveries is a captivating read for anyone curious about the evidence for evolution and what it means for humanity

nothing fills us with a sense of wonder like fossils what looks at first like a simple rock is in fact a clue that reveals the staggering diversity of ancient environments the winding pathways of evolution and the majesty of a vanished earth but as much as one might daydream of digging a hole in the backyard and finding a tyrannosaurus only a few places contain these buried treasures and when a scientist comes across a remnant of prehistoric life great care must be taken what do budding paleontologists need to know before starting their search in fantastic fossils donald r prothero offers an accessible entertaining and richly illustrated guide to the paleontologist s journey he details the best places to look for fossils the art of how to find them and how to classify the major types prothero provides expert wisdom about typical fossils that an average person can hope to collect and how to hunt fossils responsibly and ethically he also explores the lessons that both common and rarer discoveries offer about paleontology and its history as well as what fossils can tell us about past climates and present climate change captivating illustrations by the paleoartist mary persis williams bring to life hundreds of important specimens offering valuable lessons for armchair enthusiasts and paleontology students alike fantastic fossils is an essential companion for all readers who have ever dreamed of going in search of traces of a lost world

every fossil tells a story best selling paleontology author donald r prothero describes twenty five famous beautifully preserved fossils in a gripping scientific history of life on earth recounting the adventures behind the discovery of these objects and fully interpreting their significance within the larger fossil record prothero creates a riveting history of life on our planet the twenty five fossils portrayed in this book catch animals in their evolutionary splendor as they transition from one kind of organism to another we witness extinct plants and animals of microscopic and immense size and thrilling diversity we learn about fantastic land and sea creatures that have no match in nature

today along the way we encounter such fascinating fossils as the earliest trilobite olenellus the giant shark carcharocles the fishibian tiktaalik the frogamander and the turtle on the half shell enormous marine reptiles and the biggest dinosaurs known the first bird archaeopteryx the walking whale ambulocetus the gigantic hornless rhinoceros paraceratherium the largest land mammal that ever lived and the australopithecus nicknamed lucy the oldest human skeleton we meet the scientists and adventurers who pioneered paleontology and learn about the larger intellectual and social contexts in which their discoveries were made finally we find out where to see these splendid fossils in the world s great museums ideal for all who love prehistoric landscapes and delight in the history of science this book makes a treasured addition to any bookshelf stoking curiosity in the evolution of life on earth

today any kid can rattle off the names of dozens of dinosaurs but it took centuries of scientific effort and a lot of luck to discover and establish the diversity of dinosaur species we now know how did we learn that triceratops had three horns why don't many paleontologists consider brontosaurus a valid species what convinced scientists that modern birds are relatives of ancient velociraptor in the story of the dinosaurs in 25 discoveries donald r prothero tells the fascinating stories behind the most important fossil finds and the intrepid researchers who unearthed them in twenty five vivid vignettes he weaves together dramatic tales of dinosaur discoveries with what modern science now knows about the species to which they belong prothero takes us from eighteenth century sightings of colossal bones taken for biblical giants through recent discoveries of enormous predators even larger than tyrannosaurus he recounts the escapades of the larger than life personalities who made modern paleontology including scientific rivalries like the nineteenth century bone wars prothero also details how to draw the boundaries between species and explores debates such as whether dinosaurs had feathers explaining the findings that settled them or keep them going throughout he offers a clear and rigorous look at what paleontologists consider sound interpretation of evidence an essential read for any dinosaur lover this book teaches us to see an ancient world ruled by giant majestic creatures anew

the first vertebrate animals appear in the fossil record over 520 million years ago these lineages diversified and eventually crept ashore leading to further evolutionary divergence and the appearance of the familiar charismatic vertebrates of today from the tiniest fishes diminutive salamanders and miniaturized lizards to gargantuan dinosaurs enormous brontotheres and immense whales vertebrates have captured the imagination of the lay public as well as the most erudite academics they are the among the best studied organisms this book employs beautifully rendered illustrations of these diverse lineages along with informative text to document a rich evolutionary history the prolific and best selling author reveals much of the latest findings regarding the phylogenetic history of vertebrates without overwhelming the reader with pedantry and excessive jargon simultaneously comprehensive and authoritative while being approachable and lucid this book should appeal to both the scholar the student and the fossil enthusiast key features provides an up to date account of evolution of vertebrates includes numerous beautiful color reconstructions of prehistoric vertebrates describes extinct vertebrates and their evolutionary

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donald r prothero s science books combine leading research with first person narratives of discovery injecting warmth and familiarity into a profession that has much to offer nonspecialists bringing his trademark style and wit to an increasingly relevant subject of concern prothero links the climate changes that have occurred over the past 200 million years to their effects on plants and animals in particular he contrasts the extinctions that ended the cretaceous period which wiped out the dinosaurs with those of the later eocene and oligocene epochs prothero begins with the greenhouse of the dinosaurs the global warming episode that dominated the age of dinosaurs and the early age of mammals he describes the remarkable creatures that once populated the earth and draws on his experiences collecting fossils in the big badlands of south dakota to sketch their world prothero then discusses the growth of the first antarctic glaciers which marked the eocene oligocene transition and shares his own anecdotes of excavations and controversies among colleagues that have shaped our understanding of the contemporary and prehistoric world the volume concludes with observations about nisqually glacier and other locations that show how global warming is happening much quicker than previously predicted irrevocably changing the balance of the earth s thermostat engaging scientists and general readers alike greenhouse of the dinosaurs connects events across thousands of millennia to make clear the human threat to natural climate change

the evolving earth is a higher education geology textbook aiming to teach evolution to non majors the book will emphasize popular topics such as dinosaurs mass extinctions ice ages climate change and the origins of earth and life

over 4 5 billion years earth s climate has transformed tremendously before our more temperate recent past the planet swung from one extreme to another from a greenhouse world of sweltering temperatures and high sea levels to a snowball earth in which glaciers reached the equator during this history we now know living things and the climate have always influenced and even shaped each other but the climate has never changed as rapidly or as drastically as it has since the industrial revolution in this lively and entertaining book donald r prothero explores the astonishing connections between climate and life through the ages telling the remarkable stories of the scientists who made crucial discoveries journeying through the intertwined evolution of climate and life he tackles questions such as why do we have phytoplankton to thank for the air we breathe what kind of climate was necessary for the rise of the dinosaurs or the mammals their successors when and how have climatic changes caused mass extinctions prothero concludes with the ice ages and the holocene the role of climate in human history and the perils of anthropogenic

climate change understanding why the climate has changed in the past this timely book shows is essential to grasping the gravity of how radically human activity is altering the climate today

this book is designed as a source and reference for people interested in the history and fossil record of north american tertiary mammals each chapter covers a different family or order and includes information on anatomical features systematics the distribution of the genera and species at different fossil localities and a discussion of their paleobiology many of these groups have never been covered in this fashion before

dinosaur memories are hard to forget most who revel in the current renaissance in dinosaur science art fiction and movies or who enjoy the other appealing prehistoric animals so well popularized by the media have fond recollections of what it was like growing up dinosaur together with wife diane and his father allen g debus allen a debus unveils treasured dinosaur memories and stories about prehistoric animals and paleo people spanning from the cold blooded dinosaur era to the modern wave dinosaur renaissance beginning with fondly recalled roadtrips to prehistoric places where t rex still reigns dinosaur memories ventures into the realm of thunder beasts and explores the rich pop cultural appeal of prehistoric animals if youve ever collected dinosaurs enjoyed fossil hunting or visits to see the old bones in museums dinosaur memories is a book youll still recall years from now thirty five chapters are grouped into seven sections titled roads into prehistory thunder beasts dinosaur worlds fantasy dinosaurs fossil trickery paleo people and rustlin up dinos

california has some of the most distinctive and unique geology in the united states it is the only state with all three types of plate boundaries an extraordinary history of earthquakes and volcanoes and it has many rocks and minerals found nowhere else the golden state includes both the highest and lowest point in the continental us and practically every conceivable geological feature known this book discusses not only the important geologic features of each region in california but also the complex geologic four dimensional puzzle of how california was assembled beginning over 2 billion years ago the author provides up to date and authoritative review of the geology and geomorphology of each geologic province as well as recent revelations of tectonic history of california s past there are separate chapters on some of california s distinctive geologic resources including gold oil water coastlines and fossils an introductory section describes basic rock and mineral types and fundamental aspects of plate tectonics so that students and other readers can make sense of the bizarre wild and crazy jigsaw puzzle that is california s geological history

a thought provoking look at science denialism for popular science readers who want better to be able to explain and defend science and scientific methods to others library journal the battles over evolution climate change childhood vaccinations and the causes of aids alternative medicine oil shortages population growth and the place of science in our country all are reaching a fevered pitch many people and institutions have exerted enormous efforts to misrepresent or flatly deny demonstrable scientific reality to protect their nonscientific ideology their power or their bottom

line to shed light on this darkness donald r prothero explains the scientific process and why society has come to rely on science not only to provide a better life but also to reach verifiable truths no other method can obtain he describes how major scientific ideas that are accepted by the entire scientific community evolution anthropogenic global warming vaccination the hiv cause of aids and others have been attacked with totally unscientific arguments and methods prothero argues that science deniers pose a serious threat to society as their attempts to subvert the truth have resulted in widespread scientific ignorance increased risk of global catastrophes and deaths due to the spread of diseases that could have been prevented prothero s treatise will give the science minded something to cheer about a brief summary of the real data that supports so many critical aspects of modern life publishers weekly

every rock is a tangible trace of the earth s past the story of the earth in 25 rocks tells the fascinating stories behind the discoveries that shook the foundations of geology in twenty five chapters each about a particular rock outcrop or geologic phenomenon donald r prothero recounts the scientific detective work that shaped our understanding of geology from the unearthing of exemplary specimens to tectonic shifts in how we view the inner workings of our planet prothero follows in the footsteps of the scientists who asked and answered geology s biggest questions how do we know how old the earth is what happened to the supercontinent pangea how did ocean rocks end up at the top of mount everest what can we learn about our planet from meteorites and moon rocks he answers these questions through expertly chosen case studies such as pliny the younger's firsthand account of the eruption of vesuvius the granite outcrops that led a scottish scientist to theorize that the landscapes he witnessed were far older than noah s flood the salt and gypsum deposits under the mediterranean sea that indicate that it was once a desert and how trying to date the age of meteorites revealed the dangers of lead poisoning each of these breakthroughs filled in a piece of the greater puzzle that is the earth with scientific discoveries dovetailing with each other to offer an increasingly coherent image of the geologic past summarizing a wealth of information in an entertaining approachable style the story of the earth in 25 rocks is essential reading for the armchair geologist the rock hound and all who are curious about the earth beneath their feet

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Introduction

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