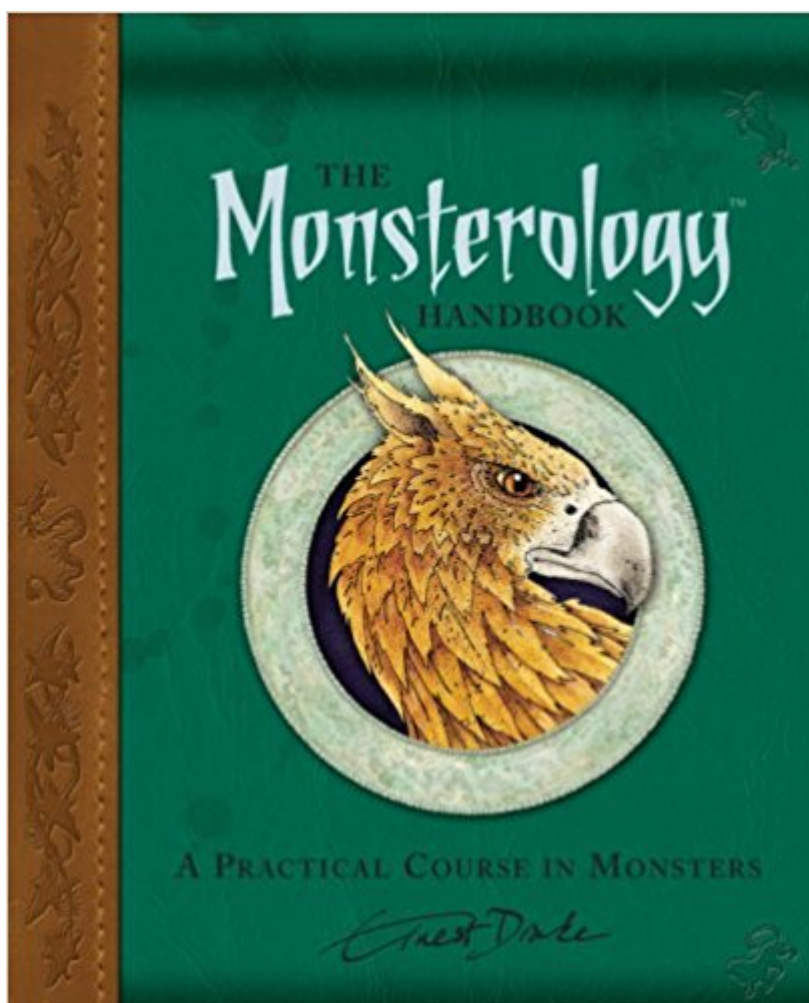




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The Monsterology Handbook: A Practical Course In Monsters (Ologies)



Synopsis

Are there monsters among us? Comb through this essential handbook to learn the secrets that even respected scientists don't know. Is it true that a humble stone can summon a sea serpent to your aid? Do you know the best way to remedy a cyclops's "lazy eye"? What bison-like creature burns its enemies with venomous dung (and must be approached from the front)? How does one reliably tell true beasts from false, and what do stitches and glue have to do with it? Even monsterologists who know their bigfoots from their bakus can be stymied by the unexpected, and here is a no-nonsense source brimming with fun hands-on lessons guaranteed to leave the reader confident and prepared. Among this lavish handbook's special features are: " two envelopes with pull-out surprises" a removable certificate of achievement" four pages of monstrous stickers" fact files on beasts of the earth, water, and air " as well as monsters that are semi-human

Book Information

Series: Ologies

Hardcover: 80 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Nov Stk edition (September 22, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763646229

ISBN-13: 978-0763646226

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.6 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #258,944 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Exploration & Discoveries #516 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Dragons #946 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Spine-Chilling Horror

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

Dugald A. Steer, Editor: "With what trepidation I sat down to give my editorial attentions to what was clearly the masterwork of a very erudite man, should be obvious to all who read this book." So begins a letter, written in 1894, from Dugald Steer to an Oxford friend. The letter goes on to explain how a chance meeting with Dr. Ernest Drake at the BULL'S HEAD TAVERN in Dorking, Surrey,

made him more than a little curious. Skeptical at first, he took up Dr. Drake's offer to meet him at his house and St. Leonard's Forest, and to attend one of the S.A.S.D. meetings in London. There, he became further involved in Dr. Drake's work, joining him on an expedition to Scotland to try and estimate the hunting range of the Dornoch Wurm. As he writes, the trip was, "a cause of some emotion, as many of my relative, particularly the Ross branch, come from so near." Douglas Carrel, Chief Draughtsman: A native of Scotland, Douglas Carrel was clearly a dragonologist of some standing, and often accompanied Dr. Drake on some of his more fruitful expeditions. In a letter from Constantinople to the editor he says, "It is with considerable sense of honour, and no small amount of pride, that I lend my hand to the compiling of this most worthy volume . . . Ultimately, I feel that all of us "within this privileged circle in particular" are duty-bound to preserve and perpetuate the love and lore of dragons." Helen Ward, Scientific Artist: Helen Ward trained as an illustrator at Brighton School of Art, although it is not known exactly when she came into contact with Dr. Drake. However a quote from her autobiography makes some things clear: "As a child I dreamed of dragons. When age allowed, I traveled. Unfortunately, several expeditions to Europe and one to that part of Russia known as Finland specifically to capture the likeness of a live dragon have ended in failure. The creatures seemed deliberately elusive . . . With the help of descriptions, notes, and detailed drawings made by others I have managed to illustrate these majestic creatures to the satisfaction of those more fortunate and better-informed dragonologists." Wayne Anderson, Pictorial Artist: Interested in cryptozoology from an early age, Wayne Anderson first came into contact with S.A.S.D. at one of their meetings in Wyvern Way in London. It was after a couple of trips with Drake "to the Alps in 1878 and to Scotland in 1880" that Wayne realized his early dragon drawings were, in fact, more life-like than he could have realised. Like most of the other collaborators on DRAGONOLOGY, he has contributed to many other books for children. He enjoyed a fruitful collaboration with Helen Ward that resulted in books such as THE TIN FOREST and THE DRAGON MACHINE. Nghiem Ta, Artistic Direction: Dr. Drake met Nghiem Ta in the Fukien (now Fujian) Province of China where she was working in her grandfather's bookshop. Their shared interest in dragons became evident when he showed her a copy of the fabled DRAGON SUTRA of Hong Wei, which the monks of that monastery made for him as a gift. He asked Miss Ta if such a revered object could be bound into a book and was so impressed with her work that he later invited her to London to oversee the creation of DRAGONOLOGY.

My son has the dragonology book in this series and loves it. This book made a great gift and has the same detail and wonderful artwork. It does lack some of the '3D' elements of the dragon book,

but is still a great book on it's own. My son has had a lot of fun looking through it. Annoyingly, the book is the same style, but a totally different size than the dragonology book. This one is much smaller, which is kind of disappointing if you want a 'set' like we did. I would have loved this book in a larger size, and certainly would have paid more for it. It is still a pretty cool book though, so I can't complain too much.

I had purchased a book on Wizardology for my 12 year old granddaughter. It was beautifully done, but her Mom and I decided that she might take it a little too literally. So I went looking for a book that would be just as nice, but couldn't possibly confuse her about it's authenticity. Monsterology fit the bill. It is full of fictional "facts" about what kind of monster originated in what culture and when, their physical properties and magical attributes. Just enough "magic" to intrigue without leaving any harmful suggestions. Illustrations are great and on every single page. Paper is nice heavy quality . If your child has an interest in imaginative things this is sure to pique his/her curiosity. After Christmas: Happy to say that my granddaughter just loved this gift. She couldn't put it down and was constantly relating its contents to me, "look at this, Grandma...." It had suggested homework in it and, believe it or not, she was anxious to do the exercises. And the homework was actually geared to teaching related factual items. So there is learning value here. My granddaughter is 11. I wouldn't go any younger than this just because of the vocabulary. And one drawback was the print. She did get used to it so that she could read it with ease, but it is a challenge at first.

Saw this at our local natural history museum. My 11 year was enthralled immediately. Ordered from for half the price and couldn't be happier. For your reader with a big imagination, it's a must have!

This book works well as a text to be used for a Monster Book of Monsters! It seemed the most textbook like while retaining some whimsy and journal-like features so it's perfect to use in a HP textbook set. I made a bookcover out of hairy fabric from JoAnn's and added googly eyes and fangs, and voila, the Monster Book of Monsters! The actual content of the book is cool, too.

I love all of Dr. Ernest Drake books, I have his Dragon handbook already and I pretty much used it for drawing. His books are very detailed and allows you to interact with the book. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves to learn about myths (like me lol), or for anyone looking for a challenge in the drawing.

This book will be great for young monster fans! I feel that for this book as being complete, it should have some more monsters and mythical beasts in it, however I really enjoyed the illustrations of the monsters mentioned.

I have purchased just about every book in this series for my grandsons. Pirates, Dragons, Monsters, Vampires, Wizards, Egypt and Oceanology. They are imaginative, full of fun, well made and absolutely beautiful. I think my personal favorites are "Pirateology" and "Oceanology - The True Account of the Voyage of the Nautilus." Now I want my own set. And even though I am way too old (9-12) I might buy them for myself now!

No self-respecting Monsterologist should be without this book! It's so awesome and informative, and the illustrations are so cool! I love all of Dr. Drake's books! I highly recommend all of them to anyone who loves dragons and monsters! :D

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