An embracive examination of the night walkers—now freshly revamped

The Vampire Book: The Encyclopedia of the Undead, Third edition

J. Gordon Melton, PhD

“The most comprehensive collection of vampire lore, with entries on everything from African Vampires to Yama, the God of Death.” — Chicago Tribune

"Anything and everything you ever wanted or needed to know about vampires is found within this massive 900-page reference. The mere writing of such a massive undertaking as this book would be a seemingly impossible task, but the author pulls it off nicely.” — Horror Classics Book Review

"An excellent reference. This remarkable amalgam of the popular and the scholarly is highly recommended.” — Choice

Revised, updated, and enlarged, this vast reference is an alphabetic tour of the psychosexual, macabre world of the blood-sucking undead. Digging deep into the lore, myths, and reported realities of vampires and vampire legends from across the globe, many facets are uncovered—historical, literary, mythological, biographical, and popular. From Vlad the Impaler to Barnabas Collins to Dracula and Lestat, this exhaustive guide furnishes more than 500 essays, a vampire chronology, and vampire resources. Complete with detailed illustrations and photographs, the third edition of the authority on everything vampires includes a wealth of current events, including the Twilight phenomenon; contemporary authors of vampire romance; the growth and development of genuine, self-identified vampire communities; and prominent TV shows from Buffy to True Blood.

J. Gordon Melton, PhD, is the director of the Institute for the Study of American Religions and a research specialist with the department of religious studies at University College, Santa Barbara. He is the author of more than 25 books, including The Church of Scientology, The Cult Experience, The Encyclopedia of Religious Phenomena, and Nelson’s Guide to Denomination.

ISBN 9781578592814. SEPTEMBER 2010. 960 pages. 250 B/W Photos & Illustrations. 7.25 x 9.25” paper. $29.95 (Can $32.95)
The Handy Psychology Answer Book
Lisa J. Cohen, PhD

Featuring more than 800 answers to questions of how the human mind and the science of psychology really work, this fascinating discussion gives readers the real facts of modern psychology in a fun, approachable way. Avoiding the entertainment fluff of pop psychology and the mind-numbing dullness of overly academic works, this exploration gives insight into the current science of the mind by answering questions such as What makes a marriage last? Why do toddlers have temper tantrums? and Can we exercise ourselves into happiness? In addition to the question-and-answer section, an overview looks at the psychology of money, sex, and morality.

Lisa J. Cohen, PhD, is a licensed clinical psychologist who divides her time between clinical work, teaching, scientific research, and her own private practice. She has had numerous articles published on such topics as obsessive-compulsive disorder and opiate addiction.

ISBN 9781578592234. JANUARY 2011. 450 pages. 100 B/W Photos & Illustrations. 7.25 x 9.25” paper. $21.95 (Can $24.95)

The Handy Physics Answer Book, Second Edition
Paul W. Zitzewitz, PhD

"If you wondered about one physics idea a day, this resource would answer your questions for over two years... Every aspect of our daily life is governed by physics, so this is an extremely useful... resource." — National Science Teachers Association

Eschewing the usual mathematical explanations for physics phenomena, this approachable reference explains complicated scientific concepts in plain English that everyone can understand. Completely updated to tackle the big issues such as gravity, magnetism, sound, and what really happens in the Large Hadron Collider, this engaging look at physics also spells out why cats always land on their feet, why people appear to have red eyes in photographs, and the real danger of looking at an eclipse. For everyone who ever wondered how a light bulb works or how squirrels avoid electrocution on the power lines, this handbook supplies answers on the physics of everyday life and examines the developments in the exploration of subatomic particles.

Paul W. Zitzewitz, PhD, taught physics at the University of Michigan, Dearborn for more than 35 years and has been honored as a Fellow of the American Physical Society for his work in physics education. He is the author of the high school physics textbook Physics: Principles and Problems.

ISBN 9781578593057. FEBRUARY 2011. 450 pages. 100 B/W Photos & Illustrations. 7.25 x 9.25” paper. $21.95 (Can $24.95)

Real Monsters, Gruesome Critters, and Beasts from the Darkside
Brad Steiger

Spotlighting news articles, historical accounts, and first-person interviews, this chronicle of human interactions with monsters will convince even the most hardened skeptic of the existence of the boogeyman, bigfoot, werewolves, and swamp creatures. Offering an array of wild reports—from the police officer who begrudgingly responded to a call about a long-haired woman flying over a suburban neighborhood only to find himself calling for backup when she attacked his patrol car to the motorist whose headlights illuminated a seven-foot tall, wolf-like creature that stood on its hind legs—this historical record highlights scary and unbelievable narratives. From slightly demented humans to spine-tingling paranormal encounters, each outlandish occurrence is detailed with thorough research and recounted with a storyteller's crafted voice.

Brad Steiger is the award-winning author of more than 100 books, including Real Ghosts, Restless Spirits, and Haunted Houses; Real Vampires, Night Stalkers, and Creatures from the Darkside; Real Zombies, the Living Dead, and Creatures of the Apocalypse; and The Werewolf Book. He is a regular radio guest on the Allan Handelman Show, Coast to Coast, and Jeff Rense's Sightings.

ISBN 9781578592203. SEPTEMBER 2010. 320 pages. 100 B/W Photos & Illustrations. 7.25 x 9.25” paper. $19.95 (Can $21.95)
Angels A to Z, Second Edition
Evelyn Dorothy Oliver, Ph.D. and James R. Lewis, Ph.D.

“Angels have been vital participants throughout history, appearing just when they’re needed most. And a new book explores these indispensable beings in all their guises. Angels A to Z reveals the stunning impact of angels on mankind from ancient times to today’s modern world.” — SUN

“Everything you ever wanted to know about angels.” — Minneapolis Star Tribune

“For those who feel they’ve had personal encounters with otherworldly creatures, the book will provide interesting background to a profound experience; those merely intrigued will find a cultural reference and historical perspectives on these “messengers of God.” — ForeWord

“[Angels A to Z] compiles angel facts and lore in short readable citations. For quick trivia, this book works.” — Library Journal

“Angels A to Z is a thorough, encyclopedia-style volume on angelic beings and all things angel-related. Discover how cultures throughout history have represented angels in their mythology, folklore, art, literature, and religious doctrine.” — FATE

ISBN 9781578592128. 2008. 432 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 ($27.95 Can.)

Armageddon Now
The End of the World A to Z
Jim Willis and Barbara Willis

So you don’t believe we’re on the eve of destruction? Authors Jim and Barbara Willis mine the religious and secular divide as they examine the history of apocalyptic beliefs in Armageddon Now. The authors explain the various omens and prophecies as well as the actual events that may trigger the end, such as collisions with asteroids, nuclear war, the oil crisis, global warming, and famine. But as the authors point out, there have always been plenty of signs pointing to the boom in gloom: predicting the order of finish kept Nostradamus in print for centuries, and the ancient Mayans helpfully projected that calendar sales would drop to nothing after 2012. They are all part of the long history on the end of history.


The Astrology Book
The Encyclopedia of Heavenly Influences, Second Edition
James R. Lewis

This comprehensive guide includes a table of astrological glyphs and abbreviations, a section on casting a chart, and a chapter that explains and interprets every planet in every house and sign.

“It is hard to imagine a more comprehensive reference encyclopedia to this topic than the volume at hand.” — American Reference Books.

“Although aimed at the believer, Lewis’ work may be confidently consulted by the skeptic seeking basic information about astrology.” — Booklist

ISBN 9781578591442. 2003. 928 pages. 80 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 ($37.50 Can.)

Conspiracies and Secret Societies
The Complete Dossier
Brad Steiger and Sherry Hansen Steiger

The truth is out there, somewhere, maybe. In this age of minimum individual privacy and maximum government secrecy, the truth sometimes seems a battered relic, more myth than reality, and more valuable for its rarity. Shedding light onto the darkest and most enduring of stories, Conspiracies and Secret Societies: The Complete Dossier is a compelling encyclopedic overview of 300 individuals, organizations, and events where official claims and standard explanations of actions and events remain clouded in mystery.

ISBN 9781578591749. 2006. 560 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 ($32.95 Can.)
The Dream Encyclopedia, Second edition
James R. Lewis, Ph.D. and Evelyn Dorothy Oliver, Ph.D.

"Whether one is a serious student of dreams, or wishes merely to peruse the volume for pleasure, one cannot help but learn something about the fascinating world of dreams from Lewis's helpful contribution to the literature on the subject." — Library Journal

"If you can't learn an interesting bunch of facts from this book, you must already have a doctorate on the topic." — The Modesto Bee

"The [book's] result cannot help but be inspiring or alarming, depending on your understanding of true faith." — Reference & Research Book News

ISBN 9781578592166. 2009. 432 pages. 75 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paper. $24.95 (Can. $27.95)

The Encyclopedia of Religious Phenomena
J. Gordon Melton

"Melton is a longtime researcher in esoteric traditions and new or unconventional religious movements, subjects on which he has written extensively. The book is fascinating to flip through, will interest a wide range of readers, and is written for nonexperts." — Library Journal

"If you can’t learn an interesting bunch of facts from this book, you must already have a doctorate on the topic." — The Modesto Bee

"The [book’s] result cannot help but be inspiring or alarming, depending on your understanding of true faith." — Reference & Research Book News

From sacred mountains and places of pilgrimage to visions and out-of-body travel, this reference explores unusual and unexplained physical events, apparitions, and other phenomena rooted in religious beliefs.

ISBN 9781578592098. 2007. 392 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 ($32.95 Can.)

The Fortune-Telling Book
The Encyclopedia of Divination and Soothsaying
Raymond Buckland

". . . an excellent resource for important methods, personalities, and locales in the world of divination. A high-quality book, which is well-written and easy to use. Highly recommended." — American Reference Books.

An A-Z exploration of all that peers into tomorrow, The Fortune-Telling Book divines the meaning of 400 of the most meaningful topics related to this oft-misunderstood, oft-consulted-upon science, from aeromancy (seeing by observing atmospheric phenomena) to zoomancy (divination by the appearance or behavior of animals) and the 398 others in between.


Hidden Realms, Lost Civilizations, and Beings from Other Worlds
Jerome Clark

Claims of supernatural realms, parallel worlds, and lost civilizations are put to the test in this well-researched guide to the unexplained. Firsthand accounts and historical documents are explored, and in-depth coverage is provided on the mysteries of imagination, culture, perception, consciousness, being, and more. Included are Richard S. Shaver's personal experience of hell—replete with demons and ghouls—modern and ancient accounts of fairyland, life on Mars, alien worlds, parallel universes, and mystery airships. Also examined are the supernatural myths surrounding Mount Shasta, which include accounts of telepathic Lemurians living on its slopes, as reported by the Los Angeles Times. More than 40 beliefs, doctrines, experiences, and places are described and explored in this truly comprehensive guide to the wacky, weird, and otherworldly.

ISBN 9781578591756. 2010. 320 pages in color. 100 Color Illustrations. Four-color interior. 6.8 x 9.7” paperback. $24.95 (CAN $27.95)
Real Ghosts, Restless Spirits, and Haunted Places
Brad Steiger

"Steiger's new book is a mammoth undertaking that should be taken a few chapters at a time and savored the way one would enjoy a good meal in one of the author's haunted restaurants. Everyone . . . should have a copy." – FATE magazine.

"Whether or not you are inclined to believe in such things, the hundreds of stories make for fascinating reading, and many of the photographs are mesmerizing." – Cleveland Plain Dealer

"This excellent collection of ghost encounters will both warm the heart and scare you out of your wits." – Library Journal

"This is actually the most extensive accounting of true stories that I have ever seen. If you are an enthusiast, just curious, or perhaps just love to read ghost stories, you cannot miss out." – Midwest Book Review

"This is one of the most complete collections that I have seen so far and the quality is very good." – Joel Anthony Gray, Director, Society for Paranormal Investigation

ISBN 9781578591466. 2003. 640 pages. 125 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $29.95 ($37.50 Can.)

Real Miracles, Divine Intervention, and Feats of Incredible Survival
Brad Steiger and Sherry Hansen Steiger

"If you've ever doubted miracles can happen, reading this book will change your life." — SUN

"This fun-to-read book is filled with amazing stories that are surprisingly inspirational, and also would be a good book for anyone who believes in angels." — savannahnow.com

Including more than 200 true, thought-provoking stories, this inspirational collection provides a fascinating glimpse into the world of unexplained phenomena and survival against overwhelming odds. A wide range of topics and circumstances is covered, including angelic interventions, surviving airplane crashes and cataclysmic natural disasters, medical miracles, amazing sea rescues, miracles on the highway, and near-death experiences. Lightning strikes, lotteries, and Lourdes—miracles really do happen!

ISBN 9781578592142. 2009. 320 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 (Can. $27.95)

Real Vampires, Night Stalkers and Creatures from the Darkside
Brad Steiger

"In a period dominated by the "Twilight" series, this book travels beneath fictional myths . . . thought-provoking." — Library Journal

"A very compelling book that feels much like sitting around a campfire listening to him entertain and amaze. Damn good book - check it out!" — Horrormews.net

"Brad Steiger carefully, thoroughly, and yet entertainingly examines the vampire legend . . . A true must read, though you might want to read it in the daytime rather than late at night on a full moon." — Alternate Perceptions

"Those interested in [vampires] will find the profiles and history fascinating." — ForeWord

"An eerie account of an overlooked and often-forgotten history of vampirism. This dark and sinister read is not for "Twilight" followers, but rather for hardcore enthusiasts of vampire lore, the occult, and the paranormal." — School Library Journal

"Real Vampires is thought-provoking, intriguing and prevalent in putting all of the vampire pieces of the puzzle together! A true tour-de-force with solid ramifications that lead only to one thing. A standing ovation!! Bravo!!" — Sacramento Press

A chilling chronicle of the often ignored history of vampirism as it has surfaced repeatedly in news articles, historical accounts, and first person interviews, this shocking account of occultist rituals and the inhuman forces that influence them shines a light on the horrifying truth. Revealing that real vampires are not immortal, do not have fangs or sleep in coffins, and have no fear of sunlight or crucifixes, the examination dispels many myths but also confirms the truth behind several traits of real vampires, such as the insatiable thirst for blood and the dream of an eternal soul.

ISBN 9781578592555. 2009. 304 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 (Can. $27.95).
Real Zombies, the Living Dead, and Creatures of the Apocalypse
Brad Steiger

Featuring 30 chilling stories of real life zombie encounters, this comprehensive and unsettling study draws upon traditions found throughout the world to dispel common depictions of zombies as lurching, flesh-eating automatons made popular by countless movies and books.

This fascinating collection includes the stories of the Devil Baby of Bourbon Street, a monstrous creature complete with horns and tail that still lurks in the shadows of the Big Easy; Black Mama Courteaux and the great zombie war, involving hundreds of zombie soldiers battling for the supremacy of their queen; and the swamp child of Mama Cree, who still roams the bayous of Louisiana. In addition to the stories, a variety of zombie-related facts are explored, including ceremonies and initiations, zombies throughout history, sacred zombie and voodoo-related sites, and zombies and monsters of the Bible.

ISBN 9781578592968. 2010. 336 pages. 100 B/W Photos & Illustrations. 7.25 x 9.25” paperback. $19.95 (Can $21.95)

The Religion Book
Places, Prophets, Saints, and Seers
Jim Willis

“This concise and accessible encyclopedia contains nearly 300 entries on the world’s major religions, as well as important articles on important holy places...prophets and historical figures...and spiritual practices and religions that predate organized religion. . . .” – Library Journal.

“. . . in a world of religious war and murderous rhetoric, [The Religion Book] is that rare thing—a spiritual labor of patience and fairness.” – Nashville Tennessean

“. . . this is a fascinating book...the book’s appeal lies in its lively writing and thoughtful, personal approach. . . .” – School Library Journal

From Aaron to Zoroastrianism (once the dominant religion in Persia), The Religion Book provides an encyclopedic look at the practices of yesterday and today. Christians, Buddhists, Wiccans and the rest may have questions about others’ belief or even their own, and The Religion Book expertly explains the similarities, differences, and original ideologies of believers and skeptics around the world.


The Spirit Book
The Encyclopedia of Clairvoyance, Channeling, and Spirit Communication
Raymond Buckland

"Students of the goofy strange will go for this ‘encyclopedia of clairvoyance, channeling and spirit communication.’ – PEOPLE Magazine.

“The Spirit Book, the latest in Wicca Buckland’s extensive occult oeuvre (Buckland’s Book of Spirit Communications), cuts a wide swath through the history of spiritualism, its precursors, and widely related supernatural subjects. . . . There is nothing else quite like this resource on the market.” – Library Journal

The Spirit Book explores Qabbalah, Sibyls, Fairies, Poltergeists; phenomena such as intuition and karma; objects useful in the attempt to cross the divide, including tarot cards, flower reading, and runes; and related practices such as Shamanism, transfiguration, meditation, and mesmerism. The Encyclopedia covers the history of Spiritualism as well as offshoots such as Kardecism, channeling, fraud, psychic research, and possession.

ISBN 9781578591725. 2005. 528 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 ($32.95 Can.)
Unexplained!
Strange Sightings, Incredible Occurrences, and Puzzling Physical Phenomena, 2nd Edition
Jerome Clark

"Should warm the heart of any serious observer of the weird world in which we live. It will disturb doubters, scandalize skeptics, and readjust the realities of those whose tunnel vision has blinded them." — FATE magazine.

Now insatiable fans of the supernatural, occult, and just plain perplexing can rejoice as trusted investigator Jerome Clark journeys to the outer limits of science and nature in an updated and expanded edition of this popular work. Clark explores a wide range of phenomena, documenting the evidence and hearing the witnesses out. Two hundred mysteries and hoaxes are thoroughly examined, including cattle mutilations, crop circles, spontaneous human combustion, Martian lore, Roswell, Loch Ness, the Old Hag, weather phenomena, faeries, Bigfoot, the Bermuda Triangle, living dinosaurs, ghosts, pterodactyl sightings, flying humanoids, hollow earth, and other absorbing puzzles. Along the way readers will learn of hoaxes and witness the creation of various modern myths.

ISBN 9781578590704. 1999. 672 pages. 150 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $29.95 ($32.95 Can.)

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The Werewolf Book
The Encyclopedia of Shape-Shifting Beings
Brad Steiger

"Brad Steiger’s magnum opus, a labor of deep scholarship elegantly written. As a reference source, it is invaluable for anyone interested in pursuing the werewolf." — Ancient American magazine.

"From A to Z, Brad Steiger presents a true encyclopedia of werewolfism, a reference masterpiece, overflowing with fascinating information to make readers think and shudder.”— FATE magazine.

"It is with reverence to its awesome scope that we recommend it to anyone even marginally interested in the topic." – Rue Morgue magazine

The Werewolf Book is the encyclopedic guide to all things lycanthropic and a fascinating compendium of comparative mythology and folklore. Noted paranormal author Brad Steiger takes you back to the 15th century to uncover the origins of the werewolf legend then leads you on a blood-pounding tour through the ages, including hirsute mass-murderer Charles Manson and canine-directed Son of Sam.


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The Witch Book
The Encyclopedia of Witchcraft, Wicca, and Neo-paganism
Raymond Buckland

"An excellent reference source for those researching the historical and contemporary world of witchcraft." — American Reference Books

"Through 560 entries, this encyclopedic reference includes biographies of major figures, reviews the portrayal of witches and witchcraft in popular movies and books, discusses the persecution of witches over the ages, and explains key concepts important to Wiccan beliefs and practices. Just about everything a person might want to learn about witches and witchcraft can be found in this one volume." – About.com

"Enjoyable for general reading purposes, it is also an incredible referencing of material. . . . . Buckland’s The Witch Book is highly recommended.” – ghostvillage.com

Best-selling occult author Raymond Buckland defines both the darker Christian concept and the true concept of Wicca, concentrating on the Western European and later New World versions of Witchcraft and magic in this exhaustive A-to-Z exploration of people, places, events, literature, and other matters related to witches and witchcraft.

ISBN 9781578591145. 2002. 624 pages. 125 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 ($34.95 Can.)
The Handy Anatomy Answer Book
Naomi E. Balaban and James Bobick

“This engaging book will help readers understand the language of anatomy. This is a great reference book.” — National Science Teachers Association

“For curious browsers and a good quick-answer source for teens’ questions. Students interested in careers in health or medicine will pore over this book with the avidity their younger siblings devote to books about dinosaurs.” — School Library Journal

“This book can provide an excellent way to read and self-test for health and human biology classes. Adults wanting to know more about the subjects covered will also find a wealth of useful and accessible information.” — VOYA

“The information is concise, clearly written, and easy to understand. Photographs and illustrations supplement the information and are in color with captions and identifying labels.” — American Reference Books

From basic biology to the lymphatic system to human growth and development, this comprehensive reference—organized by systems of the body—makes anatomy understandable through an engaging question-and-answer format.

ISBN 978-1578591909. 2008. 376 pages in color. 100 color photos & illustrations. 6.8” x 9.7” paperback. $21.95 (Can. $24.95)

The Handy Answer Book for Kids (and Parents), Second edition
Gina Misiroglu

“The biggest problem for parents with inquisitive children is not knowing the answers. For those times, consider The Handy Answer Book for Kids (and Parents).” — Boston Globe

“Now . . . parents have a resource they can reach for when their kids throw a doozy of a question their way.” — San Diego Union Tribune

“The Handy Answer Book for Kids (and Parents)” is of strong interest for any parent who wants to arm their child with general knowledge.” — Children’s Bookwatch

“Visible Ink has been publishing the Handy Answer books for over a decade now and they have been a favorite in both school and public libraries. This informative resource will suit public and school library users well.” — American Reference Books Annual

As a launching pad for inquisitive young minds and a life raft for parents at wits end, this collection addresses a critical part of being a kid: asking questions. Having this nearby will equip every parent for those difficult, absurd, or sometimes funny questions from their kids.


The Handy Astronomy Answer Book
Charles Liu, Ph.D.

“This book delivers on the promises of “Your Smart Reference” on the topic. A logical addition to the publisher’s ‘Answer Book’ series, this engaging and entertaining publication will appeal to students and adults alike.” — School Library Journal

“Poses hundreds of heady questions about such matters as the Big Bang, sunspots, black holes, quarks, neutrinos and Carl Sagan. [A] handy reference . . . accessible writing and careful structure [convey] the pleasures of science and discovery.” — Kirkus Reviews

“A valuable resource that can be used by both teachers and students as a reference or read from cover to cover.” — National Science Teachers Association

“The book is written in understandable language, but the answers are not over-simplified and provide sufficient detail for understanding the concept or feature described, making this book appropriate for readers for high school to college.” — American Reference Books

“The Handy Astronomy Answer Book is a solid recommendation to anyone who is in love with what lies beyond the Earth.” — Midwest Book Review

The Handy Biology Answer Book
James Bobick, Naomi Balaban, Sandra Bobick, and Laurel Roberts

“This book best serves public libraries and high school media centers. These students as well as the general public will find the text engaging and the material useful.” — American Reference Books

“The Handy Biology Answer Book . . . is the ultimate reference guide to life science.” — Bella Online

“Everything you’ve always wanted to know about biology (and probably much more) has been asked and answered in this informative, engaging and entertaining book.” — University of Pittsburgh

The Handy Biology Answer Book answers 1,600 questions about human, animal, and plant biology. You’ll find answers to such intriguing questions as: What is cell cloning? What is DNA and RNA? Can two blue-eyed people have a brown-eyed child? How serious a disease is influenza? Do overweight children have a greater risk of being overweight adults? Why are some fats “good”? and others “bad”? Why do humans need cholesterol? How do birds know to fly south in winter? Can the environment determine the sex of an animal? When was the first microscope developed?

ISBN 9781578591503. 2004. 608 pages. 150 illustrations, tables & charts. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $21.95 ($32.95 Can.)

The Handy Dinosaur Answer Book, Second Edition
Patricia Barnes-Svarney and Thomas E. Svarney

“Succinct, well-researched answers, photos and a Further Resource section make this exactly what it says, “a smart reference.”” — Dig: The Archaeology Magazine for Kids

“This book . . . has a wealth of information about dinosaurs.” — National Science Teachers Association

“This is one of a series of books written by two scientists, one a science writer, aimed at informing young adults about an important area of science. Simply and accurately written, it presents material in an easy-to-use and readable format. The title promises handy answers and it delivers them.” — American Reference Books Annual

“Ideal for readers of all ages and examining scientific history and wonders with a set of commonly asked facts and figures.” — Midwest Book Review

From the Tyrannosaurus rex to the Stegosaurus, this fun-filled fact-book answers 600 questions about dinosaurs and profiles numerous species, chronicling their time on earth and exploring their roles in archaeological expeditions and museums today.

Delightful and intriguing, this comprehensive record includes the debates still surrounding the origins and fate of these creatures that dominated the earth for millions of years but seemed to disappear in the blink of an eye.

ISBN 9781578592180. 2010. 288 pages in color. 100 color photos & illustrations. 6.8” X 9.7” paperback. $21.95 (Can. $24.95)

The Handy Geography Answer Book, Second Edition
Paul A. Tucci

“Reader-friendly. Leads the geographically illiterate along to a better understanding of what happened where and why. A great reference.” — San Antonio Express-News

“Owing to the question-and-answer format, the index becomes the essential ready-reference key to accessing specific information. Otherwise, patrons can just get comfy and enjoy a trivia-fest. This book is well suited for school libraries and YA collections in public libraries.” — Library Journal

“The book helpfully contains answers to timely questions generally not covered in a geography book such as “How can GPS keep me from getting lost?” There is a wealth of information in this resource that is of value for study in both social and natural sciences. ” — VOYA

“The book itself operates like a trivia game with a myriad number of questions loosely arranged under each topic. The book is recommended for public libraries and anyone with a casual interest in geography.” — American Reference Books Annual

“Answers over 1,000 basic questions on geography that focus on the physical dimensions of our planet, climate patterns, water and ice, hazards and natural disasters, transportation, political and cultural geography, calendars and seasons, exploration and specific content for each continent.” — Reference and Research Book News

From discovering why every map is distorted to why Rhode Island is called an island even though it’s not, this comprehensive reference simplifies geography in an approachable question-and-answer format. All aspects of the discipline are covered, including physical, economic, political, and cultural geography. This resource is for those who are curious about the world!

ISBN 9781578592159. 2009. 416 pages. 100 photos, illustrations & maps. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $21.95 (Can. $23.95)

www.visibleinkpress.com
The Handy History Answer Book, Second Edition
Rebecca Ferguson

All things must pass. In an understatement of historic proportions, quite a few things have passed since the end of the last millennium. Some of the history making events include the election of George W. Bush, the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; a devastating earthquake in Iran and the deadly tsunami in Asia; the downfall of Enron and the comeback of Apple, not to mention the dot.com bubble burst and whatever happened to the budget surplus? Whew! A new era has taken shape, and The Handy History Answer Book records it. Handy History addresses people, times, and events in a wide-ranging and comprehensive manner, complemented by nearly 200 illustrations and, for those who like their history instant, a chronology of major events. The Handy History Answer Book organizes information in thirteen specific subject sections ranging from politics to war to science to religion. It tackles exploration and settlement, technological advances, legal fireworks, financial and business events, social movements, natural and man-made disasters, medicine and disease, and art and culture.

ISBN 9781578591701. 2005. 672 pages. 125 illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $21.95 ($27.95 Can.)

The Handy Law Answer Book
David L. Hudson, Jr., JD

“For anyone who wants to know more about coping with our court system, credit and bankruptcy law, employment law, family law, or personal injury law, Hudson has written an excellent guide that I highly recommend.” — Bookviews

Combining practical legal tips with an exhaustive overview of the law in the United States, this comprehensive reference answers more than 1,200 questions ranging from “Where did the word tort come from?” and “How are state court judges selected?” to “Where did the first U.S. Supreme Court meet?” Useful advice includes how to find a lawyer; how to file a complaint against a lawyer; how to document discrimination in the workplace; and how to handle oneself in court. With a wide range of information suitable for various knowledge bases—from junior high to junior college—this is an ideal source for anyone looking to get a better understanding of the law.

ISBN 9781578592173. 2010. 432 pages. 100 B/W Photos & Illustrations. 7.25 x 9.25” paperback. $21.95 (CAN $24.95)

The Handy Math Answer Book
Patricia Barnes-Svarney and Thomas E. Svarney

Without math, how would romance survive? Where would we be without pluses and minuses? Without public opinion and box office tallies? Without measuring cups, calorie counters, or computer technology? The Handy Math Answer Book addresses more than 1,000 questions relating to mathematics. It provides a complete overview, beginning with the early history—Pythagoras and “the music of the spheres,” Archimedes and his “Eureka!” moment in the bathtub, and how some of the first calendars were invented. Catch yourself falling for the gravity of Newton and winding your way around modern-day string theory. Refresh yourself on the basics and fundamentals of algebra, calculus, geometry, and trigonometry. The Handy Math Answer Book provides clear and concise explanations to paradoxes, theories, and other branches of mathematics, plus the numbers we see daily in statistics, financial and market reports, real estate evaluations, and measurements of all kinds.


The Handy Ocean Answer Book
Thomas E. Svarney and Patricia Barnes-Svarney

“This fascinating question and answer book reveals over 1,000 . . . interesting facts about the world’s bodies of salt water in a simple, understandable format.” – SciTech Book News

“It opens up a treasure chest of information on topics such as waterspouts, whirlpools, ocean shelves, tides and quakes, plus the effects of pollution and ocean warming.” – Decatur Herald & Review

Covering 70 percent of the surface area of our globe, the oceans are vast and mysterious and primal and pretty much everywhere you go. What is El Niño and how does it affect the oceans and the weather? What is a riptide? Where does the salt in seawater come from? Are there mountains undersea? How many species of fish exist in the world? The Handy Ocean Answer Book tackles these and 1,000 other questions on ocean life, waterspouts, whirlpools, ocean shelves, tides and quakes, ocean bottoms, famous shipwrecks, and the effects of pollution and global warming.

The Handy Philosophy Answer Book
Gina Misiroglu

"Written to be an accessible reference book... the material is presented via brief answers to a series of questions." — ForeWord Reviews

"Naomi Zack introduces the world of philosophy to young readers and general readers in an easy-to-use question-and-answer format. The book is recommended for high school libraries and public libraries. It would be of interest to the casual reader with a general interest in philosophy." — American Reference Books Annual

With a wide range of information suitable for various knowledge bases—from junior high to junior college—this is an ideal resource for anyone looking to get a better grasp of the history of thought.” — Independent Publisher

Combining a basic history of philosophical thought with the often quirky personal stories of famous philosophers, this comprehensive introduction to the world of philosophy analyzes the collective effort of philosophers throughout history in their pursuit of truth and wisdom. It explores the tangible significance of philosophical thought to modern society and civilization as a whole.

ISBN 9781578592265. 2010. 504 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $21.95 (Can. $24.95)

The Handy Politics Answer Book
Gina Misiroglu

“...this easy-to-navigate book removes complexity from a serious subject: government.” — Tampa Tribune & Times

“This reference is a meaningful addition to the educational tools [for] students as well as general political observers and voters who want to better understand the issues of the day.” — American Reference Books

The Handy Politics Answer Book dares to ask the tough questions and answers every one thoroughly and clearly (without the usual political side-stepping and spin tactics). Fifteen chapters explore politics from our founding fathers to current trends, from our branches of government to how they work together (or don’t), from noteworthy people and officials to major events.

ISBN 9781578591398. 2003. 632 pages. 120 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paper. $21.95 ($32.95 Can.)

The Handy Religion Answer Book
John Renard

“Anyone – student, news junkie or bet-settler – who needs quick access to information about a major religion would do well to have this... book nearby.” — New York Daily News

“Renard... has produced a book that is inviting to sit down and read through chapter by chapter.” — St. Louis Post-Dispatch

“Understanding religion... is an important key to understanding human culture and history. The average reader should benefit greatly from this resource.” — About.com

The Handy Religion Answer Book is an easy-to-use comparative guide to the world’s major religious traditions. Traditions that trace their origins to the Middle East (Judaism, Christianity, Islam), South East Asia (Buddhism, Hinduism), and East Asia (Confucianism, Taoism, Shinto).


The Handy Science Answer Book®
Centennial Edition
The Science and Technology Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

“A compulsively browsable collection of over 1,200 questions and answers on science, technology, and pseudo-science written in nontechnical language [full of] gems of useful and interesting information.” – Library Journal

“Easily read by students in grades 4–12, this resource invites the curious mind to explore... What a fun and educational way to explore the wonders of the world of science, the world in which we live.” – National Science Teachers Association

“. . . this science resource will resolve arguments, support homework assignments, provide engaging trivia, and help satisfy readers’ curiosity.” – SciTech Book News

The Handy Sports Answer Book
Kevin Hillstrom, Laurie Hillstrom and Roger Matuz

More than 1,000 questions are answered in *The Handy Sports Answer Book*, with chapters on football, baseball, hockey, basketball, the Olympics, soccer, golf, auto racing, horse racing, tennis, boxing, extreme sports, and volleyball, plus a token question on judo and two on fencing. *Handy Sports* is a sports fan’s dream—not a big or important dream, but a dream nonetheless—for an affordable general sports reference covering origins, history, personalities, rules, techniques, records, and great moments of America’s favorite sports. Many of the questions were blind tested in pubs during nights of enthusiastic brainstorming. We guarantee topicality under the same circumstances.

What makes a curveball curve? What was the longest basketball winning streak of all time? What is the oldest surviving golf hole in the United States? What Supreme Court justice once won the NFL rushing title? During which World Cup final did Pele lose his shorts? Who are the tallest and smallest players in NBA history? Who had the largest appetite? How big is the Stanley Cup and how much champagne does it hold? How many horses have won the Triple Crown? Did ancient Chinese shuttlecock kicking lead directly to badminton, or were there other influences?

ISBN 9781578590759. 1998. 594 pages. 150 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $19.95 ($27.95 Can.)

The Handy Supreme Court Answer Book
David L. Hudson

"An accessible history in Q&A format, replete with trivia." — ABA Journal

"For a lay audience of inquisitive people, David Hudson Jr.’s *Handy Supreme Court Answer Book* is remarkably comprehensive and fascinating. Where else could you find out the identity of the tallest justice on the high court?" — Legal Times

"For students, teachers, lawyers, and history buffs, this reference provides answers to many questions about the Supreme Court from its origins in 1789 to the present." — Reference & Research Book News

From the origins of the court to modern practical matters—including the federal judiciary system, the Supreme Court’s session schedule, and the argument, decision, and appeal process—this resource provides detailed answers on all aspects of the Supreme Court.


ISBN 9781578591961. 2007. 512 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25 x 9.25 paperback. $21.95 ($27.95 Can.)

The Handy Weather Answer Book, Second Edition
Kevin Hile

"This fully updated primer on all things related to weather includes the latest advances in meteorology as well as an additional section on climate change. It addresses all aspects of weather in an accessible question-and-answer format." — Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society

"This entertaining work is a collection more than 1,000 questions and answers on weather written in nontechnical language for the general reader." — American Reference Books Annual

"Updated to include the latest advances in meteorology and climate change, a comprehensive reference covers all of the basic elements of weather and weather phenomena as well as the science of forecasting, in a guide that also evaluates the relationships between weather and oceanography, geology, and space science." — Forecast

"For anyone curious about the subtle nuances of the weather, The Handy Weather Answer Book is a top pick." — Midwest Book Review

"[T]he Handy Weather Answer Book is full of all sorts of weather stuff. For instance, do you know what irisation is? It's a sort of diffused rainbow created when altocumulus clouds pass below the sun." — The Arizona Republic

"Designed to stimulate further reading . . . Readers from the junior high level and up will find this book enjoyable." — The Science Teacher

"Well written at a level that is enjoyable to everyone. I highly recommend this book to any lay reader, weather watcher or atmospheric professional." — The Weather Doctor

All the basic elements of weather are discussed, as are all types of weather phenomena and the science of forecasting. In addition, the relationships between weather and oceanography, geology, and space science are expertly covered.

ISBN 9781578592210. 2009. 336 pages in color. 100 color photos & illustrations. 6.8” X 9.7” paperback. $21.95 (Can. $23.95)
**Black Firsts, 2nd Edition**

4,000 Ground-Breaking and Pioneering Events

Jessie Carney Smith

“This authoritative work, with its brief biographies of many accomplished and famous African-Americans, is one that writers, researchers, and libraries will want to keep close at hand for its valuable information.” – *Richmond Times-Dispatch*

“This is a must-have reference.” – *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“. . . comprehensively catalogs the achievements of everybody from Hank Aaron to Bruce Yuille.” – *Syracuse Post-Standard*

Readers will revel in the stories of barrier-breaking pioneers in all fields—arts, entertainment, business, civil rights, education, government, inventing, journalism, religion, science, sports, and more. And they will rejoice in their triumphs. With hundreds of illustrations and a daily calendar of firsts, *Black Firsts* is the culmination of many hours of work, courage, and perseverance, the exact qualities represented within. Jessie Carney Smith, William and Camille Cosby Professor of the Humanities at Fisk University, gives us stories of a people overcoming adversity to emerge triumphant.


**Black Heroes**

Jessie Carney Smith

“Brimming with information and more than 200 photographs, Black Heroes will intrigue and inspire all those who seek to know more about our nation’s history.” – *Atlanta Metro*

“. . . a classic guide.” – *Oklahoma City Oklahoman*

*Black Heroes* is a who’s who of cultural importance to all Americans. In recognition and celebration of African American achievement over the past 100 years, this landmark book details the lives of 150 individuals who have made a profound impact on our culture—from W. E. B. Du Bois to Colin Powell, from Rosa Parks to Maya Angelou, from Romare Bearden to Josephine Baker. Distinguished author and scholar Jessie Carney Smith has created another classic guide to extraordinary individuals sure to please readers of any age.

ISBN 9781578591367. 2001. 752 pages. 215 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $29.95 ($34.95 Can.)

**Freedom Facts and Firsts**

400 Years of the African American Civil Rights Experience

Jessie Carney Smith and Linda T. Wynn

“Written in a vivid and accessible style, this encyclopedia is highly recommended” – *Library Journal*

“An amazing compilation of facts and stories about the lives and times of African Americans in the past four centuries.” – *Midwest Book Review*

“A valuable encyclopedic work covering the Black experience in the United States from 1619, when Africans were brought to Jamestown, Va., as “involuntary laborers,” through the Civil Rights Movement and to the ascendency of Barack Obama, the country’s first African-American president.” – *Newark (NJ) Star Ledger*

“An important addition to Black History Month booklists. From the early abolitionists to the presidential nomination of Barack Obama, the authors have gathered easy-to-read articles on the essential people, places, and events of the black struggle for freedom.” – *School Library Journal*

*Freedom Facts and Firsts* brings over 400 pioneering people and events to life. Martin Luther King, Jr., Romare Bearden, Rosa Parks, Malcolm X, and Harry Belafonte all have a place in *Freedom Facts and Firsts*, but so too do ordinary educators, teachers, housewives, and journalists who helped change society’s views on human rights.

ISBN 9781578591923. 2009. 408 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 ($27.95 Can.)
Encyclopedia of Christmas
Tanya Gulevich
“Christmas is a holiday with a tremendously rich tradition. But you’d have to be a Santa Claus brainiac to be familiar with all the history, myths, legends, customs and religious observances of the season. It’s nice to see someone has gotten around to compiling a handy guide to Christmastime arcana. The book dutifully and reverently addresses all the religious and ethnic variations attached to the year-end holiday. One thing is for certain: After reading this hefty Christmas dissertation, you’ll be one smart elf.” – Arizona Republic

“This wonderful book could be a trivia board game. . . . Dozens of ethnic and religious customs and rituals are included.” – Asbury Park Press

“. . . this book is terrific fun, a well-organized and thorough reference and a good addition to any library . . . great family fun can be had (and a little knowledge added) with this book.” – Winston-Salem Journal

The Encyclopedia of Christmas provides readers of all ages with a convenient, easy-to-use source of information on virtually every aspect of this sprawling celebration. From Advent to Zagmug, an ancient Sumerian festival of annual renewal, and with entries on related days and celebrations (such as the Annunciation, Candlemas, and Epiphany), the Encyclopedia has Christmas covered.

Published by Omnigraphics. ISBN 9780780804555. 2000. 752 pages illustrated. 6” x 9” paperback. $24.95 ($35.00 Can.)

Words

Metaphors Dictionary
Edited by Elyse Sommer

“The most comprehensive work of its kind. A valuable addition to reference works on words.”
– Booklist

Metaphors Dictionary is an expansive collection of 6,500 colorful classic and contemporary comparative phrases (with full annotations and a complete bibliography of sources). Metaphors Dictionary revisits most of the great and respected names in the annals of cultural literacy while dipping into current literature and media sources. And now available for the first time in hard cover, it’s bound for heavy duty at a price that’s hard to beat.

ISBN 9781578591374. 2001. 672 pages. 7.25” x 9.25” hardbound. $32.95 ($34.95 Can.)

Power Quotes
Edited by Daniel B. Baker
“Easy to use and fun to read.” – Rocky Mountain News

In this easy-to-use and fun-to-read collection of more than 4,000 quotes, politicians and philosophers, poets and priests, CEOs and comedians all share their views on leadership and liberty, treason and triumph, sacrifice and scandal, risk and rebellion, weakness and war, and other affaires politiques. With Power Quotes, readers can learn what Plato and Aristotle had to say about democracy, and find Mark Twain musing on any number of topics, including: “Its name is Public Opinion. It is held in reverence. It settles everything. Some think it is the voice of God.” Selected with impeccable judgment by quote master Daniel Baker, the quotes are organized under 50 themes such as ethics, monarchy, politics, public opinion, taxes, and war and peace.

ISBN 9780810394162. 1992. 408 pages. 6” x 9” paperback. $19.95 ($27.95 Can.)
American Murder
Criminals, Crimes and the Media
Mike Mayo

“There are many true-crime compilations from which to choose, but a stronger focus on movies and how they have altered the legends may make this [book] worth purchasing. It’s likely to be a hit.” — Library Journal

“Mayo’s breezy and often-irreverent style sheds some fascinating light on events about which we think we know, and subjects ranging from outlaws and mobsters to serial killers. Despite its grim subject matter, it’s a fun read.” — The Roanoke Times

“Written in an informal style . . . this encyclopedia offers a rogue’s gallery of famous U.S. killings, killers, and other scoundrels.” — Reference & Research Book News

“American Murder: Criminals, Crime, and the Media is an encyclopedic look at America’s love affair in the media with lawbreakers. There is much to praise. Overall, American Murder is an excellent resource, and is recommended.” – American Reference Books

Investigating the way Hollywood scoops up notorious criminals and turns them into legends, this entertaining who’s-who guide provides thumbnail sketches of such killers as Ma Barker, Black Beard, Al Capone, John Wesley Hardin, and Charles Starkweather.

ISBN 9781578591916. 2008. 448 pages. 100 photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $24.95 ($32.95 Can.)

The Superhero Book
The Ultimate Encyclopedia of Comic-Book Icons and Hollywood Heroes
Gina Misiroglu with David A. Roach

“Here’s an ‘ultimate’ encyclopedia that lives up to its billing.” – Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

“... excellent compendium of comic book superheroes.” – Choice


“This colossal encyclopedia of all things superhero could not have come at a better time. With a slew of comic-book movies each year, kids are more interested than ever in anything to do with these heroes. . . . It is a must-buy for comic readers interested in knowing the early roots and conceptions of comic-book heroes.” – School Library Journal

The Superhero Book is the ultimate A-to-Z compendium of everyone’s favorite overachievers in the pitched battle between good and evil. With 300 entries examining more than 1,000 high-powered icons and their place in the popular firmament, The Superhero Book covers the best-loved and most historically significant superheroes—mainstream and counterculture, famous and forgotten, best and worst.

ISBN 9781578591541. 2004. 748 pages in color. 150 color photos & illustrations. 7.25” x 9.25” paperback. $29.95 ($39.95 Can.)
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