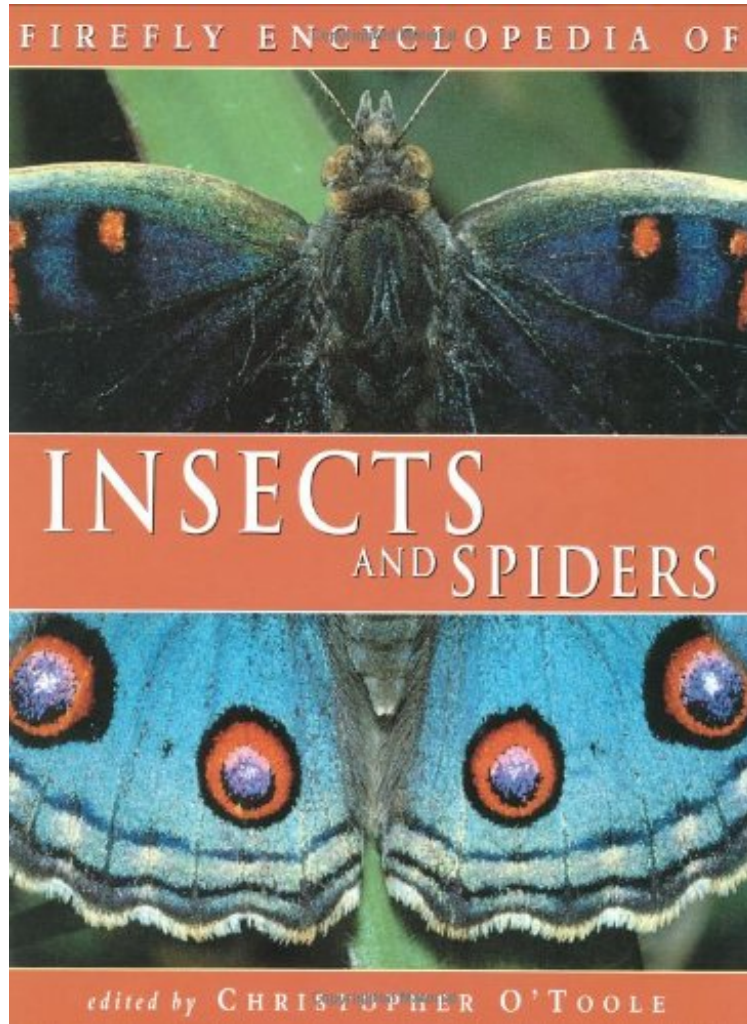


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StarsBy debSchool1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. buy this book!!!By ElizabethThis is the most incredible book on insects I have ever seen. The many photos are the best I've seen and the info on each bug extremely complete. They include bugs I haven't seen included in any other book. I can't say enough good things about the absolutely amazing book! If you are interested in bugs and can only get one book, this is the one to get..the best ever, and I have at least dozen bug bugs.

Combining authoritative, easy-to-read essays with accurate illustrations and full color photographs, this encyclopedia covers all of the families that encompass the million-plus species of insects and spiders. A unique and thoroughly current volume, it includes: Specially commissioned articles written by a team of scientists, zoologists and expert researchers Insightful and up-to-date information on insect and spider biology and behavior The latest scientific findings and interpretations Features that explore and discuss in depth topics that are of particular interest and importance, for example, Beetles as Agents of Biological Control In addition to a comprehensive text, each species entry also has a Factfile for quick retrieval of essential data: Scientific Order and Population Distribution and Habitat Size, Color and Features Reproduction, Life Cycle and Longevity Conservation Status Scientists, zoologists and expert researchers have contributed specially commissioned articles. These specialists, all experts in their fields, are actively involved in conducting frontline scientific or behavioral research. The inclusion of their latest findings and interpretations sets this title apart.

From BooklistWith lush color photographs and lavishly detailed illustrations, this encyclopedia presents a striking abundance of information at a glance. Also noteworthy is the scholarly text, a comprehensive overview of these frequently studied phyla.A major article introduces the main classes: insects and arachnids. Articles pertaining to specific species follow. For example, 23 species of the class Insecta--with a separate article for millipedes and centipedes, members of the superclass myriapoda--are featured. Entries vary in length, depending upon the complexity of the species. Information on stoneflies is covered in two pages, while Crickets and grasshoppers requires twelve pages of text. All articles--penned by authorities in the field of biological study--provide current scientific information and research findings relating to physiology and to behavior.Several valuable features are standard in each article. Most significant are the "Factfiles," which provide a quick summary of valuable statistics, including the order, class, physical features, life cycles, population, habitat, color, reproduction habits, and longevity of the species. Conservation status, a key consideration for many researchers, is also noted, using IUCN (World Conservation Union) categories as a descriptor. Boxed "Special Feature" (for example, "Fly-Borne Diseases") and "Photo Story" (such as "Building Nests of Mud and Paper") articles supplement the erudite text with fascinating sidelights concerning behavior, morphology, and economic and medical importance, among other topics.Although a glossary of biological terms is included, sidebars defining these terms on the pages on which they appear might have been a better placement because most students will not turn to the end of the volume. A bibliography of sources and an index complete the book.One thinks short and concise when perusing an encyclopedia. Such is not the case with this resource, which is strongly recommended for high-school, public, and academic libraries. For students, Marshall Cavendish's multivolume *Insects and Spiders* [RBB F 1 03] offer less scholarly but equally attractive coverage. RBBCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved More than simply a descriptive study of arthropods, *The Firefly Encyclopedia of Insects and Spiders* is an inclusive reference covering every living group within this class of animals. The work intends to heighten reader awareness of the vital relationship of arthropods to earth's ecosystems, particularly concerning our survival as a species.... As a reference source for anyone researching arthropods, this volume will provide a wealth of authoritative data and visual material. Highly Recommended. (Gillian Richardson Canadian Materials)The illustrations and captions are simply excellent and lend much to the text written by noteworthy experts ... highly recommended. (Johnson Thane Library News for Zoos and Aquariums)Every page contains gorgeous color photographs or drawings ... so attractive that even reluctant readers will stretch their skills. (Rachel Forman Science Teacher)The photographs and drawings are excellent, the text is readable without sacrificing accuracy and content ... Very highly recommended. (Michal Kubick Wildlife Activist)The organization is very clear and the writing is highly readable and accurate... This is a fine book. (Fred Burchstead American Reference Books Annual, Volume 35)Fascinating detail on behavior, morphology, ecology, life cycles and economic or medical importance ... Scholarly yet colorful ... there is no rival encyclopedia. Highly recommended for public and academic libraries. (T. McKimmie Choice)These beautifully illustrated encyclopedias not only detail individual species, but also provide a wealth of information about how these creatures interact with one another and people. (Science News 2002-11-23)A striking abundance of information at a glance ... strongly recommended for high-school, public and academic libraries. (Booklist 2003-03-15)Highly recommended without reservations for the reference collections of all academic and public libraries as well as museum and other special library collections. It is a "must have" addition for the personal collections of all with an interest in the subject. (Lynn C. Westney E-Streams)Superbly illustrated with spectacular pictures ... the text is clear and well organized. (Bernard J.R. Philogene Science Books and Films 2003-04-15)Engaging, excellently laid out, and an absolute joy to read. The photographs ranged from very good to excellent to

amazing. (Randy F. Lauff Canadian Field Naturalist)About the Author Christopher O'Toole works in the Hope Entomological Collections of the Oxford University Museum of Natural History where he runs the Bee Systematics and Biology Unit. His research has taken him to the deserts of the Middle East and North America and the savannahs of South America and Africa. He has collaborated on natural history films about insects, most recently the six-part BBC TV series Alien Empire, for which he wrote the accompanying book, and has written 14 additional books on insect behavior and natural history, including Bees of the World (with Anthony Raw) and Bumblebees.