Biodiversity and Earth History

Jens Boenigk, Sabina Wodniok, Edvard Glcksman
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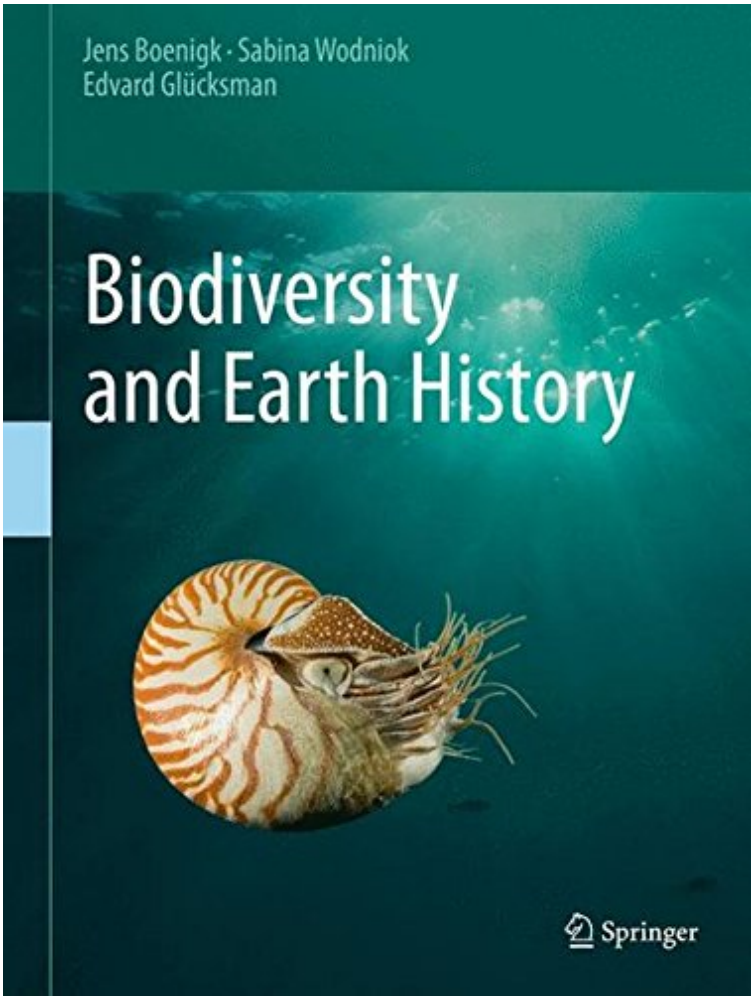

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Jens Boenigk, Sabina Wodniok, Edvard Glcksman : Biodiversity and Earth History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Biodiversity and Earth History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding from a Content AND Presenation Point of ViewBy QIOMDAs a retired physician, I've headed toward the study of the origin of life and other aspects of life history. This unique book has a visual presentation that encourages multiple learning styles (and times of day, for an older learning) and is quite comprehensive.The translation from the (?) original German could have been more careful, but I quickly got used to some of the quirky English constructionjs.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Amy McClainGood product.

This uniquely interdisciplinary textbook explores the exciting and complex relationship between Earths geological

history and the biodiversity of life. Its innovative design provides a seamless learning experience, clarifying major concepts step by step with detailed textual explanations complemented by detailed figures, diagrams and vibrant pictures. Thanks to its layout, the respective concepts can be studied individually, as part of the broader framework of each chapter, or as they relate to the book as a whole. It provides in-depth coverage of: - Earths formation and subsequent geological history, including patterns of climate change and atmospheric evolution; - The early stages of life, from microbial primordial soup theories to the fossil records most valuable contributions; - Mechanisms of mutual influence between living organisms and the environment: how life changed Earths history whilst, at the same time, environmental pressures continue to shape the evolution of species; - Basic ideas in biodiversity studies: species concepts, measurement techniques, and global distribution patterns; - Biological systematics, from their historical origins in Greek philosophy and Biblical stories to Darwinian evolution by natural selection, and to phylogenetics based on cutting-edge molecular techniques. This books four major sections offer a fresh cross-disciplinary overview of biodiversity and the Earths history. Among many other concepts, they reveal the massive diversity of eukaryotes, explain the geological processes behind fossilisation, and provide an eye-opening account of the relatively short period of human evolution in the context of Earths 4.6 billion-year history. Employing a combination of proven didactic tools, the book is simultaneously a reading reference, illustrated guide, and encyclopaedia of organismal biology and geology. It is aimed at school- and university-level students, as well as members of the public fascinated by the intricate interrelationship of living organisms and their environment.

Each topic is dense with information, well organized, and the writing is clear. Although almost anyone with a bit of a biology and geology background will learn a lot about life on Earth, the text is replete with the scientific names of higher taxa, many of which will likely be obscure to all but specialists. Thus, the text, in general, is geared to the biologically and geologically literate. (Joel Cracraft, The Quarterly of Biology, Vol. 91 (4), December, 2016)Each text page consists of an overview of a subject, followed by a deeper treatment, and includes a glossary of terms and cross-references to related book sections. The image pages are vivid, well labeled, and arresting. This work is a useful reference at many levels, as well as a pleasure to browse. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Lower-division undergraduates through professionals/practitioners. (W. L. Cressler III, Choice, Vol. 53 (8), April, 2016)Its emphasis, as the title implies, is the evolution of biodiversity during the course of Earth history and it begins with a thorough documentation of the geological and chemical development of the planet. The publishers deserve congratulations on the very high standards of production that greatly enhance the value of the book. In conclusion, this is a reference textbook that should be available to all students of Earth Sciences, Biology, and Biogeography. (Peter Moore, The Bulletin, Vol. 46 (4), 2015)From the Back CoverThis uniquely interdisciplinary textbook explores the exciting and complex relationship between Earths geological history and the biodiversity of life. Its innovative design provides a seamless learning experience, clarifying major concepts step by step with detailed textual explanations complemented by detailed figures, diagrams and vibrant pictures. Thanks to its layout, the respective concepts can be studied individually, as part of the broader framework of each chapter, or as they relate to the book as a whole. It provides in-depth coverage of: - Earths formation and subsequent geological history, including patterns of climate change and atmospheric evolution; - The early stages of life, from microbial primordial soup theories to the fossil records most valuable contributions; - Mechanisms of mutual influence between living organisms and the environment: how life changed Earths history whilst, at the same time, environmental pressures continue to shape the evolution of species; - Basic ideas in biodiversity studies: species concepts, measurement techniques, and global distribution patterns; - Biological systematics, from their historical origins in Greek philosophy and Biblical stories to Darwinian evolution by natural selection, and to phylogenetics based on cutting-edge molecular techniques. This books four major sections offer a fresh cross-disciplinary overview of biodiversity and the Earths history. Among many other concepts, they reveal the massive diversity of eukaryotes, explain the geological processes behind fossilisation, and provide an eye-opening account of the relatively short period of human evolution in the context of Earths 4.6 billion-year history. Employing a combination of proven didactic tools, the book is simultaneously a reading reference, illustrated guide, and encyclopaedia of organismal biology and geology. It is aimed at school- and university-level students, as well as members of the public fascinated by the intricate interrelationship of living organisms and their environment.