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Ultimate Visual Dictionary of Science By DK Publishing Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #611760 in Books
- Published on: 1998-08-31
- Released on: 1998-08-31
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.50" h x 1.49" w x 8.00" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 448 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Here's a science dictionary worth poring over for hours. The concise, well-written text and amazing photos and drawings in *The Ultimate Visual Dictionary of Science* provide an overview of science, from physics to biology, astronomy to mathematics--nine major fields in all. Within the larger sections, each fairly broad subtopic (such as "Reptiles," "Catalysts," and "Medical Imaging") gets a two-page spread. A brief beginning section introduces science as a concept and the work of scientists, while a useful section in the back bolsters the dictionary material with tables of measurements and data. The real strength of a visual dictionary is its images, and this one doesn't disappoint. The illustrations, including intricate cross sections, explanatory diagrams, and fascinating photos, are topnotch. This edition is up-to-date, with information on computer networks and mammalian cloning--a great family science reference. --*Therese Littleton*

From School Library Journal

Grade 6 Up-Like DK's *Ultimate Visual Dictionary* (1998), much of this title is a compilation of several previously published volumes. The *Visual Dictionary of Physics* (1995), *The Visual Dictionary of Chemistry* (1996), and *The Visual Dictionary of Human Anatomy* (1996, all DK) have been virtually reprinted page by page, illustration by illustration, and shrunk to fit a smaller format. Nowhere in the book is this fact mentioned. Other sections include medical science, life sciences and ecology, earth sciences, astronomy and astrophysics, electronics and computer science, and mathematics. Here, the information has been synthesized from earlier books and updated. The life-sciences section includes some nifty diagrams of arthropods, sponges, and plants. In the electronics section, there are diagrams of transformers, conductors and semiconductors, etc. "Mathematics" includes brief cogent descriptions of coordinates and triangles, probability, logic, and other functions, with lots of clear, understandable diagrams. As none of the information is laid out in dictionary format, it is often necessary to consult the index. Useful data such as physics formulas are at the end of the book along with a glossary, an index, and a short biographical list of scientists. If you don't already have the topical visual dictionaries in your collection, this is a relatively inexpensive way to get all three plus other useful information.

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