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Reef Creature Identification: Florida, Caribbean, Bahamas

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Synopsis

The book that has been relied on for a decade by scientists, marine biologists, recreational divers and young naturalists. 660 fascinating photographs of crabs, lobsters, shrimps, jellies, sponges, tunicates and more!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sponges, jellyfish, flat worms, crustaceans, mollusks, star fish, if it is not a fish then it is in this book. This is the authoritative reference for reef creatures (other than fish) throughout the Florida, Caribbean and Bahamas area. The most complete book on reef creatures that I have seen, it is easy to use and beautifully illustrated. Each creature has its own full color picture along with a line drawing that points out the defining characteristics of that particular species. With a plastic cover and the pages treated to resist water it can be taken to the beach or onto the boat without much concern about the water damaging the book. Each entry has complete information on the creature from size, depth, range and habitat to the level of concern that a diver should have for their safety around the creature. Whether you snorkel, scuba dive or engage in other activities around a reef, this is the best book to have to identify reef creatures. This book can also be purchased as part of a three part set that also includes the Reef Coral Identification and Reef Fish Identification texts, each of which is equally as excellent as the Reef Creature Identification book.

After we came back from our honeymoon, I wanted to buy my husband a book to help identify the
various sea creatures we encountered on our trip, and this book turned out to be perfect. First of all, the animals are broken down into various categories such as "crabs," "squid," etc., and each classification is clearly labelled. There are wonderfully clear, glossy pictures of each individual creature combined with a detailed description which includes information such as size, colors, appearance of immature, habitat, and reaction to divers. An ideal book for serious research or just for fun.

This is a fantastic book, and along with the other two books by this author you should be able to ID any marine creature you encounter! The book lists virtually all types of creatures including anemones, barnacles, jellyfish, flatworms, crabs, shrimp, octopuses, urchins, and much, much more! Each entry has an excellent picture, the name, family, size, depth, and other detailed information. The pictures alone are worth the cost of the book! This is definitely the book you want to have with you when you dive or snorkel. Buy it today, you won’t be disappointed!

Although my wife and I are now retired from diving, for more than twenty years we dived the world’s oceans, but most of our dives were in the Caribbean Sea. For the first few dives, we wondered what kind of marine life we were seeing, but few of our dive buddies were knowledgeable enough to identify many of the animals we saw. When I got into underwater photography, it was even more frustrating not being able to identify what I had photographed. Then we discovered Paul Humann and Ned DeLoach’s Caribbean ID books. We’ve since bought every new edition of each book, and we’ve given several sets of the books as wedding gifts to diver friends who tied the knot. Nowadays there are plenty of identification books and online sites, but the Humann-DeLoach ID books are still the most comprehensive and the easiest to use. Listing both the common names and scientific names of the various reef creatures, with first rate color photography, and giving the range of each species, the books make diving much more enjoyable. The books also give examples of the kind of habitat and depths at which different species are typically found, which makes looking for particular species much easier. The 3rd Edition of Reef Creature Identification is the newest edition, and it has a lot more content than the 2nd edition that was published quite a few years ago. The book should be in any Caribbean diver’s library. It really makes diving a lot more fun to be able to identify what you see, and I’ll let you in on a little secret: A lot of Caribbean divemasters have this book. In accordance with policy and FTC regulations, I acknowledge that I received a complimentary copy of the book from the publisher, since I contributed two of my own photos to the book.
I'm a beginner - novice scuba diver and enjoy underwater photography. I really wanted something that wasn't overly complicated to help me identify various creatures when scuba diving in Jamaica. I bought the series of 3 (Reef Creatures, Coral and Fish) and these were precisely what I wanted. The first few pages have some drawn illustrations to guide you to which class you are looking for and go to that section where there are excellent color photos to help identify the species. Every species listed also has a short blurb to tell you specific identifying features (which can be helpful if the specimen you're identifying was a little varied from the photo), the prevalence in the area, normal dwelling areas (like in coral, near sponges, etc) to be even more specific to help you identify. I've already used this to help me id species from past photographs. They are very comprehensive and easy to use. My only minor problem and is probably more my fault for not looking at the shipping weights, is that they are a tad heavier than expected. I'm going on another dive trip soon and plan on taking them with me and perusing them between dives and they will definitely require that I lighten my luggage. Together all 3 books (spiral bound with plastic cover) weigh about 5-6 lbs. Comparatively considering prices for other guides which usually had complaints of not being easy to use, no color photos, not enough info., I'm still very happy I bought these. I think the value for the money (purchased used - good to very good condition via ), was more than excellent. Even knowing the weight, I would definitely buy again.

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