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How Dinosaurs Took Flight



Synopsis

Would you believe it if I told you that every bird you see - even the smallest hummingbird - is a dinosaur? Well, that's what many scientists now believe! Follow along as scientists examine ancient fossils and pose new theories on how prehistoric dinosaurs evolved into today's modern birds. Packed with exciting stories of unearthing ancient fossils and tales of what early feathered dinosaurs might have looked like, this book will have imaginations running wild. From the very first birds, with only tiny dino-fuzz covering their bodies, to the mystery of how dinosaurs finally took to the air, listeners will explore the startling connection between the birds they encounter every day and their very distant relatives - the dinosaurs. Christopher Sloan works for National Geographic and has written several children's books on scientific topics. Listeners who enjoy this book should also check out *Bury the Dead*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This slim (64 pages) volume carries a hefty price tag, but at this point it's worth it, because there isn't a lot on the market covering the dinosaurs-with-feathers subject (so far as I know). Dr. Xu Xing, who wrote the foreword, is a notable character in the unfolding drama of feathered fossils being found in China. I consider this book a bit radical in that it runs with the theory of dinosaurs being birds (or was it vice versa?), calling them all dinosaurs: nonavian dinosaurs for the "dinosaurs" and avian dinosaurs for the "birds." It is written in a fairly simple and straightforward manner; I think it is a YA title although I mostly bought it for myself (as a parent having just taken the kids to see the James Gurney's *Dinotopia* exhibit and activities at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge MA). I think one might want to read it with a child, so that, for example, a younger reader might not

end up being teased for insisting that birds are dinosaurs. The theory is out there, it's current, but it's not completely validated yet. I would like to see more well illustrated books on the subject, but this one is a great start.

Learned a lot about the modern dino, the bird. Great tool to show relationship of hypotheses to evidence found.....I use it in my museum tours, grades 1 thru adult ages. Nice pictures, layout, and enjoyable to read.

This book is filled with great pictures and it is very informative. The author did a wonderful job explaining the differences between avian and nonavian dinosaurs. The hypotheses throughout the book are followed by the evidence that has been found on that topic. It's great reading for about 4th grade through adult, and nice for reading with your child also.

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