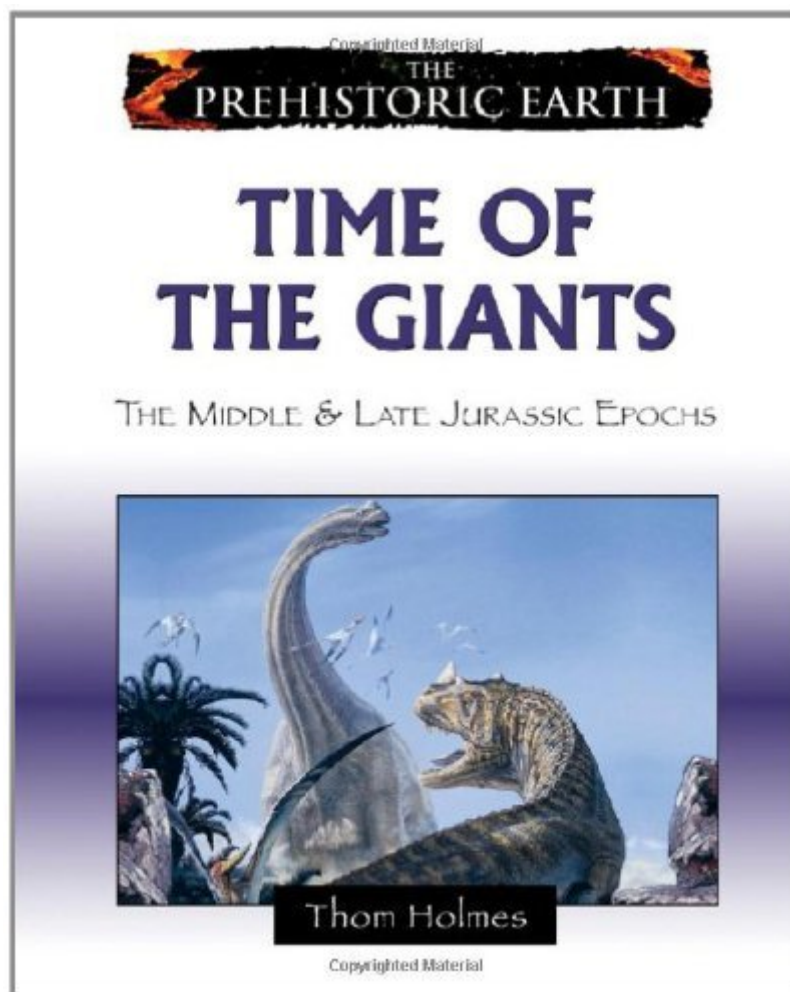




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Time Of The Giants: The Middle & Late Jurassic Epochs (The Prehistoric Earth)



Synopsis

The story of best-known dinosaurs is told in "Time of the Giants". The Middle and Late Jurassic Periods saw the largest land animals ever to walk the Earth - the sauropods. But the giants were not alone; other kinds of dinosaurs were diversifying rapidly as well. Most notably, predatory dinosaurs began their own trend towards gigantism, and the prolific development of plated and armored herbivores filled ecological spaces not tread upon by the long-necked behemoths. By the end of the Jurassic Period, dinosaurs represented extremism in the size of land animals with equally elegant metabolic and thermoregulatory mechanisms to maintain an active lifestyle. At the other end of the size scale, some small meat-eating dinosaurs, such as Archaeopteryx, developed powered flight and gave rise to birds. This fully illustrated book also examines the scientific view of dinosaurs as living creatures. Once considered docile and inactive - like their distant cold-blooded reptiles relatives - dinosaurs are now thought to have been active, energetic creatures that used a variety of methods to maintain a constant body temperature.

Book Information

File Size: 3328 KB

Print Length: 155 pages

Publisher: Chelsea House Pub (L); 1 edition (June 30, 2008)

Publication Date: June 30, 2008

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00DQ6LLSK

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #3,814,139 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #50

in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Prehistoric #101 in Kindle Store >

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