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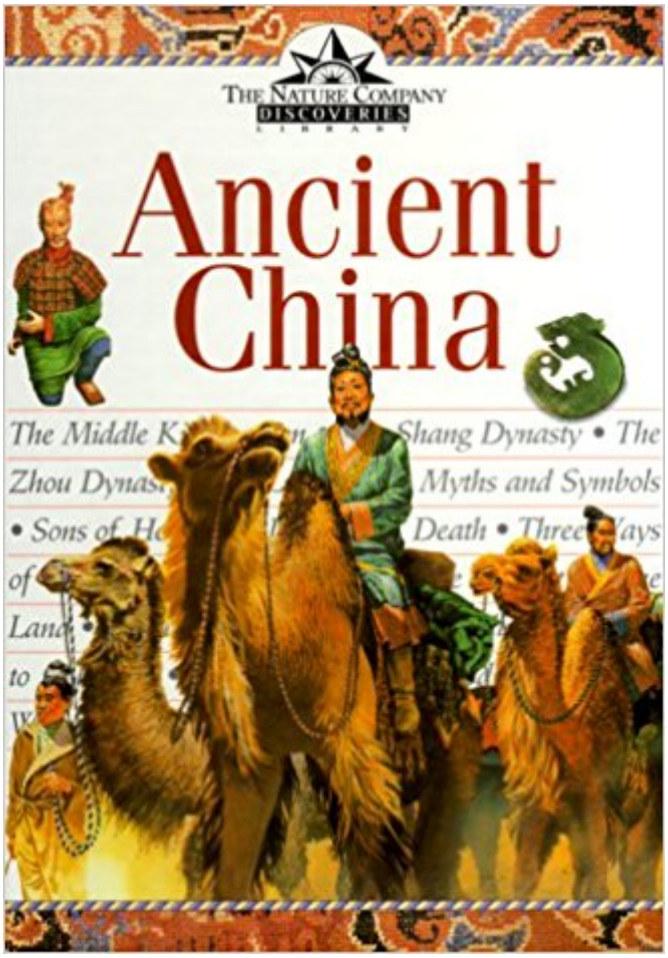

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Synopsis

An informative account of the more than 7,000-year-old civilization of China including insights into the individuals who helped shape this country.

Book Information

Age Range: 11 and up

Series: Nature Company Discoveries Libraries

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: Time Life Education (March 1996)

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Customer Reviews

Grade 6 Up?The best thing about this oversized volume is its description of the Great Wall, which is given in a four-page foldout. Otherwise, it is similar in format and content to Arthur Cotterell's Ancient China (Knopf, 1994), but not as detailed. "Ancient Beginnings" selectively covers prehistory through the Tang Dynasty. Dates for the dynasties?the only dates found in the book?are given only at the very beginning of the section and in an appendix, so readers could turn the page from Han to Tang times without realizing that 400 years have intervened. "Heaven and Earth" touches upon myths, Confucian and Daoist philosophies, Buddhism, views toward death, and justification of the ruler's right to govern. Rounding out the volume are two more sections: "Living in Ancient China," with such themes as the social order, the peasant and the land, clothing, celebrations, medical practices; and "Discovery, Arts and Invention," covering writing, printing, artists and artisans, silk, etc. Each topic within a section is treated briefly and sometimes superficially in a double-page spread. A paragraph of text, giving barest details and, occasionally, interesting trivia, is accompanied by a large full-color illustration. Captions with pictures of appropriate artifacts further expand the material. The one large map of China is poorly rendered.?Diane S. Marton, Arlington County Library, VACopyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Very good book; informative if you love world history you love this book.

We used this book as an addition to our Ancient China studies. The illustrations are interesting enough to keep younger children's attention and the information was a perfect addition to our older children's studies. Highly recommended for homeschooling families with different aged children!

My Son is just enjoying this so much. He loves the pictures, and the detail in the work in the book. I have to read parts of it to him, but he is just enjoying the book so much!

This book looks like one that we bought many years ago. It's a quick summary that lacks depth, interest, design, and any thing else you could say of a poor redo.

In our homeschool we studied ancient China and this book was the best we found! This is a book you want on your bookshelf. We usually like to use the Eye Witness books but we found this book to be more suitable for elementary aged children. The illustrations are wonderful. The layout is eye catching. The text is informative but not boring for kids. It has plenty of information to educate a child on ancient China and give them great visuals without overload.

Beautiful illustrations, not too much information for a child who is beginning to read but the information is suberbly researched and organized. Every book in the series is great for elementary age students. I am a teacher. I highly recommend them for classrooms.

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