

Suggested Reading Resources



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For High School and Above

Rancho La Brea: Death Trap and Treasure Trove

John M. Harris

This comprehensive text features articles, many of them written by our own scientists, on topics ranging from the various species whose fossil remains are recovered here, the geology of Rancho La Brea, the human history of the Tar Pits, and the paleontologists who lent their amazing work to reconstructing the world of Pleistocene Los Angeles.

Big Cats & Their Fossil Relatives

Alan Turner. Illustrated by Mauricio Anton

Paleontologist Turner and scientific illustrator Anton provide a unique and eye-catching account of living and extinct big cats. Following the introduction discussing their evolution, Turner offers detailed descriptions and differentiation of individual species. A close look at anatomy and its expression in the behavior of living big cats is used to make inferences about functions and behaviors in extinct species. Finally, Turner sets the evolutionary history of the big cats in a global context, discussing factors influencing their evolution and extinction.

Rancho La Brea: A Record of Pleistocene Life in California

Chester Stock

A scientific record of Rancho La Brea flora and fauna, complete with photos of fossil mounts and specimens. This reference book includes an overview of the geological history of the local area, as well as the discovery of Pleistocene fossils and development of the Page Museum.

For Middle School and Above

National Geographic Prehistoric Mammals

Alan Turner

When the dinosaurs died, the Age of Mammals began. Step back in time to a world of extraordinary creatures-some familiar, some astonishing-in the beautifully illustrated pages of this fact-packed encyclopedia.

Ice Age Mammals of North America

Ian M. Lange

Colorfully illustrated descriptions of strange and marvelous beasts form the heart of *Ice Age Mammals of North America*. You'll learn about the geologic events that led to the ice ages, along with possible causes for the mass extinctions of so many species. Fun sidebars explore such topics as the enormous size of some Ice Age animals and how DNA analysis is revolutionizing our knowledge of them. You'll even discover sites where you can view remains of these fascinating creatures today.

For Elementary and Above

Prehistoric World: The Ice Age

Dougal Dixon

Combining dramatic and scientifically accurate color illustrations with a wealth of factual details, this book gives young readers a vivid idea of the animals that once lived during the Ice Age. Students will recognize favorites from the La Brea Tar Pits such as the saber-toothed cat, the mammoth, and the ground sloth, while learning about exotic Ice Age fauna from all over the world. A great resource for class projects or fun reading.

Saber-toothed Cats

Susan E. Goodman

This colorfully illustrated book introduces students to the most current research on saber-toothed cats. How and what did they hunt? What was their environment like? How do scientists use fossil clues to solve the mysteries behind these impressive carnivores? In addition to exploring the famous *smilodon* from the La Brea Tar Pits, this text also introduces students to other saber-toothed cats from America and beyond.

Sunset of the Sabertooth

Mary Pope Osborne

Join Jack and Annie, two modern day kids transported back to the age of sabertooths and mammoths. This illustrated book introduces students to the early humans who migrated over the Bering Land Bridge and the ferocious animals who shared their world.