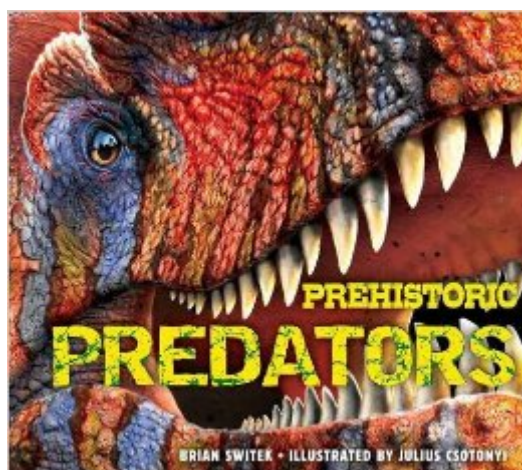


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# Prehistoric Predators



## Synopsis

Discover the most dangerous carnivores that ever roamed the Earth in this exciting and action-packed exploration of Prehistoric Predators, featuring a unique cover that feels like dinosaur-skin! The biggest baddies of the prehistoric world -- the carnivores -- come alive in Prehistoric Predators. From favorites like T-Rex and Giganotosaurus, to the ferocious Spinosaurus and terrifying Megalodon, the stunning full-color illustrations from renowned paleoartist Julius Csotonyi make these dangerous creatures spring to life on each page. Bursting with fascinating facts written by National Geographic contributor Brian Switek, dynamic artwork, and a unique dino-skin textured cover, this is the perfect book for dinosaur lovers of every age!

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #338,286 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Prehistoric](#) #217 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Reptiles & Amphibians](#) #527 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dinosaurs](#)

Age Range: 6 and up

Grade Level: 1 and up

## Customer Reviews

Excellent!!! Outstanding artwork by Julius Csotonyi, who is the premier plaeo-artist at this time. Accompanying this beautiful artwork, is the astute, insightful and easily grasped text by Brian Switek, who is beloved for his many writings on dinosaur and prehistoric topics for readers of all ages. I do have children, but honestly, I bought this book as an adult for myself - yes, it is THAT good.

Brian Switek delivers again with a great title and an extraordinary cover. Hard to miss with the art of Julius Csotonyi. My only gripe is that Allosaur gets cut off for text and we miss this great piece in its

full effect: <http://csotonyi.com/galleries/mesozoic-era/jurassic-period/#!enviragallery1398-71> also wish some of the other creatures in the art were identified. This book is meant for younger audiences but all ages will enjoy it.

A tantalizing production with excellent graphics depicting and describing ancient predators it is more inspiring than informative of the many creatures addressed. The difficulties I have long had with arbitrary naming of ancient creatures is helped somewhat by the enunciation guideline accompanying many of the highlighted animals. The role and definition of proto-mammals and their pre-dinosaur existence was very enlightening. When finished, I will reread the book along side my laptop and explore the many ideas this educational production elicits. It's short-coming is that it lacks the dialogue to explain the life, the surroundings, the reproduction and the death of these creatures but this in part is what makes it so tantalizing and why I'll use it hand in hand with today electronic encyclopedia; the web, on my second reading. I do wish such a book had been available 60 years ago.

Bought two of these and took one to the elementary school my grandkids attend. The librarian says that the book has not been in the library more than 2 or 3 hours at a time as it is continuously checked out by the kids. The content and writing is suitable for middle school as well as elementary. The science is well presented and each geologic age is represented by the appropriate predators. The art work is superb but so is the content. The construction of this book is suitable for library use as well as for your personal use.

This book has a great selection of wonderful art that really puts you in the jaws of the animals. Nice big print, too, unlike the other books with Csotonyi's work. Exciting and colorful layout. This would be a great book for people who are not yet totally die-hard dino fans and just want to dip their toes in paleontology. Everything is explained, but not at endless, perhaps overwhelming depth. Stunning cover, too.

Even though it's listed as a children's book on dinosaurs, in this case "children" might be misleading. I tried it out on my favorite 7 year old and she was, if not terrified, at least frightened both by the illustrations and especially by the cover. My fifteen year old grand-nephew nearly tore it out of my hands and then absconded with it. I'm glad he loved it (but he's definitely out of the will). :-)

Last weekend my nine-year-old son and I went to the movies and saw Jurassic World, the fourth film in the Jurassic Park series (but really, a direct sequel to the original film). I was fifteen when I saw Jurassic Park in 1993, and became dino-obsessed. I devoured books and articles about paleontology. Reading about dinosaurs led to reading about evolution in general, and then to Darwin (the focus of my history degrees). So while my son has seen the other films, I was excited to take him to see this new offering on the big screen. We loved it! The film was exactly what big movie theaters are for: suspenseful action in imagined worlds. We enjoyed the film immensely despite its major drawback. As many paleontologists have shared since the movie's trailers started appearing, Jurassic World does not do what Jurassic Park did in 1993: to share with the public the latest vision of what dinosaurs looked like. In the twenty years since, a lot has changed; most notably, that many dinosaurs had feathers or feather-like structures. Not in Jurassic World. Even some representations of dinosaurs in the new film ignore how the other films got it right (the posture of Stegosaurus, for example). The new film also does not introduce film-goers to the wide variety of new species discovered in the last couple of decades, instead sticking with the familiar: Tyrannosaurus rex, Apatosaurus, Triceratops, and Velociraptor. We are introduced to a new dinosaur, however. Not a real species that paleontologists have found the bones of, but a genetically-engineered monstrosity that comprises the DNA of several dinosaurs and other critters. The carnivorous and unstoppable Indominus rex is the film's antagonist. While her presence on screen is exciting, it's disappointing that the film's creators felt the need to invent a new dinosaur "probably not a good idea" when the annals of paleontology are full of awesome theropods that could have been amazing on-screen additions to the story. I hope the new film will inspire a new generation of dinosaur fans, and that many of these young paleontologists will seek out reading material to satiate their curiosity, and in the process, learn a little about what dinosaurs really looked like and how they behaved. For those interested in carnivorous dinosaurs (theropods), I recommend a new book by dinosaur writer Brian Switek and beautifully illustrated by paleoartist Julius Csotonyi. In Prehistoric Predators (Kennebunkport, ME: Cider Mill Press, 2015, 104 pp.), Switek profiles and Csotonyi brings to life over 40 dinosaurs and other animals from the past that dined on the flesh of other creatures. Old favorites are here, such as Allosaurus, but the book offers a look at a variety of lesser-known or more recently discovered species, including many with feathers or feather-like structures and some flying reptiles. There is Cryolophosaurus, the Antarctic theropod with an Elvis-like head crest, and the early tyrannosaur Guanlong. Ever heard of Eocarcharia? How about Deltadromeus? Why create

a fictional dinosaur when nature had so many to choose from? The profiles are arranged chronologically, starting with the Permian Period (and thus predators that pre-date dinosaurs) and into the Mesozoic Era and its trio of periods, Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous, as well as some marine reptiles and land mammals in the Cenozoic. The book lacks, however, some of the diversity of marine reptiles during the age of dinosaurs (there are no species of mosasaur or plesiosaur, for example). But for each entry, nothing is better than Csotonyi's realistic renderings full of color, behavior, and feathers. The book also features a textured cover, with the sensation of touching dinosaur skin. The Jurassic Park series will never likely yield dinosaur depictions with feathers, but let's hope in the near future that a studio green lights a dinosaur film that will. For now, enjoy Jurassic World for what it is, a science fiction movie, and check out some books, like Prehistoric Predators, and visit a local natural history museum, to learn more about the actual science. Want more dinosaurs? The publisher of Prehistoric Predators has another book worth checking out. The whole dinosaur kingdom is featured in Discovering Dinosaurs (2014), by Bob Walters and Tess Kissinger. More encyclopedic, this volume is chock full of dino diversity. Great information and great art from a classic dinosaur artist.

Well done book. The colorful images and short descriptions provide young readers with a nice view of each predator (or their victims) for young readers.

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