



Ultimate Visual Dictionary

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The Ultimate Visual Dictionary certainly lives up to its name. With a broad scope that covers topics as far-reaching as tempura paint, chemical reactions, and the equestrian saddle, this book manages to attain an inclusiveness that will bring a smile to the faces of even the most die-hard researchers. But though its topical range is amazing, *The Ultimate Visual Dictionary's* real attraction is ultimately its illustrations; containing more than 5,000 photographs and 1,000 detailed visuals connected to 30,000 terms, it provides a link between words and pictures in a way that few other books can or do. The photographs alone will keep any reader entertained for hours, but be warned: the pictures are presented in such a brilliantly clear and distinct fashion that you may start to believe you're aboard the HMS *Alacrity* or being chased by a full-grown male lion with a wide-open mouth.

From School Library Journal

YA-A beautiful dictionary that uses more than 6,000 full-color photographs, illustrations, and cross sections to explore most aspects of the natural world: the universe, prehistoric Earth, architecture, and much more. Arranged by subject but indexed in great detail, this volume will be especially helpful in schools supporting large ESL populations.

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From Library Journal

While librarians should always be wary of titles bearing hyperboles, this is the ultimate visual dictionary produced by its publisher, which by extension makes it one of the best on the market. Many of Dorling Kindersley's pictorial reference works are cataloged for children's collections, but this tour de force deserves a place in all departments. With 14 sections, 270 major entries, and 30,000 terms, it is a vital addition to the field of visual dictionaries. Most important, every page glows in stunning color—a particularly useful feature in the sections on the human body and the universe. The illustrations are a combination of photographs and drawings. A 45-page, six-column index assures that any term in the book will quickly be found. Occasionally, as in the section on architecture, the feature illustrated is too small to be seen in detail or a pointer line is lost when crossing a dark area, but these problems are rare. There are also a few factual errors, which one hopes will be corrected in future editions. Of its competitors, *The Facts on File Visual Dictionary* (LJ 12/86) and *What's What: A Visual Glossary of the Physical World* (LJ 5/15/94) are both in black and white, and the *Macmillan Visual Dictionary* (available in a multilingual edition, LJ 3/1/93) consists mostly of drawings. This *Ultimate Visual Dictionary* is not the only pictorial dictionary to own, but it is by far the most visually impressive, and it comes at a good price. Enthusiastically recommended for all libraries.

James Moffet, Baldwin P.L., Birmingham, Mich.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

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