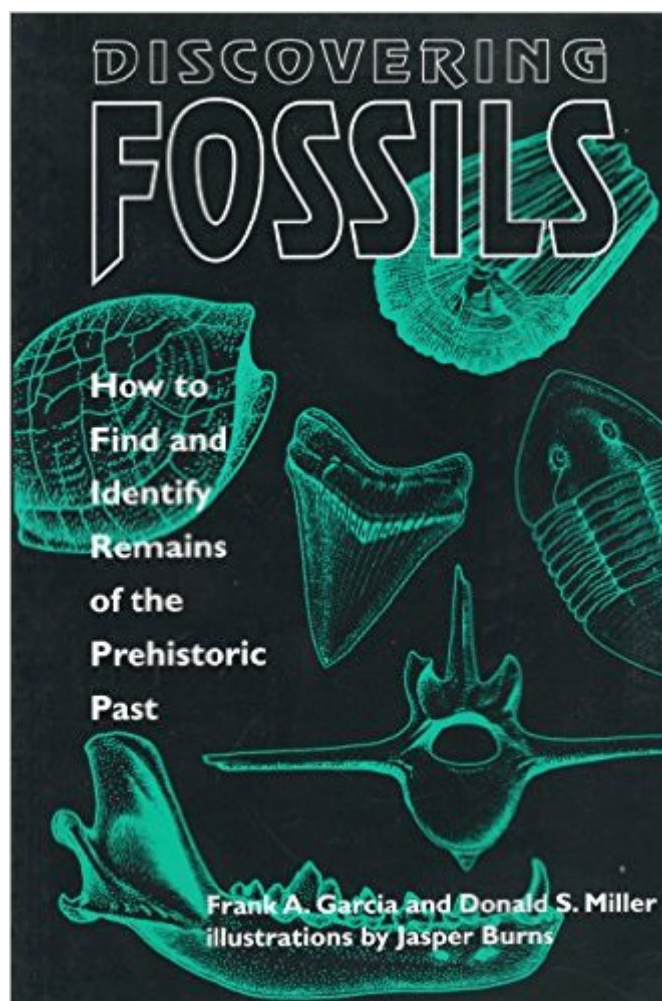


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Discovering Fossils: How To Find And Identify Remains Of The Prehistoric Past (Fossils & Dinosaurs)



Synopsis

Complete beginner's guide, with vertebrate and invertebrate fossil descriptions.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Frank Garcia pierces the veil of paleontology and brings you right down to the surface of your own dig. This book is the best fossil reference book for the casual collector as well as a great addition to any science or teacher's library where geology and-or paleontology are included. Written in a very down-to-earth style, the book walks you step-by-step through the basics of why fossils exist, where you will find them, how to properly (and safely) collect them and what to do when you get them home or back to the classroom. Any family that includes fossil-hunting in their vacation, home-school or travel plans should pack this book along for the added benefit of the wide range of fossils identified within. Any teacher who brings students to potential fossil or geology sites on field trips should include readings from this book BEFORE heading out as well as keeping it handy while in the field. There's enough packed into this book that every school library science section should include this volume if budgets restrict purchases. It's a great gift for the budding fossil collector and an excellent addition to a serious collector's library. The soft, but protected cover, makes it safe to handle in the field. Take my advice - purchase two: one for the field and one for the desk or prep table.

I enjoyed reading this book, as well as others by the same author. It was well written and easy to understand by the beginning fossil collector, yet it was not in any way condensing to the amateur. Frank writes, as he speaks, in a down to earth, witty and conversational form. I especially enjoyed his commentary on the other great amateur and professional paleontologists, in particular, Ben Waller. One could tell, by reading, that Ben held a special place in Frank's heart, it was good to see him write his feelings in this book. I would gladly recommend this book to all ages. The book contains valuable knowledge for fossil collectors of all types, and the well drawn and accurate illustrations provide excellent examples for what one should be searching.

A very good guide book to get started in collecting fossils. Great advice on equipment, locations and methods for collecting. The illustrations of typical specimens are extremely helpful in identifying finds. Mr Garcia writes with a great wit and a genuine love of science. His matter of fact story telling coupled with the excitement of discovery makes it obvious that to him, science is a verb.

This book has very accurate illustrations. It is very helpful for people who are interested in fossils, and everything that has to do with collecting them. It is easy to understand, and interesting to read over and over.

A very good guide book to get started in collecting fossils. Great advice on equipment, locations and methods for collecting. The illustrations of typical specimens are extremely helpful in identifying finds. Mr Garcia writes with a great wit and a genuine love of science. His matter of fact story telling coupled with the excitement of discovery makes it obvious that to him, science is a verb.

Discovering Fossils: How to etc by Frank A. Garcia Frank Garcia is not what anyone could call a conventional hide bound paleontologist. Garcia writes with the flair of an impromptu comedian and when it comes to paleontology he has a child like wonder of the natural world that is very infectious. While this work is a fairly basic guide to fossil collecting it covers several different areas and numerous types of fossils that are relatively common. If your planning an outing with your family and kids, (or in my case grandkids), and you & they have an interest in the hobby, this is an excellent, informative guide. Many relatively easy to find types of fossils are shown. The last thing Mom or Dad need is to take the kids collecting and not find anything. This book covers all the basics, has tips for new collectors and is entertaining besides. I don't know if Frank still does site trips any more but if he does, I highly recommend going on one. You will learn more about practical paleontology in two

days with Frank Garcia than you will sitting in a class room for a semester. Whether its spotting a rare valuable sharks tooth at 20 yards in Bone Valley or while moving at a dead run pointing out a 4/5's buried saber cat skull in Nebraska, Frank has bionic eyes. A word of caution, never, ever let him show you a mastodon. In Frith, Spence The Elder "Sic gorgiamus allos subjectatos nunc" M. Addams

"Discovering Fossils: How to Find and Identify Remains of the Prehistoric Past", by Frank A. Garcia & Donald S. Miller, Stackpole Books, PA 1998, ISBN: 978-0-8117-2800-3, PB 190/212 pgs. Index 2 pgs. Inveiglements include profusely illustrated scientific drawings of flora & fauna by Jasper Burns. 9" x 6". This book's principle elements are stated in its subtitle, and this sets it apart from most treatises on fossils and paleontology. The dedication and professionalism of senior author Garcia is documented by his personal discovery of 30 previously undiscovered species of prehistoric animals. The illustrated text with accompanying tabulations of fossil Exhibits, Shows, Clubs, & collecting sites is very informative and nicely complements chapters on scientific terminologies of time, jargon, finding fossils, law, ethics, etiquette & useful tips on buying and selling fossils. For a first book encompassing this rapidly growing hobby (and business) of paleontology, "Discovering Fossils" is highly recommended. I wondered about omission of .COM references but, perhaps, they are less reliable and too ephemeral compared to the printed word - no problem. finis

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