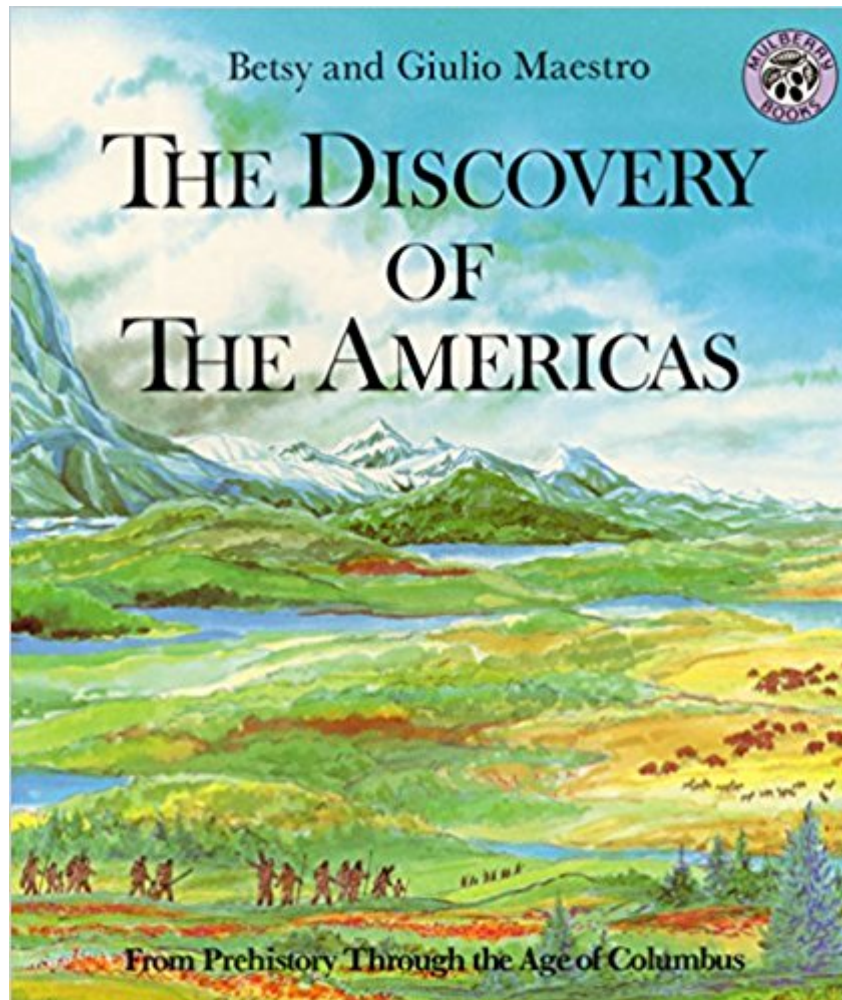




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Discovery Of The Americas, The (Discovery Of The Americans)



Synopsis

From the crossing of the Bering Land Bridge over 20,000 years ago to the arrival of the Europeans, this classic picture book paints the early discoveries of America in grand strokes. The text is useful for both the classroom and at home as it combines beautiful landscape illustrations with factual features: maps, timelines, chronological tables, and easy-to-use appendixes. "The dazzlingly clean and accurate prose and the exhilarating beauty of the pictures combine for an extraordinary achievement in both history and art." "School Library Journal" The Maestros do a real service here in presenting the more familiar explorers in the context of all the migrations that have populated the Western Hemisphere.... An outstanding introduction." "Kirkus Reviews" Supports the Common Core State Standards

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD1110L (What's this?)

Series: Discovery of the Americans

Paperback: 48 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

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Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 05

Customer Reviews

"From prehistory through the Age of Columbus," the many voyages of discovery to America are examined in lucid, fact-filled text and colorful illustrations and maps. Ages 6-up. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 2-5-- While this title is self-explanatory, it barely conveys the depth of the book's grand scope. The Maestros begin at the beginning as far as we know it, with the crossing of the Bering Land Bridge over 20,000 years ago. They carefully trace what is known of those Stone Age people, and include little-known points such as the possible visits of Phoenician explorers, Irish monks, Japanese fishermen, as well as the fairly well-documented Viking settlements. Illustrations show striking visual comparisons of ancient artifacts from both the Old and New Worlds, which reveal strong similarities. An appropriate emphasis is given to the thousands of years of human civilizations before Europeans established permanent settlements. The arrival of Columbus takes place almost halfway through the book. Conflicts between explorers who were fiercely ethnocentric and the native people who were often just as fierce in their own defense are treated with trenchant objectivity. Attractive, easy-to-use appendixes give tables of dates, pre-Columbian cultures, European explorers, and other facts. Giulio Maestro has achieved a happy mingling of artistic maps that include clear, descriptive diagrams of voyages and land routes, balanced with beautiful interpretations of broad landscapes in luscious colors of sky, cloud, sea, mountain, and forest. The dazzlingly clean and accurate prose and the exhilarating beauty of the pictures combine for an extraordinary achievement in both history and art. --Ruth Semrau, Lovejoy School, Allen, TX
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We read this book as part of our medieval times studies, and it compliments your studies wonderfully, in that it surveys a very broad range of time, but it all focuses on the discovery of the AMericas, from the last Ice Age to the Europeans. It should not be your only reading of the subject, but it helps put history in perspective for your 7-10 year old. There is also a timeline of dates in the back. This book went well with our Story of the World readings.

We Love this book!My 8 year old son really liked this history book that read a bit like a story.It had interesting pictures to accompany the text.I would recommend this book to anyone wanting to learn or share a little history.We want to get the series, and with such reasonable prices, we plan to!

This is a good overview of early North American history for younger elementary students.

Okay story

The Discovery of the Americas provides an overview of who discovered what for which people. While it is true that it does not give an in-depth look into the original inhabitants and the civilizations that arose from the initial discovery (the crossing of the land bridge), it does begin there. Viking "discovery" is presented as "the first proven sea voyage to the Americas," and the author relates that few people in Europe were actually aware of the Viking discoveries due to poor communication at the time. Columbus is presented as "rediscovering" the Americas (without realizing it), being credited truly with discovering the best possible sea routes between Europe and the Americas. The author also notes that not everything the Europeans brought with them was good, and that the lives of the Native Americans would never be the same. Throughout the book, the author takes care to note which information is believed to be factual and which information is based on unproven stories, and maintains an objective point of view. Our American History studies include a lesson text and literature (non-fiction and historical fiction). We use Maestro's "The Discovery of the Americas" as one of our literature supplements, to present an overview to covered topics in each of our study units. It is easily read and understood by my 7 yr old, and we enjoy the illustrations. I would not recommend this book as an all-inclusive lesson text, and do not feel it was intended to be such; but I am pleased that we included it as a supplement. Perhaps the author could have spent more time on the original inhabitants, but our studies include closer looks at several of those earlier cultures and the book does provide a good overview for our purpose. If you are looking for a textbook, an in-depth study of native peoples, a book written from the perspective of the natives, and so on... this is not the book you're looking for. If you want a general overview that presents an unbiased look at the early migration(s) and voyages up through "the Age of Columbus" (Magellan is actually the last covered), then I'd suggest considering this book.

Wonderful book for an introduction to history. We use it in k for homeschool.

I came across this book by Betsy Maestro "The Discovery of the Americas" and I loved it. The text is simple and the illustrations are great. It is historically accurate as well, a must in my checklist. I didn't realize she also wrote the historical series "You Wouldn't Want to..." They are my favorite!! I recommend all of her books, especially for teachers. This series "The American Story" are great. I just wished they were more but she doesn't have one for the Revolution which would be great.

The students in my classroom enjoyed this book. It gave them a great overview of the content we had been studying. It can be used at the beginning of a unit or as a review.

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