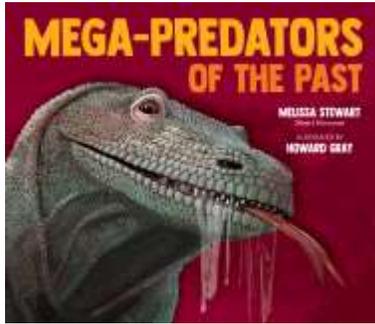


Mega-Predators of the Past

By Melissa Stewart

Illustrated by Howard Gray

About the Book



It's time for dinosaurs to step aside and let prehistoric mega-predators like the terror bird and giant ripper lizard take the spotlight! Travel back in time to meet some little-known hunters that once populated our planet. Discover how they lived, what they ate, and what they have in common with animals alive today.

Young readers will appreciate the book's humorous voice as well as the dynamic browsable design and art that's both playful and scientifically accurate. Mega fact files, infographics, and rich back matter provide a plethora of additional details.

Before You Read

- Invite children to share what they think the book will be about. What do they think a mega-predator is?
- What kind of animal do they think is shown on the cover? Have they ever seen an animal like it in real life? Do they think the animal might live in a different part of the world? Do they think the animal is still alive today?
- Assign each child one of the twelve mega-predators mentioned in the book.

As You Read

Each double-page spread of *Mega-Predators of the Past* includes multiple text features. When sharing the book with young children, you may wish to read just the main text on each left-hand page. Then discuss the main illustration and fill in details from the caption in the colored box.

With older children, begin exploring in the same way—read the main text, discuss the illustration, fill in details from the caption. Then you use a document camera to share the comparison box. Students can explore the entire book, including the Mega Fact Files, on their own later.

After You Read

- Ask the children to identify the main idea of *Mega-Predators of the Past*. Work with them to make a list of the prehistoric predators and similar animals that are alive today. Which of the modern animals is familiar to them? Which would they like to learn more about? Help the children find resources they can use later.
- Encourage each child to draw a picture that shows how their assigned animal hunts. Allow time for children to explain their pictures to the rest of the group.