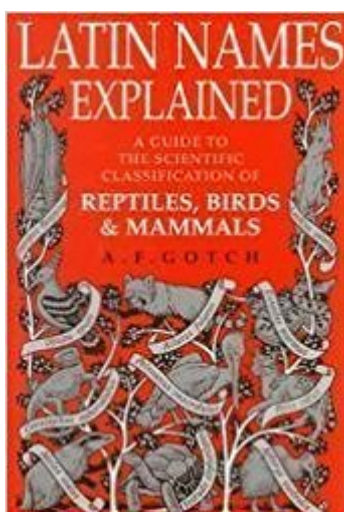


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Latin Names Explained: A Guide To The Scientific Classification Of Reptiles, Birds & Mammals



Synopsis

This title explains the many meanings behind the Latin names of birds, mammals, and reptiles. It introduces the basic principles behind the taxonomy of the animal kingdom and relates class-by-class and order-by-order the meanings and sources of hundreds of Latin animal names.

Book Information

Hardcover: 720 pages

Publisher: Facts on File; 1st US edition (January 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0816033773

ISBN-13: 978-0816033775

Product Dimensions: 9.6 x 6.4 x 2.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #748,435 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Taxonomic Classification #648 in Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Biology & Life Sciences > Zoology #1916 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology

Customer Reviews

Until now, there has been no one book that provided information about the origins of both the common and the Latin names of animals. Birders have many sources, an example being the Dictionary of Scientific Bird Names by James A. Jobling (Oxford, 1991), but other disciplines are not as fortunate. After doing much research, Gotch has brought together in one volume the common and Latin names of some 4,000 species of reptiles, birds, and mammals. The first part of the book is a brief historical account of how the animal kingdom is divided into phyla, classes, orders, families, genera, and species. The following three parts cover the orders of reptiles, birds, and mammals, with each part arranged in its proper scientific sequence. For each entry the common name is listed first in boldface, followed by the Latin name, which is further translated into English showing, in some cases, the relationship to the common name. A brief description of the species is provided, including some information on geographic distribution. For example, the red-breasted sapsucker has the Latin name *Sphyrapicus ruber* meaning hammer (*sphura*), woodpecker (*picus*), and red (*ruber*). Its name comes from the fact that it drills holes in deciduous trees and drinks the sap and eats the insects that are attracted to the sap. There are separate indexes to the common and Latin

names for each part of the book. However, the common-name indexes have some inconsistencies. The red-breasted sapsucker is listed only under Sapsucker, Red-breasted, but the spiny anteater is under both Anteater, Spiny and Spiny Anteater. There seems to be no problem with the Latin indexes. For the layperson and student, this book can help in understanding the names of animals. The descriptions are concise and easy to understand. It is a good general-science reference book for all libraries, interesting to browse for facts and lore about animal names.

This guide to the scientific classification of reptiles, birds and mammals provides extensive natural history coverage explaining the Latin system of classification and should be considered a standard and important reference for any college-level or public library collection emphasizing natural history studies. From the Orders and Families of creatures to the meaning of Latin names of over 4,000 species, this packs in translation and details. -- Midwest Book Review

Very easy to understand and is a great addition to any home library.

This is a GREAT reference book for anyone interested in the meaning of the scientific names of animals. The Although American animals are fairly well represented, there were a few omissions. But it's a great book nonetheless, and I recommend it!

Doesn't have all or a lot of the species names, but it has quite enough for a beginner. I'm taking wildlife classes and translating scientific names helps me remember them.

I first saw this book in my high school library about 2 years ago. As soon as I laid eyes on it, I knew that I had to get it. Now a sophomore in college, for as long as I can remember, Zoology for me was the most interesting thing to study. But there was always this obstacle of not being able to fully participate in the "-ology" of the "zoa," if you will, due to me not understanding most of the Latin language. One thing I will say about this book, is that not only does it remove this hinderance, but it also showed me how many english words have their roots in Latin, the most common ones in my opinion being dent=teeth, pod=foot and derm=skin. Anyway, I can go on forever, but I'll stop here. If you are interested in Animals, this book is definitely for you!!!

I recently aquired this book and inside, you'll find a sintilating selection of latin names and meanings of all the animals you study and love. Things that make common sense and others that will blow

your mind. Things that you have to memorize for classes become easy when you read their meanings and roots. Excellent for trying to remember the scientific names of all animals. From parrots to lizards to gerbils, you'll find it all here. Big book!

I bought this book for my wife as a gift. She is a Conservation Biology Student and Research Lab Technician, with a focus on wildlife / habitat restoration. It's all "greek" to me, but she absolutely loves this book. It is helpful in not only identifying scientific nomenclature of animals, but also helps develop a deeper understanding on how and why Latin names were given to specific animals.

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