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History News: The Greek News



Synopsis

"These entertaining, deftly organized books will make terrific light-hearted additions to curriculum units on ancient civilizations." — Publishers Weekly
Stop the presses! What if ancient civilizations had daily newspapers? And they were amusing and compellingly informative? They might just look like this innovative series of historical nonfiction, presented in a unique, kid-friendly format.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 960L (What's this?)

Series: History News

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Reprint edition (March 10, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763641979

ISBN-13: 978-0763641979

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 11.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #302,770 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #139 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Europe #167 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Ancient #191 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > General

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

Both subtitled "The Greatest Newspaper in Civilization," these informally written volumes collect "the stories that really made the headlines" during the height of the Greek and Roman empires, or would have, if those eras had enjoyed USA Today, Dear Abby and contemporary advertising. With a tabloid-style format that is smaller than an actual newspaper yet larger than standard picture books, these books present ancient history as "news," putting it into a shape and jargon familiar to kids today (see also Children's Books, p. 24). Aside from the hard news stories of the day ("Sparta Attacks!

Grade 5 Up. Browsable reads to whet the appetite. The "editors" (authors) of these two volumes have hit upon a unifying theme to chronicle the accomplishments of the ancients?a newspaper style. The Roman News and The Greek News are not exactly major city dailies; their format is more suggestive of a news magazine or at least a Sunday section highlighting fashion, sports, trade, food, and the military. Each page presents readable articles complete with headlines, boldface, column breaks, illustrations, and, often classifieds: instruments for sale; racing chariots built to order; reusable wax tablets. The front page (book cover) suggests a scope of approximately 1200 years, and the rise and fall of each empire is explained. A publisher's disclaimer also cautions that the ancients did not have newspapers (of course, they didn't even have paper!), but if they had, "they would have been reading...." Similar comments dart in and out of the news stories so that the entire tone is more human interest than ready reference. Such editorializing, however, only slightly distracts from the facts, which are accurate. Significant dates and events are all newsworthy. "Olympic Games Spoiled," "Caesar Stabbed," and "Hannibal Invades" are typical stories. The slightly oversized pages with decorative borders, sidebars, ads, and cartoons create an interesting layout. Many teachers would probably rejoice with the delivery of The Greek or Roman News as a project for a social-studies or whole-language unit. Kids can adopt this highly readable, albeit slightly sensationalized journalistic style. All in all, serviceable reporting. Harriett Fagnoli, Great Neck Library, NY Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I bought this book because it's in Sonlight Curriculum and I was really disappointed. It's format is interesting, but the content is like your typical history book (so and so fought this war, so and so capture this city, etc.). If your child loves history, dates and is good at remembering factual information then this might be a good fit, but it really doesn't bring history to life. There's no cohesion from one page to another or from one topic to another and you don't walk away with any great sense of what it was like to live during that time (there is some of that, but again it's not cohesive). We had just finished reading Roman Diary when we started this one and that might have contributed to my disappointment. It was just hard to get into this book and it definitely did not hold my 6 year old's attention (who can follow the plot of the Hobbit and other long and complicated books).

This was kind of a random order -- it looked interesting, and I am a glutton for books. Well, it is so cool. If you read the whole thing it gives you the main events of much of Greek history, in a fun

format that glides down easily. Great book!

I think this is a great resource- lots of color, good writing, and exciting information. I am rating it a 4, however, because my kids don't like it as much. They find it a little boring (ages 5 and 7) but they might just need to be a little bit older to grasp it. They will sit down and listen to it, though, and are learning from it- even if they complain a little. I'll take the complaints as long as they are learning history- which they are.

Eye catching cover - my students wanted to look at these books right away. The format is a creative model for student projects where they put themselves in the time period to report the news.

An informative, and entertaining book even for grown-ups!

Great for our homeschool curriculum

Purchased it for someone else.

Great garden tool. I already had one but I purchased another one for my dad. He really liked the product, too, and thought it did an excellent job edging his yard. I'd recommend the tool to everyone!

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