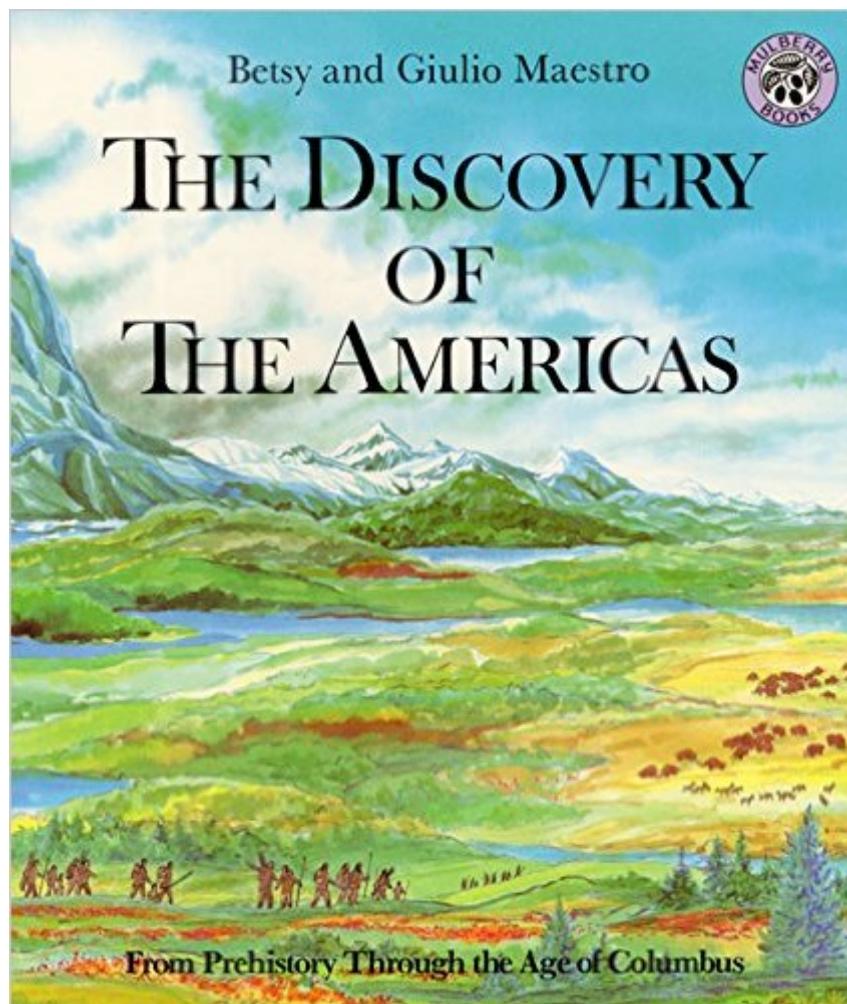


The book was found

# 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

Publisher: HARCOURT SCHOOL PUBLISHERS; 1 edition (January 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0688115128

ISBN-13: 978-0688115128

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #295,679 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #117 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Exploration & Discovery #911 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States #1991 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 05

## **Customer Reviews**

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.

We read this book as part of our medieval times studies, and it complements 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.

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.

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.

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

It's nice in that it talks about many other voyages and possible "discoveries of America." Most books kind of start in 1492 like that was the beginning of everything in the Americas. THIS BOOK IS HORRIBLE IN PORTRAYING THE TRUTH. It only has a few pages that talk about the real discoverers of the Americas (the people who came across the land bridge). It totally ignores the amazing feats they accomplished, the many different cultures that existed here, and the sustainable and advanced way of life. These people were here for AT LEAST 20,000 years, yet this book wants to act like America was born ONLY WHEN some holy European set his foot here and saved the day. If you're looking for a book that tells the truth about the early Americas, THIS IS NOT YOUR BOOK. It does not accurately convey the early times of the Americas. Native Americas are nearly completely ignored in this book like they don't matter. If you're a teacher like me, this is not your resource if you're looking for books to tell the TRUE story from a non-Eurocentric point of view. It's books like this why so many children are brainwashed and why there are so many adults who grew up completely ignorant. Do your kids some justice and teach the truth. Even if you don't want to teach about ALL OF THE HUMAN GENOCIDE and complete destruction of culture and way of life to extremely young students, it is still appropriate to teach them ACCURATELY about the Native American people, everything they accomplished, and how their lives were changed upon the arrival of Europeans.

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