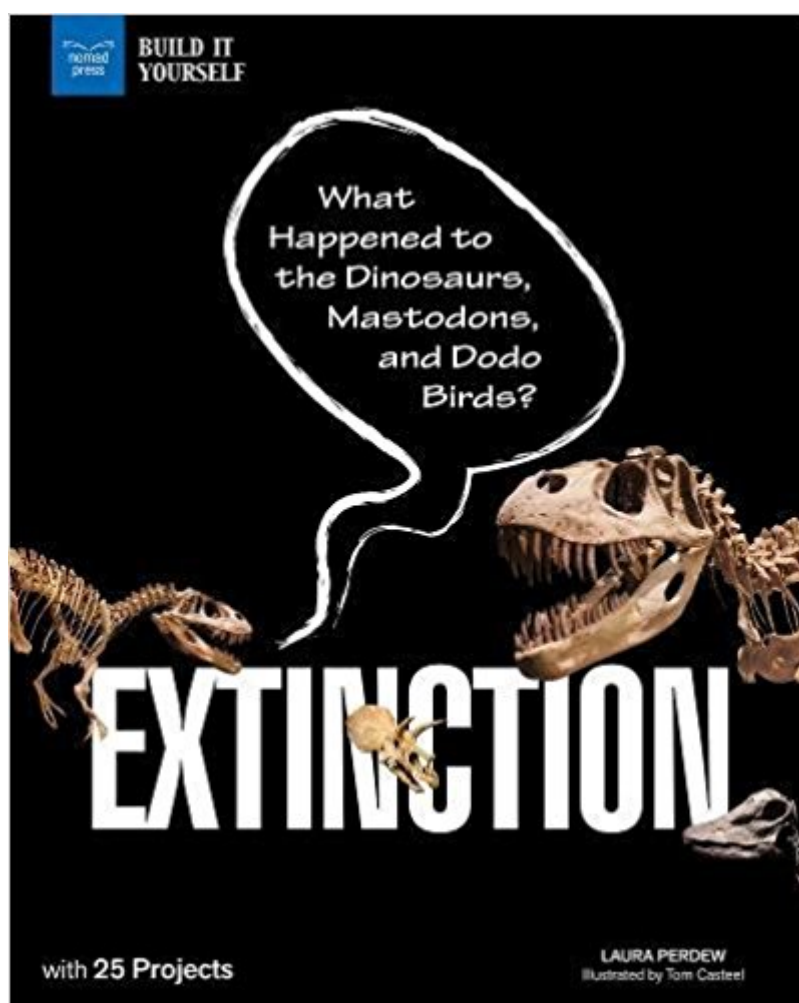


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Extinction: What Happened To The Dinosaurs, Mastodons, And Dodo Birds? With 25 Projects (Build It Yourself)



Synopsis

Have you seen a dodo bird recently? Do you have mastodons playing in your back yard? Not likely—these species are both extinct, which means the entire population has died out. More than 99 percent of all species, or about 5 billion, have gone extinct since life first formed on Earth 4.5 billion years ago. Some of those species went extinct at the same time in an event known as a mass extinction. What type of event could cause such a massive die off? This is a question that scientists have asked for decades as they explore the causes of extinction. In *Extinction: What Happened to the Dinosaurs, Mastodons, and Dodo Birds?* readers ages 9 to 12 learn about the scientific investigative work necessary to answer these questions and find the culprit behind mass extinctions. Follow the scientists as they look at all potential reasons for extinction, including asteroid impacts, massive volcanic eruptions, excessive gases in the atmosphere, climate change, and more. Where do scientists find clues to help them answer their questions? In rocks—scientists travel the globe to excavate the evidence. They look for fossils that might tell them what lived before an extinction and what lived after. They also examine the chemical elements in rocks at the boundaries between geologic eras, as well as the structure of rocks. As they follow the evidence, the pieces of the puzzle come together to form a clearer picture of events that happened millions of years ago, whether it's an asteroid strike or a massive volcanic eruption. Extinction is not just a thing of the past. It is happening right now, at a higher rate than is typical. Because of this, there is debate about whether or not the presence of humans on Earth is having the same effect as an asteroid strike or a massive volcanic eruption. Are we currently experiencing the sixth mass extinction? And if so, what are the causes? Can we stop it? *Extinction: What Happened to the Dinosaurs, Mastodons, and Dodo Birds?* includes hands-on activities and critical thinking exercises to encourage readers to consider humans' role in the current extinction, what we can learn from past extinction events, and how they can be part of efforts to prevent extinction. Hands-on activities, a fun narrative style, interesting facts, species spotlights, and links to primary sources combine to bring the subject of extinction to life in a fun and engaging way.

Book Information

Series: Build It Yourself

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Age Range: 9 - 13 years

Grade Level: 4 - 6

Customer Reviews

Reviews for other titles in the series: [Microbes: Discover an Unseen World with 25 Projects Booklist](#)
"Making microbes an engaging topic for young readers is no easy task, but by marshaling comic-book-style illustrations and plenty of relatable examples, this book will be an appealing choice for the science classroom and the library shelf. Essential questions are introduced at the start of each chapter and are repeated at that chapter's close to reinforce the main concepts and encourage metacognition. Twenty-five experiments expound on concepts such as understanding herd immunity, viewing bacteria cultures, diagnosing infectious disease, and studying decomposition. Access to more information is made easy through the scannable QR codes and keyword search prompts that are embedded in the marginalia. By discussing the ways the microbes grow and thrive, this offers plenty of practical advice for staying healthy and preventing infection. As a series of fun experiments in a dynamic layout that also remains faithful to the basic tenets of scientific inquiry, this is sure to engage young biologists."

Reviews for other titles in the series: [BioEngineering: Discover How Nature Inspires Human Designs School Library Connection](#)
"Breaking down the complex topic of bioengineering into a kid-friendly format is a tough challenge, and Dr. Christine Burillo-Kirch does a fine job of doing just that. Bioengineering, the field which combines biology and engineering to build devices that help humans, is carefully defined and explained for upper elementary and middle school students. The text and comic style illustrations support science and STEM curriculum and projects while keeping it relatable and simple for budding scientists. The 25 projects, complete with supply lists and step-by-step directions, give students and teachers guidelines for meaningful projects and activities to extend learning and spark critical

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