Seashells: Jewels from the Ocean by Budd Titlow

They have done time as jewelry and tools, as medicines, currency, and symbols of industry--and they have intrigued people, from beach-combing toddlers to serious scientists, since time began. Native interest meets natural history in this exquisitely illustrated account of the science and culture of seashells.

With closeup photography and basic explanations of different shell types--univalves, bivalves, and cephalopods--how they are formed, what mollusks inhabit them, their morphology and life cycles, and much more, this is the book for anyone with an interest in seashells.

This book includes information on the bewildering array of shell shapes, colors, sizes, and types, and describes where the different shells can be found throughout the world. As informative as it is visually arresting, the book will appeal to amateur and expert, collector and casual beachcomber.
My Personal Review:
I was really looking for a good field guide on seashells since I'm a big collector and always am in the need of one, but I found a different yet interesting one instead. If you are looking for general info on seashells, this is the one. This is not a field guide, nor is it a coffee table book. It is an informative guide on seashells. It does have beautiful photographs, at least one on almost every page. It explains just about anything anyone might like to know about seashells. What are seashells?, The 5 different classes or types of shells, their anatomy, how they are constructed, Why they have different textures, forms, colors and patterns on them, where to find them(the habitats and distribution)the history of mans uses of shells from ancient times to present day, tips on shell collecting and environmental threats, and issues.
This is not a very large book, about medium size but packed with information of what I have just explained. Interesting stuff. It does however mention where a few shells are found that are pictured in the book. But I repeat again, this is not a field guide. This book has 112 pages, I would say about a half inch thick—that's not too thick. Size is 8X10 inches. A very nice book though for what is is about. I give it 5 stars for that. It does help anyone who wants to know more about shells. Even me, I am a big shell collector and always looking for all the information I can find on shells. It's better to research as much as you can for your own knowledge. It does come in handy when anyone sees your collection and asks you all sorts of questions! Hope all this helps you out!

Rehana(Chicago, IL)

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