



Firefly's World of Facts

By Russell Ash

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Firefly's World of Facts By Russell Ash

Thoroughly revised and updated for 2010!

Here are thousands of the most up-to-date facts on a world of topics -- answers that address almost every subject on earth. Every page is illustrated with photographs, illustrations, maps or charts, and every corner of the book is packed with the newest lists and rankings, the unexpected and the astonishing.

Firefly's World of Facts is extensively updated and covers a rich diversity of topics arranged by subject, including the natural world and life sciences; science and technology; world cultures, countries and beliefs; language, literature and education; art, music and entertainment; and much more.

The book has been improved to include new sections and better ways of presenting the facts, including:

- New and updated sections for topics experiencing exciting developments
- The latest important discoveries
- Significant revisions to the computers and the Internet sections
- New sections that keep in time with changing interests, e.g., weird pets, genealogy
- Technology in 21st-century life
- Changes in the world of work
- New forms of energy, reducing your carbon footprint
- Social networking.

Readers of all ages will be fascinated by the abundance of facts in this remarkable and up-to-date reference.

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Editorial Review

Review

[Review of earlier edition:] This excellent and diverse book has been updated for 2009 and is packed with astonishing lists and unexpected facts.... Abundantly illustrated, this coffee-table book is informative, splashy and fun. (Larry Cox *Shelf Life* 2009-02-26)

[Review of earlier edition:] May compete with Internet searching because [it is] interesting eyecatching!... A perfect quick-reference source elementary and middle-school students.... Depending on the type of library, [this] reference [source] will be popular in elementary, high-school, academic, and public libraries. (Christine Bulson *Booklist* 2008-03-15)

[Review of earlier edition:] Abundantly illustrated ... every page is chock-full of unexpected and astonishing lists, rankings, facts and juxtapositions. (*Bookpage*)

[Review of earlier edition:] A handy instant reference for adults and children, with no need to start up your computer -- just check the book. (Annie Boulanger *Burnaby Now* 2007-12-15)

[Review of earlier edition:] Visually appealing ... Each page is as intriguing and fact filled as the one before. This text would provide many hours of Oohs and Did you know? From the reader as they share new knowledge with others.... Readers are fascinated as the world's facts unroll at their fingertips. This text would make a great addition to a classroom/school library. (Anne Hatcher *Resource Links*, vol. 13, no. 4)

[Review of earlier edition:] Brilliantly designed and illustrated with photographs, maps, drawings and charts that jump off the page. (Sheldon Kirshner *The Canadian Jewish News* 2007-11-29)

[Review of earlier edition:] Selected as a 2008 'Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers' by the Young Adult Library Services Association. (YALSA)

[Review of earlier edition:] The authors' interesting text and lists along with the publisher's use of colorful photographs and sidebars makes the one that users will want to browse long after finding the answer to their original question. In fact, the publisher used more than 1,500 full-color photographs, maps, charts, and illustrations in this 320-page book. Sure, this information is available elsewhere, and sure, librarians can probably pull the information for patrons from other sources, but this volume is so compact, colorful, concise, loaded with photographs, and so easy to read, that libraries really ought to have this work, especially at the relatively low price of \$29.95. Librarians will not want to put it down either. (Shannon Graff Hysell *American Reference Books Annual*)

[Review of earlier edition:] This colorfully designed reference-for-fun volume offers facts including lists of milestones, firsts, and bests on approximately 150 subjects divided into 20 categories. (*BookNews* 2009-12-01)

[Review of earlier edition:] Endlessly fascinating. (*Canadian Jewish News* 2008-12-11)

About the Author

Russell Ash has written or contributed to more than 100 reference books.

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Introduction

This new edition of *Firefly's World of Facts* has been updated from cover to cover. Inside, you will find thousands of amazing facts and hundred of exciting pictures. Keep up-to-date with the most recent world record-breakers, cutting-edge scientific and medical breakthroughs and gadgets and gizmo from the latest e-readers to the cleverest robots.

Facts and figures

Firefly's World of Facts is divided into 20 sections -- Planet Earth, People, World History and space to name but a few. It includes information on a huge range of subjects, with data from authoritative sources and specialists on every subject under the sun -- and beyond. Among the countless new entries are features on the world's tallest building and the biggest ship, miraculous rescues and grisly torture methods, child soldiers and child film stars, the smallest mobile phone and the smallest snake, animal heroes and toilets in space as well important anniversaries coming up in 2010.

Inside information

Detailed lists and charts show global comparisons, while **special features** and **fact disks** provide fast information, revealing everything from the countries with the most computers to the highest-earning animated films, from the greatest achievers to the most popular social networking websites. You will also discover an array of **oddities**, including a time-eating clock with no hands, a lord whose carriage was pulled by zebras, a flying friar and people who dine in mid-air!

A section on **countries** gives essential information, including population, capital city and currency for every country in the world, as well as the flag of each one.

Timelines on subjects such as communications, astronomy, war and inventions give a see-at-a-glance overview and pinpoint important milestone up to the present day.

Useful maps, tables and formulae include conversions, mathematical symbols and scales, from Beaufort (weather) to Richter (earthquakes).

Other features

Web link boxes suggest useful websites to help you explore subjects further. **See also** boxes guide you to information on a particular subject elsewhere in the book. There is an extensive **index** at the back of the book, as well as a **list of sources**.

Whitaker's World Website

You can write to me with comments, suggestions and corrections at the publisher's address on page four.

Russell Ash

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sheila Gallagher:

The particular book Firefly's World of Facts will bring one to the new experience of reading any book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book to see, this book very acceptable to you. The book Firefly's World of Facts is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

Heather Bencomo:

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