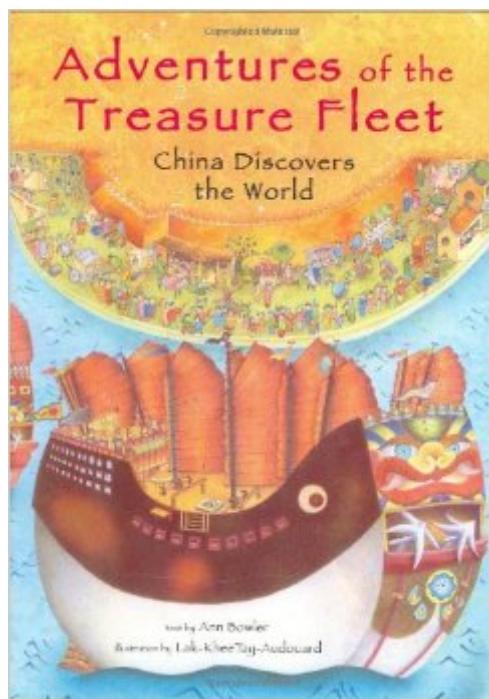


The book was found

Adventures Of The Treasure Fleet: China Discovers The World



Synopsis

Join the Chinese admiral and his crew as they battle pirates and raging storms in this beautifully illustrated Chinese history book for kids. Did you know that 85 years before Columbus discovered America, Chinese ships longer than a football field sailed thousands of miles through unknown oceans and visited more than 30 nations? It's true! Adventures of the Treasure Fleet: China Discovers that World is the amazing story of these seven epic voyages and their larger-than-life commander, Admiral Zheng He. Beginning in 1405, Admiral Zheng He led more than 300 gigantic, brightly-painted ships across the South China Sea to the Indian Ocean and all the way to the distant coast of Africa. The admiral and his crew battled pirates and raging storms, and were amazed by the people and ways of life in distant lands. At each port, Chinese goods were traded for pearls, precious stones, herbs and medicines which were given as tribute to China's powerful emperor when the ships' returned home. Filled with historical facts, Adventures of the Treasure Fleet brings a fantastic piece of history to life. Gracefully told and beautifully illustrated, the story's fast pace will keep young ones captivated while offering enough information to satisfy curious readers of all ages.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1050L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Tuttle Publishing (December 15, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0804836736

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #943,732 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #130 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Asia #294 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Ancient Civilizations #310 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Exploration & Discovery

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

This beautifully illustrated and written book opens American children's eyes to a fascinating epoch in

Chinese history--the great sailing of the "Treasure Fleet" on its several voyages all through Southeast Asia, India, the eastern coast of Africa, and all the way to the Red Sea. Not only does it open a window onto China's rich history, it also provides an excellent geography lesson (thanks to some beautiful maps). Adults will enjoy reading it as well, especially since a "grown-up" history of these voyages is provided at the bottom of the pages. A superb effort!

This gorgeous book is a feast for the mind as well as the senses, opening up a little-known (to Americans) period in the history of China. Ann Bowler takes us sailing through the past with a true story so exotic -- Ships big as football fields! Gold! Jewels! Pirates and warriors! -- that it is hard to believe it is real. Adults as well as children will be enthralled, as we were, with this wonderful and fact-filled journey to ancient times. It is on my gift list for young and old.

Nearly a century before Magellan and da Gama, the Chinese sent out fleets of enormous junks under Admiral Cheng Ho to explore the Indian ocean and trade with Africa. This is the children's version of the story, but it's a good way to introduce people to a nearly-unknown story.

ADVENTURES OF THE TREASURE FLEET is much more than a picture book. It is a chapter in world history--85 years before Columbus--that is rarely told. How have we missed the 6'tall Admiral Zheng He's incredible voyages in 300 huge Chinese ships, each the size of football fields? And pirates too! Ann Martin Bowler's detailed research and Lak-Khee Ty-Auduoard's wonderful art have made history an exciting adventure!

This is a treasure of a book, with lively text and illustrations geared to pull the young reader into the world of yesteryear and many of its ancient cultures. In 1405, Admiral Zheng He led his fleet to an amazing number of ports around the world, creating trading routes and opening opportunities for modern commerce. Blended in are explanations of China's early inventions, boat building, the magnetic compass, navigation techniques, how to create diplomatic bonds with strangers, what was traded and how global trade developed at the hands of the Chinese and their partners, and more. Bowler's roots as a teacher are on display. The reader is seamlessly transported into an ancient world, and made to think about how incredible these accomplishments must have felt to people without the modern conveniences we all take for granted. How to communicate among all the ships, navigate stormy waters, fight off pirates, and make friends with strangers in a language you do not share? Bowler entices her readers to think about how amazing all these

accomplishments were. Intricately detailed art work helps the reader visualize every day life, as well as different cultural characteristics of Africa, India, Siam (now Thailand), what we now call the Middle East, and of course, China. The artist shows homes, dress, animals, musical instruments, dinnerware and vases, food, plants, places of worship, boats, traded goods of different countries, and much more. The map at the end of the book helps the readers grasp the magnitude of the 35,000 miles of oceans traveled. This book tells the story of many fantastic voyages of a visionary explorer in a way that should catch and hold the attention of the reader. What a terrific way to introduce an important piece of our global history and culture to primary and secondary school readers - as well as their parents!

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