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The Kingfisher Children's Encyclopedia

AnnMarie Hamar

Justice, Jennifer and Allen, Sarah. *The Kingfisher Children's Encyclopedia.* Kingfisher, 2004. ISBN 0753467679. $24.95. 468 pp.

Reviewer: AnnMarie Hamar
Reading Level: Primary
Rating: Outstanding
Genre: Reference;
Subject: Children's Encyclopedias and Dictionaries; Books--Reviews;

   The entries in this reference book range from such topics as "Aborigine" to "Immune System" to "Viking." The main heading for each entry is bold-faced and is followed by a concise definition of the subject to be highlighted. Entries range in length from one to four pages. Many of the entries also include a "Fast Facts" box that lists key dates or extra information, and a "See Also" box that refers the reader to related articles. As with many of Kingfisher's reference works, illustrations and photographs are plentiful to complement the text. The appendix, "FactFinder," includes a map of the world, a listing of Canadian provinces and U.S. states, and a brief biographical listing of some important composers, authors and scientists. The information is current enough to include information on the war in Iraq. This reference work was produced by editors, authors and consultants with years of experience in children's reference. Although an excellent reference book on a wide variety of topics, it would be nice to know why and how the editors chose the subjects they did for inclusion in this work.