

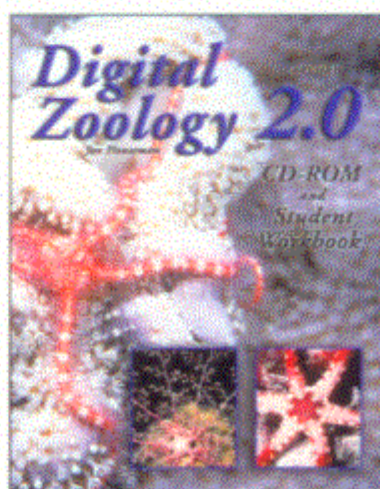
Front Cover:

A striking collection of eyes showcases diversity across the animal kingdom. Arthropod eyes may be the most unique in shape, as evidenced by those of a hornet and a red damselfly, but bright color is not the exclusive province of any one group. The pink stalked eyes of a mantis shrimp vie for attention with the vivid yellow surround of an Australian Pelican eye and the red on green color scheme of a tree frog. Orange eyes stand out in an iguana and a Cape Eagle Owl, but blend with the fur of an Indonesian Tarsier. Vertical pupils in a Green Tree Python or a Nile Crocodile are unlike those of a parrotfish or a mandrill, but are not so strange as the horizontal bar of an Atlantic Oval Squid eye. Despite the exotic forms of eyes, recent research suggests a common origin for vertebrate and invertebrate visual systems. The two systems use different photoreceptor cells in the eye, but vertebrate photoreceptors have been identified in the brain of a marine invertebrate; a clam worm. Presence of both cell types in a polychaete, in the eye and brain, indicates shared ancestry for vertebrate and invertebrate eyes.

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