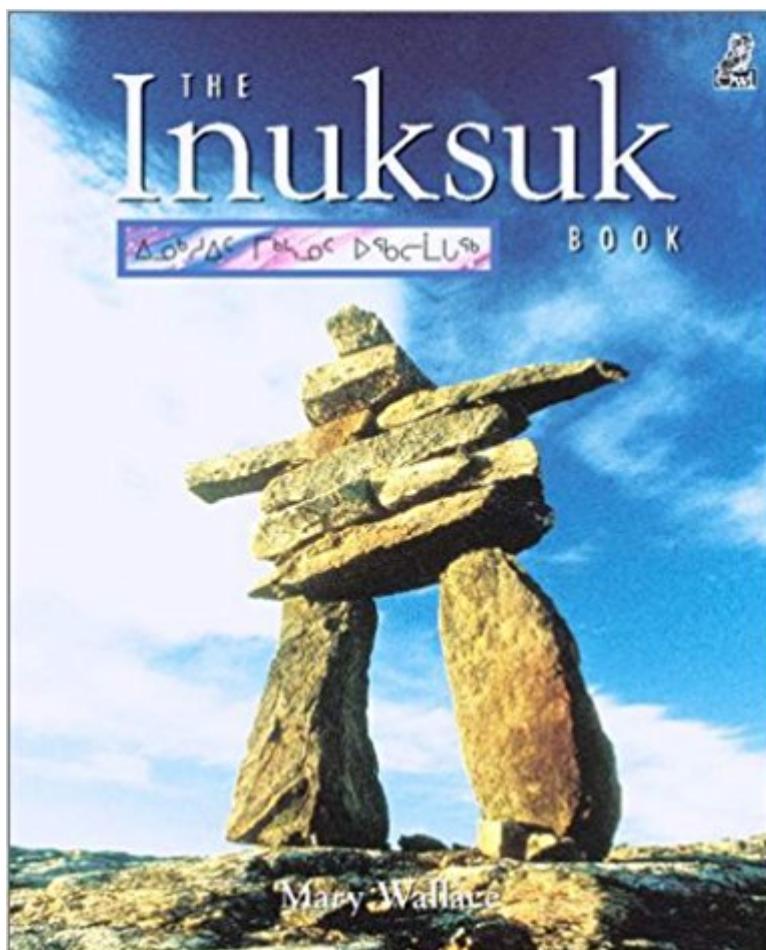


The book was found

The Inuksuk Book



Synopsis

An introduction to the many forms of the inuksuk structure. The image of a traditional Inuit stone structure, or inuksuk, silhouetted against an arctic sky, has become a familiar symbol. Yet, for many, their purpose remains a mystery. In a stunning new book, artist and children's author Mary Wallace, in consultation with Inuit elders and other noted experts, gives a fascinating introduction in words, pictures, and paintings to the many forms of the inuksuk structure and its unique place in Inuit life and culture.

Book Information

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: Maple Tree Press (March 1, 1999)

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Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 4-8 In the Arctic, an inuksuk is a stone construction that can act in the place of a human being. These structures, sometimes in human shape, have been built in the tundra to serve as directional signs; markers for sites of important events, food caches, or rest stops; memorials to beloved individuals; aids in hunting; and even as surrogate caribou herders. For the modern Canadian Inuit, they also serve as striking connections to the past. The introduction reminds readers that most people employ tools where human help is not available: scarecrows, traffic lights, statues, and signs serve as our modern equivalents. The author explores the meanings and uses of inuksuit and describes the people who built them and the Arctic environment. By providing both a historical and modern context for these structures, she helps readers view them as more than just artifacts.

The numerous full-color and black-and-white photographs present a good mixture of current and historical images of inuksuit and the Inuit people. Wallaces landscape paintings are interspersed throughout the text. The artists vivid hues dispel the stereotype of a monochromatic north. Instructions for constructing an inuksuk and a glossary of Inuktitut words are appended. This well-designed book makes a much better introduction to Arctic life than the usual peoples-of-the-polar-regions overviews. Sue Sherif, Fairbanks North Star Borough Public Library, AK
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For hundreds of years the Inuit people living in the Arctic region of North America have built stone structures called inuksuit. The various structures have been used to point the way for travelers, show where food is stored, and even warn of dangerous places. Wallace describes the daily routines of the Inuit as she demonstrates the importance of the inuksuit, historically and in contemporary times. The last chapter demonstrates how to construct an inuksuk. Children may be as fascinated with the examples of the Inuktitut language Wallace includes, which uses symbols to represent sounds. Numerous photos, many from the early 1900s, as well as colorful silk paintings, are scattered through the book, and there's a glossary explaining the Inuktitut words used for chapter headings and as titles for the paintings. An exceptional resource for study of the Arctic and Alaska. Karen Hutt

the description of the item said "Like new" or something to that effect. However, the recipient said there were torn pages and black smudges, not something you are going to put on the coffee table which was my intention. Good content .

Where my eldest grandson attends school (kindergarten), a lesson in Inuksuk is taught. The class built one for the school raffle, and each child created his/her own. My grandson asked if we could build one in my backyard, and create a waterfall around it. Of course, I answered "yes". This book proved to be a valuable learning resource for both my grandson and me.

Have already made two and am gathering stones for more. The history is well written.

Great lead-in to the book "Make Your Own Inuksuk" and helpful for children to understand the history and use of Inuksuk's.

My son became intrigued with inuksuk when doing a report on Inuit culture for 5th grade social his social studies class. He was fascinated to see there were so many different kinds of inuksuk. The photos and explanations are really cool -- interesting to both me and my son. It was also really neat to see the inuit text. Just a great book overall.

This book contains a lot of interesting information about the Inuksuk that is difficult to find elsewhere. It also has lots of excellent pictures to go with the descriptions.

This book has some very nice artwork, but I found it had little to do with Inuksuk. It might be better titled as a young person's book on the Canadian Arctic. 'Very touchy-feely, with little hard information.

The description did not indicate that it was a children's/young person's publication, so I was somewhat disappointed. Nevertheless the book was quite informative.

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