Designing a captivating creature simply for it to exist against a white background and going no further is a purely academic exercise. Designing a creature that can survive in a world, interact with its own and other species, and go on to make an impact, is designing with intent—the end goal of creature design and what you’ll witness in this latest book from industry veteran Terryl Whitlach. With decades of experience in the entertainment industry, developing creatures for Star Wars: Episode 1â•The Phantom Menace and Beowulf, among other projects, she offers valuable advice on how to develop otherworldly beings that are not just stunning in appearance, but also possess qualities that will endear viewers to them, or repulse, if that’s the intent. For Whitlatch, there’s no limit to what can be imagined with an open mind, though the journey may not always be an easy one. It’s what she calls "chasing the unicorn." We will surely enjoy joining her on her journey, filled with creatures that are so vivid, whimsical, and elaborate that we will wish—or wonder if—they are real.

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Customer Reviews
Shipping -- Great. said it will show up in two days and it did. As a teaching book -- Not so much. There are pictures and some anatomy terms labeling parts of the body but I can get that from my animal anatomy and ornithology book. There’s a brief for each chapter at the beginning discussing the "Principle". Example pictures -- Think of it like the artist comments in Deviantart or other art-posting site. There is a bit telling you the description on most full page images. As an artbook -- Good. Not so much teaching, a lot of reused art. If you have the Creatures real and imagine book, then you might want to skip this in terms of an artbook collection. The pictures are printed in high
After reading her books, Terryl Whitlach became one of my professional raw-models. Through this 3 book collection (I only bought this one and "Principles of creature design"), she shows you her work and process, as well as her "rules" to achieve a realistic believable creature. Don’t expect a detailed drawing tutorial because it is not that. It is more like a very complete portfolio with very useful advises from the author. You will find some examples of animals and their full anatomy. The printing quality of this book is remarkable; one can truly appreciate her art in detail. The binding is very good as well. The author's writing is brief and clear. If you are into animal anatomy drawing and/or character concept design... well, you must have Whitlach’s work in hand. You will find this book useful and nurturing.

This book delivers!! It is a fascinating read with beautiful examples. Anyone planning on writing or illustrating a fantasy book should make sure that this inspirational piece is included in their library.

This was given to me as a gift, and I absolutely love it. The book belongs to a 3 series collection, all of which are a decent size with numerous references for animal anatomy. Really recommend this for artists who are interested in realistic creature design.

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