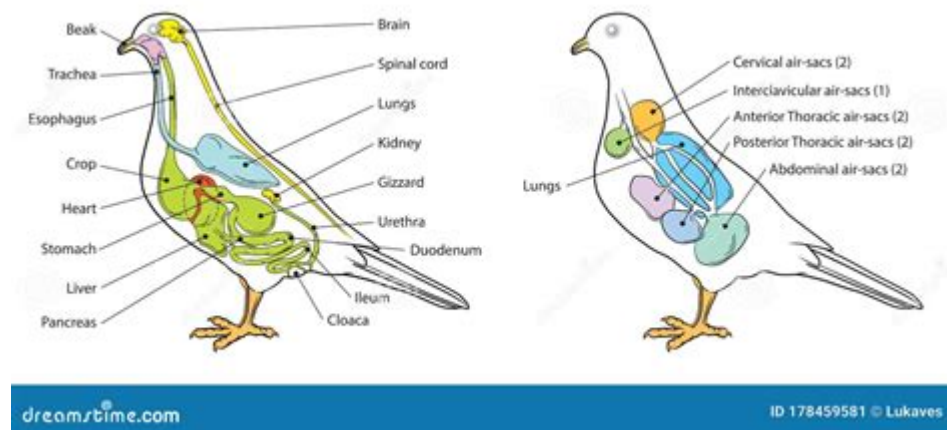


Anatomy Of The Pigeon



Anatomy of the Pigeon: A Deep Dive into Avian Structure

Introduction:

Ever looked at a pigeon and wondered about the intricate mechanics hidden beneath those seemingly simple feathers? This comprehensive guide delves into the fascinating anatomy of the pigeon, exploring its skeletal system, muscular structure, respiratory system, and more. Whether you're a seasoned ornithologist, a curious birdwatcher, or simply intrigued by the natural world, this detailed exploration will unveil the remarkable adaptations that allow pigeons to thrive in diverse urban and rural environments. We'll go beyond the basics, examining the unique features that set pigeons apart and providing a deeper understanding of these often-overlooked urban inhabitants.

H2: Skeletal System: A Framework for Flight

Pigeons possess a lightweight yet remarkably strong skeletal system, perfectly adapted for flight. Their bones are pneumatic, meaning they contain air sacs that reduce overall weight without compromising strength. This crucial adaptation is vital for efficient aerial maneuvering.

H3: The Skull and Beak: The pigeon's skull is relatively small and lightweight, housing a relatively large brain for its size. The beak, devoid of teeth, is a powerful tool for foraging, preening, and nest building. The shape and size of the beak can vary slightly depending on the specific pigeon breed.

H3: The Vertebral Column: The vertebral column is highly flexible, allowing for exceptional maneuverability in flight. The fusion of certain vertebrae provides rigidity where needed, for example, in the support of the wings.

H3: The Wings and Pectoral Girdle: The wings are supported by a strong pectoral girdle, which includes the clavicles (wishbone), coracoids, and scapulae. The arrangement of these bones allows for the powerful downstroke essential for flight. The wing bones themselves are long and slender,

reducing weight.

H3: The Legs and Pelvic Girdle: The strong legs and feet are vital for walking, perching, and taking off. The pelvic girdle is robust, providing support for the powerful leg muscles. The toes are arranged in a zygodactyl configuration (two toes facing forward, two facing backward), providing an excellent grip on branches and ledges.

H2: Muscular System: Powering Flight and Movement

The pigeon's muscular system is intricately connected to its skeletal structure, enabling a wide range of movements. The most prominent muscles are the pectoral muscles (breast muscles), which power the downstroke of the wings. These are incredibly powerful relative to the pigeon's overall size.

H3: Flight Muscles: The powerful pectoral muscles account for a significant portion of the pigeon's body mass. These muscles work in coordination with other wing muscles to control the intricate movements needed for flight, including lift, thrust, and maneuvering.

H3: Leg Muscles: The leg muscles are strong and well-developed, enabling the pigeon to walk, hop, and perch effectively. These muscles also play a crucial role in taking off and landing.

H2: Respiratory System: Efficient Oxygen Uptake

Pigeons possess a unique respiratory system, highly efficient in supplying oxygen to their muscles during flight. This system includes air sacs that extend throughout the body, even into the bones.

H3: Air Sacs: The air sacs act as bellows, ensuring a continuous flow of fresh air through the lungs, even during exhalation. This unidirectional airflow maximizes oxygen uptake.

H3: Lungs: The lungs themselves are relatively small and rigid, unlike the flexible lungs of mammals. This rigid structure facilitates the efficient flow of air through the air sacs.

H2: Digestive System: Processing Seeds and Grains

The pigeon's digestive system is adapted to its diet of seeds, grains, and other plant matter. The crop, a muscular pouch in the esophagus, stores food temporarily before digestion. The gizzard, a muscular chamber, grinds food with the help of ingested grit.

H2: Nervous System and Sensory Organs:

Pigeons have a well-developed nervous system, enabling them to navigate complex environments and respond quickly to stimuli. Their excellent vision, coupled with a good sense of balance and spatial awareness, contributes significantly to their navigation abilities.

H2: Circulatory System:

The pigeon's circulatory system, with a four-chambered heart, efficiently distributes oxygenated blood throughout the body. This efficient system is crucial for supporting the high metabolic demands of flight.

Conclusion:

The anatomy of the pigeon reveals a complex and highly adapted organism perfectly suited for its environment. From its lightweight yet strong skeletal structure to its efficient respiratory and circulatory systems, every aspect of the pigeon's body is intricately designed for survival and flight. Understanding this remarkable avian anatomy provides a deeper appreciation for the intricacies of the natural world and the elegance of evolution.

FAQs:

1. How long do pigeons live? The lifespan of a pigeon varies, but they can live for 3-5 years in the wild, and even longer in captivity with proper care.
2. Are all pigeons the same? No, there are many different breeds of pigeons, each with slightly different physical characteristics and temperaments.
3. What is the purpose of the pigeon's crop? The crop serves as a temporary storage area for food, allowing pigeons to consume a large amount of food quickly and then digest it later.
4. How do pigeons navigate? Pigeons navigate using a combination of visual landmarks, the Earth's magnetic field, and possibly other sensory cues.
5. Are pigeons social animals? Yes, pigeons are highly social animals, living in flocks and exhibiting complex social behaviors.

anatomy of the pigeon: Laboratory Anatomy of the Pigeon Robert B. Chiasson, 1964

anatomy of the pigeon: Bird Anatomy for Artists Natalia Balo, 2019-08 This informative textbook for artists and bird lovers is a comprehensive survey of the complete bird from head to tail. The book is full of masterly illustrations that are clear and easy to understand, including black and white working drawings, examples of the artist's field studies and exquisite colour illustrations. Every part of the bird's body is outlined in detail with informative text and helpful drawing instructions. Bird Anatomy for Artists is a published version of the Dr Natalia Balo PhD research in Natural History Illustration. The book was created in consultation with prominent ornithologists from Australian Museum, Sydney, and opens with a foreword by the famous Australian writer and ornithologist Dr. Penny Olsen. Second revised edition 2019.

anatomy of the pigeon: A Pocket Guide to Pigeon Watching Rosemary Mosco, 2021-10-26 Part field guide, part history, part ornithology primer, and altogether fun. Fact: Pigeons are amazing, and until recently, humans adored them. We've kept them as pets, held pigeon beauty contests, raced them, used them to carry messages over battlefields, harvested their poop to fertilize our crops—and cooked them in gourmet dishes. Now, with The Pocket Guide to Pigeon Watching, readers can rediscover the wonder. Equal parts illustrated field guide and quirky history, it covers behavior: Why they coo; how they flock; how they preen, kiss, and mate (monogamously); and how they raise their young (on chunky pigeon milk). Anatomy and identification, from Birmingham Roller to the American Giant Runt to the Scandaroon. Birder issues, like what to do if you find a baby pigeon stranded in the park. And our lively shared story together, including all the things we've taught them—Ping-Pong, for example. "Rats with wings?" Think again. Pigeons coo, peck and nest all over the world, yet most of us treat them with indifference or disdain. So Rosemary Mosco, a bird-lover, science communicator, writer, and cartoonist (and co-author of The Atlas Obscura Explorer's Guide for the World's Most Adventurous Kid) is here to give the pigeon's image a

makeover, and to help every town- and city-dweller get closer to nature by discovering the joys of birding through pigeon-watching.

anatomy of the pigeon: *The Feeding System of the Pigeon (Columba livia L.)* Gart A. Zweers, 1982-03-01 Anthropocentricity and pragmatism seem to be the main reasons why pigeons have served as the black boxes of so many psychologists and neurobehaviorists during the past decade. Anthropocentricity, because at first glance pigeons show several striking features which bear a beautiful similarity to human systems in respects such as drinking, bipedality, territoriality, and apparently easy pursuit of individual interests. Pragmatism, because of the suspected lesser complexity of the pigeon's system, which enables them to serve as good paradigms for human systems. For example, the visually guided grasping system of the beak could be used as a model for the visually guided grasping system of the tips of the thumb and forefinger in humans (personal communication, Zeigler). Other pragmatic reasons are the low cost of breeding these birds, their easy adaptation to experimental conditions, and their obvious capacity for learning and remembering. Although a closer and more critical examination largely undermines the anthropomorphic arguments, this has not diminished interest in the pigeon. In many studies on sensorimotor and motivational processes of hunger, thirst, and learning, pecking and drinking behavior serve as the systems on which the outcome of different black box systems is measured. Clear examples of this application are found in McFarland (1964, 1965), Dawkins (1966), Dawkins and Dawkins (1973), Goodman and Schein (1974), Machliss (1977), and Zeigler, Levitt, and Levine (1980).

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anatomy of the pigeon: *The Unfeathered Bird* Katrina van Grouw, 2013 There is more to a bird than simply feathers. And just because birds evolved from a single flying ancestor doesn't mean they are structurally the same. With 385 stunning drawings depicting 200 species, *The Unfeathered bird* is a richly illustrated book on bird anatomy that offers refreshingly original insights into what goes on beneath the feathered surface.

anatomy of the pigeon: Avian Anatomy: Integument Alfred Martin Lucas, Peter R. Stettenheim, 1972

anatomy of the pigeon: *The Passenger Pigeon* Errol Fuller, 2014-09-15 A haunting, beautifully illustrated memorial to this iconic extinct bird At the start of the nineteenth century, Passenger Pigeons were perhaps the most abundant birds on the planet, numbering literally in the billions. The flocks were so large and so dense that they blackened the skies, even blotting out the sun for days at a stretch. Yet by the end of the century, the most common bird in North America had vanished from the wild. In 1914, the last known representative of her species, Martha, died in a cage at the

Cincinnati Zoo. This stunningly illustrated book tells the astonishing story of North America's Passenger Pigeon, a bird species that—like the Tyrannosaur, the Mammoth, and the Dodo—has become one of the great icons of extinction. Errol Fuller describes how these fast, agile, and handsomely plumaged birds were immortalized by the ornithologist and painter John James Audubon, and captured the imagination of writers such as James Fenimore Cooper, Henry David Thoreau, and Mark Twain. He shows how widespread deforestation, the demand for cheap and plentiful pigeon meat, and the indiscriminate killing of Passenger Pigeons for sport led to their catastrophic decline. Fuller provides an evocative memorial to a bird species that was once so important to the ecology of North America, and reminds us of just how fragile the natural world can be. Published in the centennial year of Martha's death, *The Passenger Pigeon* features rare archival images as well as haunting photos of live birds.

anatomy of the pigeon: Functional Morphology of the Tail Apparatus of the Pigeon (Columba Livia) Julian J. Baumel, 1988

anatomy of the pigeon: Die Gestalt der Taube Dieter M. Fliedner, Lutz Ebbhardt, 2012

anatomy of the pigeon: *Radiology of Birds - E-Book* Sam Silverman, Lisa Tell, 2009-08-14 Use this atlas to interpret radiographic images and make accurate diagnoses! Hundreds of high-quality images clearly demonstrate normal avian anatomic and radiographic features in a wide variety of species so that you can recognize abnormal features. This book includes detailed directions for patient positioning along with radiographic exposure guidelines, ensuring that you obtain the highest quality diagnostic images. - Complete directions for positioning during radiographic examination help you take high-quality radiographs for accurate interpretation. - Radiographic exposure guidelines are provided for each species and radiographic view, so you can determine optimal settings and technique. - Line drawings are superimposed on radiographic images, so you can identify anatomic structures accurately. - Alternative imaging studies — including CT, MRI, ultrasound, GI, urogram, and other contrast media studies —allow advanced diagnostic interpretation. - A companion CD includes all of the radiographic images in the book for digital monitor viewing.

anatomy of the pigeon: Avian Anatomy: Integument Alfred Martin Lucas, Peter R. Stettenheim, 1972 Descriptions and photographs of Plimoth Plantation, a museum re-creation of the original Pilgrim settlement, trace the history and way of life of the first Pilgrims. Includes a discussion of the origin and operation of the museum.

anatomy of the pigeon: Making Pigeons Pay - A Manual of Practical Information on the Management, Selection, Breeding, Feeding, and Marketing of Pigeons Wendell Mitchell Levi, 2020-08-06 This book contains a complete guide to breeding pigeons for profit, with information on common problems, selection, necessary equipment, ailments and diseases, marketing, and many other related aspects. An accessible and comprehensive guide, "Practical Pigeon Production" will be of utility to anyone occupied in keeping pigeons for economic gain, and would make for a useful addition to collections of allied literature. Many vintage books such as this are becoming increasingly rare and expensive. We are republishing this volume now in an affordable, modern, high-quality edition complete with a specially commissioned new introduction on pigeons.

anatomy of the pigeon: The Four Seasons Real Course About Pigeons M. Joseph Heuskin, 2015-05-06 This book contains the first volume of a four-part treatise on the keeping and management of pigeons. It deals primarily with anatomy, physiology, types of pigeons, conformation, and the reproducers. The author of this book draws his knowledge from forty years worth of experience in the subject, and intended this book for true pigeon fanciers who might benefit from his wealth of experience. The chapters of this book include: "Anatomy and Physiology", "The Skeleton", "The Muscles", "The Wings", "The Circulation of the Blood", "The Genital Organs", "The Senses", "Formation of the Pigeon", et cetera. This volume has been elected for modern republication due to its educational value, and is being republished now in an affordable, high-quality edition complete with a specially commissioned new introduction.

anatomy of the pigeon: Pigeon Diseases and Treatments Paul Carson, 2024-10-12 Pigeon

Diseases and Treatments: A Comprehensive Guide to Keeping Your Flock Healthy Are you a dedicated pigeon enthusiast struggling to maintain a healthy flock? Look no further! This comprehensive guide offers invaluable insights into the prevention, identification, and treatment of common pigeon diseases. From the basics of pigeon health to advanced disease management strategies, this book provides a wealth of information for both novice and experienced pigeon keepers. Learn how to recognize the early signs of illness, implement effective disease prevention measures, and navigate the complexities of treating various pigeon ailments. Key topics covered in this book include: **Understanding Pigeon Health:** Gain a deep understanding of pigeon anatomy, behavior, and factors influencing their health. **Disease Prevention Strategies:** Discover essential techniques for maintaining a hygienic environment, providing proper nutrition, and managing stress to minimize disease risk. **Common Pigeon Diseases:** Explore the symptoms, causes, and treatment options for a wide range of pigeon diseases, including paramyxovirus, pigeon pox, canker, coccidiosis, salmonellosis, Newcastle disease, E. coli infections, aspergillosis, and worm infestations. **Treatment and Management:** Learn about the latest treatment methods, medications, and supportive care measures to effectively combat pigeon diseases and promote recovery. **Case Studies and Recovery Stories:** Gain valuable insights from real-world experiences and learn how other pigeon keepers have successfully managed disease outbreaks and restored their flocks to health. Whether you're a seasoned breeder or a new pigeon owner, this book is your essential resource for ensuring the well-being of your feathered friends. Invest in the health of your pigeons and equip yourself with the knowledge to maintain a thriving flock.

anatomy of the pigeon: *The Feeding System of the Pigeon (Columba livia L.)* Gart A. Zweers, 1982 Anthropocentricity and pragmatism seem to be the main reasons why pigeons have served as the black boxes of so many psychologists and neurobehaviorists during the past decade. Anthropocentricity, because at first glance pigeons show several striking features which bear a beautiful similarity to human systems in respects such as drinking, bipedality, territoriality, and apparently easy pursuit of individual interests. Pragmatism, because of the suspected lesser complexity of the pigeon's system, which enables them to serve as good paradigms for human systems. For example, the visually guided grasping system of the beak could be used as a model for the visually guided grasping system of the tips of the thumb and forefinger in humans (personal communication, Zeigler). Other pragmatic reasons are the low cost of breeding these birds, their easy adaptation to experimental conditions, and their obvious capacity for learning and remembering. Although a closer and more critical examination largely undermines the anthropomorphic arguments, this has not diminished interest in the pigeon. In many studies on sensorimotor and motivational processes of hunger, thirst, and learning, pecking and drinking behavior serve as the systems on which the outcome of different black box systems is measured. Clear examples of this application are found in McFarland (1964, 1965), Dawkins (1966), Dawkins and Dawkins (1973), Goodman and Schein (1974), Machliss (1977), and Zeigler, Levitt, and Levine (1980).

anatomy of the pigeon: *The New York Pigeon* Andrew Garn, 2024-06-11 Humans have always bred, farmed, raced, and lived alongside pigeons. Some of us shoo them away and others care for them as the city's most famous wildlife. The New York Pigeon, now in its second edition with spectacular new images, is a one-of-a-kind, intimate study of this worldwide neighbor. The New York Pigeon reveals the unexpected beauty of the omnipresent pigeon as if Vogue devoted its pages to birds, not fashion models. In spite of pigeons' ubiquity in New York and other cities, we never really see them closely and know very little about their function in the urban ecosystem. This book brings to light the intriguing history, behavior, and splendor of a bird so often overlooked. While The New York Pigeon is primarily a photography book, it also tells the five-thousand-year story of the feral pigeon. Why are pigeons so successful in cities and not in the countryside? Why do they have such diverse plumage? How have pigeons adapted to survive on almost any food? Why are pigeons able to fly up to 500 miles per day but rarely do? How did Harvard psychologist B.F. Skinner teach pigeons to do complicated tasks, from tracking missile targets to recognizing individual human faces? Why

can pigeons see in the ultraviolet light spectrum, and why is half of their brain used for visual perception? The second edition of *The New York Pigeon*, with its fresh portraiture and new essay from Catherine Quayle of the Wild Bird Fund, presents dramatic, hyper-real studio portraits capturing the personalities, expressiveness, glorious feather iridescence, and deeply hued eyes of the New York pigeon.

anatomy of the pigeon: Understanding Pigeon Health Paul Carson, 2024-10-28 Understanding Pigeon Health: A Comprehensive Guide for Breeders Are you a dedicated pigeon breeder seeking to ensure the optimal health and well-being of your feathered friends? Understanding Pigeon Health is your essential resource for maintaining a thriving and disease-free pigeon loft. This comprehensive guide delves into the intricate world of pigeon health, providing invaluable insights into common ailments, diagnostic techniques, treatment strategies, and preventive measures. Key Topics Covered: Common Pigeon Diseases: Gain a deep understanding of respiratory diseases, pigeon influenza, paramyxovirus, pox, digestive disorders, candidiasis, coccidiosis, salmonellosis, and various skin and feather issues. Diagnostic Techniques: Learn how to effectively diagnose pigeon illnesses through clinical examinations, laboratory tests, blood tests, crop swabs, fecal examinations, and necropsies. Treatment and Management: Discover the latest medications and therapies for treating pigeon diseases, including antibiotics, antifungals, and antiparasitics. Implement best practices for hygiene, sanitation, quarantine, and cross-contamination prevention. Viral Infections: Explore the impact of pigeon herpesvirus, circovirus, and adenovirus on pigeon health and learn how to manage outbreaks. Vaccination Strategies: Understand the importance of vaccination in pigeon breeding and develop effective vaccination protocols for both young and adult birds. Biosecurity Measures: Protect your flock from disease outbreaks by implementing robust biosecurity measures and responding effectively to disease emergencies. Nutritional Considerations: Learn how to formulate a balanced diet for optimal pigeon health and identify common nutritional deficiencies. Breeding Strategies: Select healthy breeding pairs, prevent genetic disorders, and monitor breeding performance to maintain a healthy and productive flock. By equipping yourself with the knowledge and tools provided in this book, you can take proactive steps to safeguard the health of your pigeons. Invest in the future of your pigeon loft with *Understanding Pigeon Health*. Tags: pigeon health guide, pigeon disease prevention, pigeon care tips, pigeon breeding book, pigeon nutrition guide, pigeon health book, pigeon health care, pigeon health management, pigeon health problems, pigeon health solutions

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anatomy of the pigeon: *Flight of the Diamond Smugglers: A Tale of Pigeons, Obsession, and Greed Along Coastal South Africa* Matthew Gavin Frank, 2021-02-23 "Unforgettable. . . . An outstanding adventure in its lyrical, utterly compelling, and heartbreaking investigations of the world of diamond smuggling." —Aimee Nezhukumatathil For nearly eighty years, a huge portion of coastal South Africa was closed off to the public. With many of its pits now deemed "overmined" and abandoned, American journalist Matthew Gavin Frank sets out across the infamous Diamond Coast to investigate an illicit trade that supplies a global market. Immediately, he became intrigued by the ingenious methods used in facilitating smuggling particularly, the illegal act of sneaking carrier pigeons onto mine property, affixing diamonds to their feet, and sending them into the air. Entering Die Sperrgebiet ("The Forbidden Zone") is like entering an eerie ghost town, but Frank is surprised by the number of people willing—even eager—to talk with him. Soon he meets Msizi, a young diamond digger, and his pigeon, Bartholomew, who helps him steal diamonds. It's a deadly game: pigeons are shot on sight by mine security, and Msizi knows of smugglers who have disappeared because of their crimes. For this, Msizi blames "Mr. Lester," an evil tall-tale figure of mythic

proportions. From the mining towns of Alexander Bay and Port Nolloth, through the “halfway” desert, to Kleinsee’s shores littered with shipwrecks, Frank investigates a long overlooked story. Weaving interviews with local diamond miners who raise pigeons in secret with harrowing anecdotes from former heads of security, environmental managers, and vigilante pigeon hunters, Frank reveals how these feathered bandits became outlaws in every mining town. Interwoven throughout this obsessive quest are epic legends in which pigeons and diamonds intersect, such as that of Krishna’s famed diamond Koh-i-Noor, the Mountain of Light, and that of the Cherokee serpent Uktena. In these strange connections, where truth forever tangles with the lore of centuries past, Frank is able to contextualize the personal grief that sent him, with his wife Louisa in the passenger seat, on this enlightening journey across parched lands. Blending elements of reportage, memoir, and incantation, *Flight of the Diamond Smugglers* is a rare and remarkable portrait of exploitation and greed in one of the most dangerous areas of coastal South Africa. With his sovereign prose and insatiable curiosity, Matthew Gavin Frank “reminds us that the world is a place of wonder if only we look” (Toby Muse).

anatomy of the pigeon: The Dissection of Vertebrates Gerardo De Iuliis, Dino Pulerà, 2006-08-03 *The Dissection of Vertebrates* covers several vertebrates commonly used in providing a transitional sequence in morphology. With illustrations on seven vertebrates – lamprey, shark, perch, mudpuppy, frog, cat, pigeon – this is the first book of its kind to include high-quality, digitally rendered illustrations. This book received the Award of Excellence in an Illustrated Medical Book from the Association of Medical Illustrators. It is organized by individual organism to facilitate classroom presentation. This illustrated, full-color primary dissection manual is ideal for use by students or practitioners working with vertebrate anatomy. This book is also recommended for researchers in vertebrate and functional morphology and comparative anatomy. The result of this exceptional work offers the most comprehensive treatment than has ever before been available. - Received the Award of Excellence in an Illustrated Medical Book from the Association of Medical Illustrators - Expertly rendered award-winning illustrations accompany the detailed, clear dissection direction - Organized by individual organism to facilitate classroom presentation - Offers coverage of a wide range of vertebrates - Full-color, strong pedagogical aids in a convenient lay-flat presentation

anatomy of the pigeon: *The Comparative Anatomy of the Domesticated Animals* Auguste Chauveau, Saturnin Arloing, 1890

anatomy of the pigeon: *The Thoroughbred Racing Pigeon* J. Kilpatrick, 2021-01-08 This vintage volume contains a comprehensive guide to thoroughbred racing pigeons, with information on their natural history, breeding, selection, types, and more. Containing a wealth of interesting and practical information, this timeless handbook will be of considerable utility to the modern fancier, and would make for a worthy addition to collections of allied literature. Contents include: “Racing”, “The Breathing System”, “The Digestive Organs”, “The Bird’s Eye”, “The Homing Faculty”, “Bird Flight”, “Marey’s Experiments”, “Genetics”, “Breeding”, “Apropos Origins”, “Pure Strains”, and “Your Questions Answered”. Many vintage books such as this are becoming increasingly rare and expensive. We are republishing this vintage book now in an affordable, modern, high-quality edition complete with a specially commissioned new introduction on pigeons.

anatomy of the pigeon: *Pigeon English* Stephen Kelman, 2012-01-05 Eleven-year-old Harrison Opoku, the second best runner in Year 7, races through his new life in England with his personalised trainers - the Adidas stripes drawn on with marker pen - blissfully unaware of the very real threat around him. Newly-arrived from Ghana with his mother and older sister Lydia, Harri absorbs the many strange elements of city life, from the bewildering array of Haribo sweets, to the frightening, fascinating gang of older boys from his school. But his life is changed forever when one of his friends is murdered. As the victim's nearly new football boots hang in tribute on railings behind fluorescent tape and a police appeal draws only silence, Harri decides to act, unwittingly endangering the fragile web his mother has spun around her family to keep them safe.

anatomy of the pigeon: *Unnatural Selection* Katrina van Grouw, 2018-07-31 A lavishly illustrated look at how evolution plays out in selective breeding *Unnatural Selection* is a stunningly

illustrated book about selective breeding--the ongoing transformation of animals at the hand of man. More important, it's a book about selective breeding on a far, far grander scale—a scale that encompasses all life on Earth. We'd call it evolution. A unique fusion of art, science, and history, this book celebrates the 150th anniversary of Charles Darwin's monumental work *The Variation of Animals and Plants under Domestication*, and is intended as a tribute to what Darwin might have achieved had he possessed that elusive missing piece to the evolutionary puzzle—the knowledge of how individual traits are passed from one generation to the next. With the benefit of a century and a half of hindsight, Katrina van Grouw explains evolution by building on the analogy that Darwin himself used—comparing the selective breeding process with natural selection in the wild, and, like Darwin, featuring a multitude of fascinating examples. This is more than just a book about pets and livestock, however. The revelation of Unnatural Selection is that identical traits can occur in all animals, wild and domesticated, and both are governed by the same evolutionary principles. As van Grouw shows, animals are plastic things, constantly changing. In wild animals the changes are usually too slow to see—species appear to stay the same. When it comes to domesticated animals, however, change happens fast, making them the perfect model of evolution in action. Suitable for the lay reader and student, as well as the more seasoned biologist, and featuring more than four hundred breathtaking illustrations of living animals, skeletons, and historical specimens, *Unnatural Selection* will be enjoyed by anyone with an interest in natural history and the history of evolutionary thinking.

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anatomy of the pigeon: *A-Z Pigeon Guide* Eric Hardy, 1951

anatomy of the pigeon: *Ornithology in Laboratory and Field* Olin Sewall Pettingill, 2013-10-02 *Ornithology in Laboratory and Field* is intended as an aid to ornithological study at the college or university level. Students who lack the background knowledge usually acquired during a course in general zoology or biology should keep it handy for ready reference a standard elementary text on the subject. This book contains extensive material for purely informational reading, possibly enough to supplant the need of an additional textbook. Its principal purpose still complies with the title of its predecessors for it is essentially a manual to guide and assist the student in direct observations. All twenty sections, except the last (*The Origin, Evolution, and Decrease of Birds*), suggest methods and provide instructions for studies; and all conclude with an extensive list of references, frequently annotated, for further information. The twenty sections of the book can be taken up in almost any order and some may be omitted without affecting the instructional value of the others. A feature of this new edition is an introduction to birds and ornithology, intended for reading at the beginning of a course. The purpose is twofold: to show the significance of birds for study and to give an overall preview of ornithology, the subject, with emphasis on its wide scope, how it is studied, and some of the continuing and exciting opportunities that it offers for investigation.

anatomy of the pigeon: *Neuroanatomy* DOMESICK, NAUTA, 2013-04-17 I received my first introduction to the brain sciences in 1936 and 1937, for me the second and third years of the 7-year medical school curriculum at the University of Leiden. During those years my interest in the subject was aroused in particular by the brilliant lectures of the physiologist G. C. Rademaker - a prominent former member of the Rudolf Magnus school - and the neurohistologist S. T. Bok, noted especially for his histometric studies of the cerebral cortex. Fascinated as I was by everything I learned about the brain from these outstanding teachers, toward the end of their courses I began to notice conspicuous gaps that separated neurophysiology from neuroanatomy. In fact, I could (or thought I could) detect a reasonable concordance between the two sciences only in case of some sensory and somatic-motor systems. For most other functions anatomical substrates seemed either poorly defined or, as in the case of the central viscerio-endocrine system, hardly recognized at all. With all the arrogance of which a 20-year old student is capable I concluded that what the brain sciences needed was a new and more complete anatomy that emphasized in particular the continuity of, and convergences or interconnections between individual conduction systems. And I wistfully mused that perhaps at some time in the future I could make such an endeavour part of my own career.

anatomy of the pigeon: *Birds* Irving J. Goodman, Martin W. Schein, 2013-10-22 *Birds: Brain and Behavior* is a collection of papers that discusses brain-behaviors problems concentrating on the bird's complex and well-integrated central nervous system. This collection reviews the theoretical and methodological problems concerning comparative studies of bird behavior in a brain-behavior relationship. The book explains the structural organization of the avian brain including the spinal cord and the general ascending/descending patterns of sensory projections. One paper analyzes the hearing and vocalization in songbirds that are composed of the auditory mechanisms, as well as the vocalization and audition systems. A study by Falls (1963) notes that songbirds use more than one type of auditory cue for species recognition. Another paper present brain stimulation parameters that affect bird vocalization. Other papers examine the neural basis of avian discrimination and reversal learning, memory disruptions by brain perturbation, and the behavioral and physiological correlations between the sleep and awake states. This book will prove useful for avian biologists, zoologists, and readers who have a general interest in birds.

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