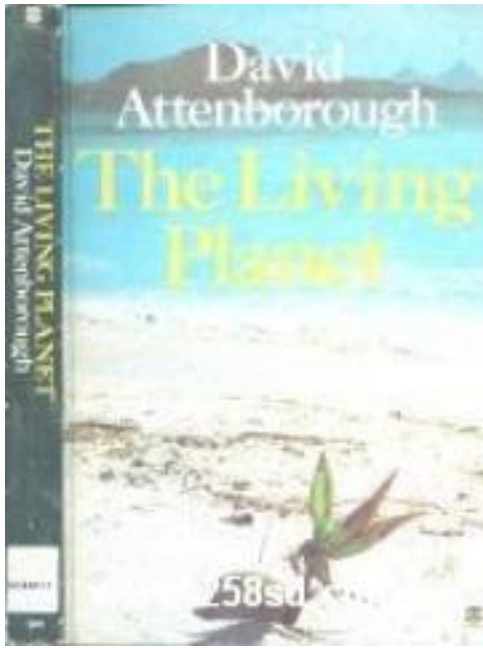


# THE LIVING PLANET: A PORTRAIT OF THE EARTH.



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著者:

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PREFACE  
This book is based on a series of programmes made\*  
BBC Television. It and they are  
sequels to an earlier series and book entitled Life on Earth. That project attempted to  
describe the way in which animals and plants developed on this planet over the past  
three thousand million years and traced the rise of different groups of animals which  
culminated in the expansion of the mammals and ultimately the appearance of man.  
This new book surveys the situation as it is today. It examines the manner in which  
the survivors of ancient groups as well as the representatives of newly-evolved ones  
have together colonised and adapted to the great variety of environments that exist on  
earth. Here and there  
the two narratives may overlap slightly  
but the variety of animals  
and plants is so immense that I have been able  
in most instances  
to illustrate such

>episodes with species other than those described in the earlier book.<br> I have retained the same style as beforei¼Œ avoiding as far as possible technical scientific<br>terms and not encumbering the text with Latin names. Howeveri¼Œ the index has been<br>compiled to serve as a glossary in which each organism is given not only a page reference<br>but also its scientific namei¼Œ so a reader who wishes to know precisely what familyi¼Œ genus<br>or species is being referred to can discover by looking it up in the index.<br> The book was written at the same time as the programmes were being filmed. The<br>one is noti¼Œ thereforei¼Œ the direct descendant of the other. Rather the two are cousinsi¼Œ<br>both descended from the same body of research and years of travel. They therefbre<br>have the sort of differences and likenesses that you might expect from such a relation-<br>ship. I hope the one may enhance the other.<br>

作者介绍:

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