

SAR WYLDA

& THE LEGENDARY GOLDBREAKER

Written by Jake R. Wilson

Illustrated by Kimberley Laura Walker

Published by New Frontier Publishing

www.newfrontierpublishing.co.uk

www.newfrontier.com.au



SYNOPSIS

On the prehistoric continent of Pangeum one sport dominates all entertainment: DINOBEAST RACING. To compete is to court certain death but for those daring few nothing is more thrilling than seeing the chequered flag drop at Goldbreaker Superspeedway. Sar Wylda is a twelve-year-old girl whose dream is to become a racer. But after losing her eyesight she has had to pursue a different life: one on her family's farm. Will she have the courage to follow in the footsteps of the greatest racers of all time?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jake R. Wilson studied archaeology at the University of Winchester and now lives in East Sussex where he works as an archaeologist. He has a passion for the prehistoric and creative writing, often enjoying trying to combine the two together. Jake currently splits his time between managing archaeological excavations and writing. His first book *Cursed Tales The Pharaoh of Asco Express* was published in July 2022. He is currently working on a new series *Sar Wylda*.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Kimberley is a contemporary illustrator with a love of storytelling. The illustrations she creates feature dream-like imagery, bright colour palettes and details to produce exciting compositions that are full of movement. She loves using these for both character-driven scenes and creating concept-driven visuals. She is infatuated with history, mythology, nature and people and is always excited to learn about new subjects through an interesting project.

EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

Sar Wylda and the Legendary Goldbreaker is an action-packed middle grade prehistoric adventure that will have readers on the edge of their seat and wanting to read more. This story features a diverse cast of characters and a fascinating array of dinobeasts, all set in a unique world. The main character, Sar, is resourceful and strongminded, determined to get her way and race despite her disability. Key themes are diversity, inclusion, friendship, family ties and determination. This story is the first in a trilogy.



Activity 2: Create your own racecourse!

Dinobeast racing is an exhilarating sport that the people of Pangeum love to watch. One of the most exciting things is that every race is different! Some are high in the mountains like Pterodactyl Peaks, while others are on the beach like Coral Speedway. What would your racecourse look like? Where would it be located? Does the environment change how the race is run?

Write a description about your unique course and what type of dinobeasts would race in it. Then have a go at drawing it.

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History



Activity 1: Reading Comprehension

Dinosaurs were amazing creatures that once roamed the earth before becoming extinct 65 million years ago. These cold-blooded reptiles occupied every continent on the planet from Europe to America and even ANTARTICA! There were three time periods when dinosaurs lived, and these are called:

- Triassic 252 to 201 million years ago
- Jurassic 199 to 145 million years ago
- Cretaceous 145 to 65 million years ago

Different dinosaurs lived during each one of these periods. And you may be surprised to find that some of the most popular like Stegosaurus and Tyrannosaurus Rex never met each other. Each were separated by millions of years!

Dinosaurs came in all shapes and sizes with the biggest of all called SAUROPODS. These colossal creatures had long necks, flat teeth for eating tree leaves and walked on four legs. They grew so big that they had to develop special lungs so their muscles would always have oxygen, even when they exhaled. The largest of all were from a group called Titanosaurus. From this group the Patagotitan Mayorum grew to over 35 metres in length and weighed over 50 tonnes!

Dino diets were varied and depended on where the dinosaurs they lived. Some only ate meat, and these were called carnivores, while the dinosaurs that only consumed plants were called herbivores. A few species even ate both and were categorised as omnivores.

Around 65 million years ago planet Earth underwent massive climate change caused by an asteroid. The impact was so massive that it destroyed most life on the planet. The poor dinosaurs that weren't killed by the subsequent earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis would perish from the cold as the earth was plunged into a winter that lasted decades. Some creatures that did survive the turbulent times were small mammals. They burrowed into the ground and their warm-blooded bodies were able to survive the cold and the dramatic variations of temperature. Reptiles like the crocodile and the turtle also survived and continue to live to this day virtually unchanged from their prehistoric ancestors.

Dinosaurs and humans never lived together and were separated by roughly 65 million years with Homo Sapiens (modern humans) only appearing 300,000 years ago. That hasn't stopped people from all over the world studying the remains that dinosaurs left behind such as fossils and footprints. Fossils are formed when the bones of dinosaurs would become buried in wet landscapes such as by the side of a river. Their remains would be covered by silt and mud and eventually become fossilised. Fossils aren't actually bones, instead they are formed when silica deposits from water form inside an imprint left by the bones – just like a plaster mould!

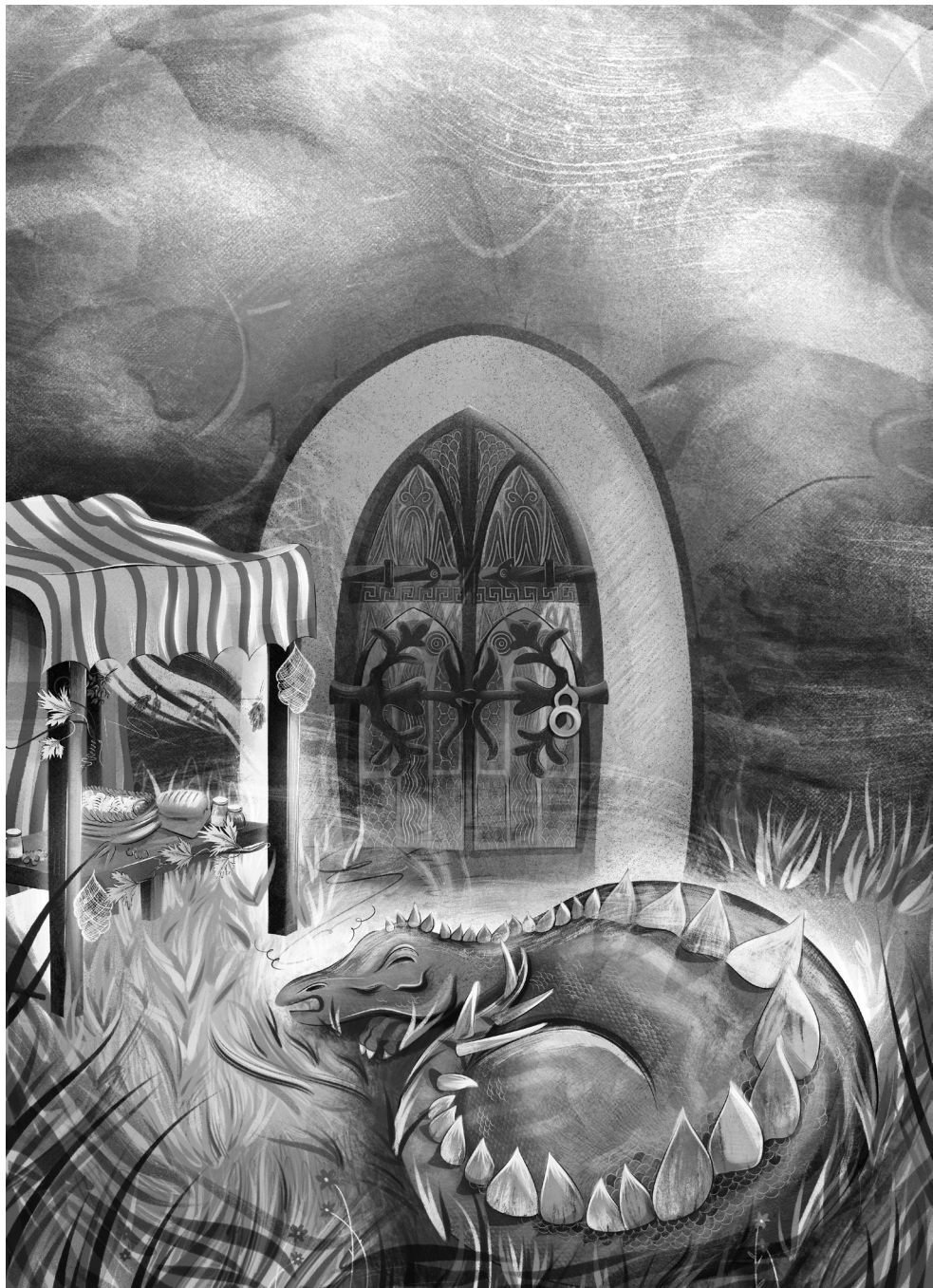
Palaeontology is the study of dinosaurs and palaeontologists are experts on dinosaurs. It's their job to research and excavate the remains of these long extinct animals. From the fossils left behind they are able to reconstruct how dinosaurs looked, walked and how they died. It's not just bones that have been left behind for people to find either! Eggs, feathers and even skin have all been discovered, shedding more light on how these ancient animals looked and behaved.



Mary Anning was a palaeontologist pioneer who was born in 1799 by the Dorset coast. As a teenager she would scour the beach for fossils often finding complete specimens which were buried in the cliffs. She was an early palaeontologist and fossil collector who led the way in understanding how we study and categorise fossilised remains. Mary Anning lived in Lyme Regis, a place in England where fossils are abundant. She is credited for the discovery of the Ichthyosaurus and assisted other famous palaeontologists in understanding exciting discoveries. Unfortunately, as a woman in the Victorian period she did not always receive credit for her discoveries but now her legacy is firmly cemented as one of Britain's greatest fossil hunters.

Now answer the questions below:

1. Name two periods of time when the dinosaurs roamed.
2. What were the largest of all dinosaurs called?
3. If dinosaurs that ate only meat were called carnivores, what are dinosaurs that eat only plants called?
4. How many years ago did the dinosaurs become extinct?
5. Fossils are bones. True or false?
6. Humans and dinosaurs did not live together. True or false?
7. What is the study of dinosaurs called?
8. Mary Anning was a Victorian fossil hunter. Where did she live?



Fun Activities

Activity 1: Fun Wordsearch Activity

Can you find all the words in the *Sar Wylda and the Legendary Goldbreaker* wordsearch?

Name:

Class:

Date:

word search

SAR WYLDA AND THE LEGENDARY GOLDBREAKER

U L S G R W P D P G R
R U O M A L C W A E A
D U T F C P I M K M C
I I F D C P D A A H E
E I N A E N E N E N M
S E G O L R A Q A E A
E J U Z B T U T M R B
L T M D E E O P S S G
Y E L I R N A S S A B
I O A A R E K S I W R
G N L E Y A A D T R E

ACCELBERRY
ASTA
BASS
CHEQUER
CLAMOUR
DIESEL
DINOBEAST

EMPA
GOLDBREAKER
GRANDPA
MANA
MIRA
RACE
RED

SAR
TANE
TON
WAFFI
WIPEOUT
ZENK



word search

www.edu-games.org





Answer Sheet

word search

SAR WYLDA AND THE LEGENDARY GOLDBREAKER

U L S G R W P D P G R
R U O M A L C W A E A
D U T F C P I M K M C
I I F D C P D A A H E
E I N A E N E N E N M
S E G O L R A Q A E A
E J U Z B T U T M R B
L T M D E E O P S S G
Y E L I R N A S S A B
I O A A R E K S I W R
G N L E Y A A D T R E

ACCELBERRY
ASTA
BASS
CHEQUER
CLAMOUR
DIESEL
DINOBEAST

EMPA
GOLDBREAKER
GRANDPA
MANA
MIRA
RACE
RED

SAR
TANE
TON
WAFFI
WIPEOUT
ZENK



Activity 2: Design a Cover

Why don't you have a go at designing your own cover for the book? You could include elements from the book's cover or use your own ideas.

