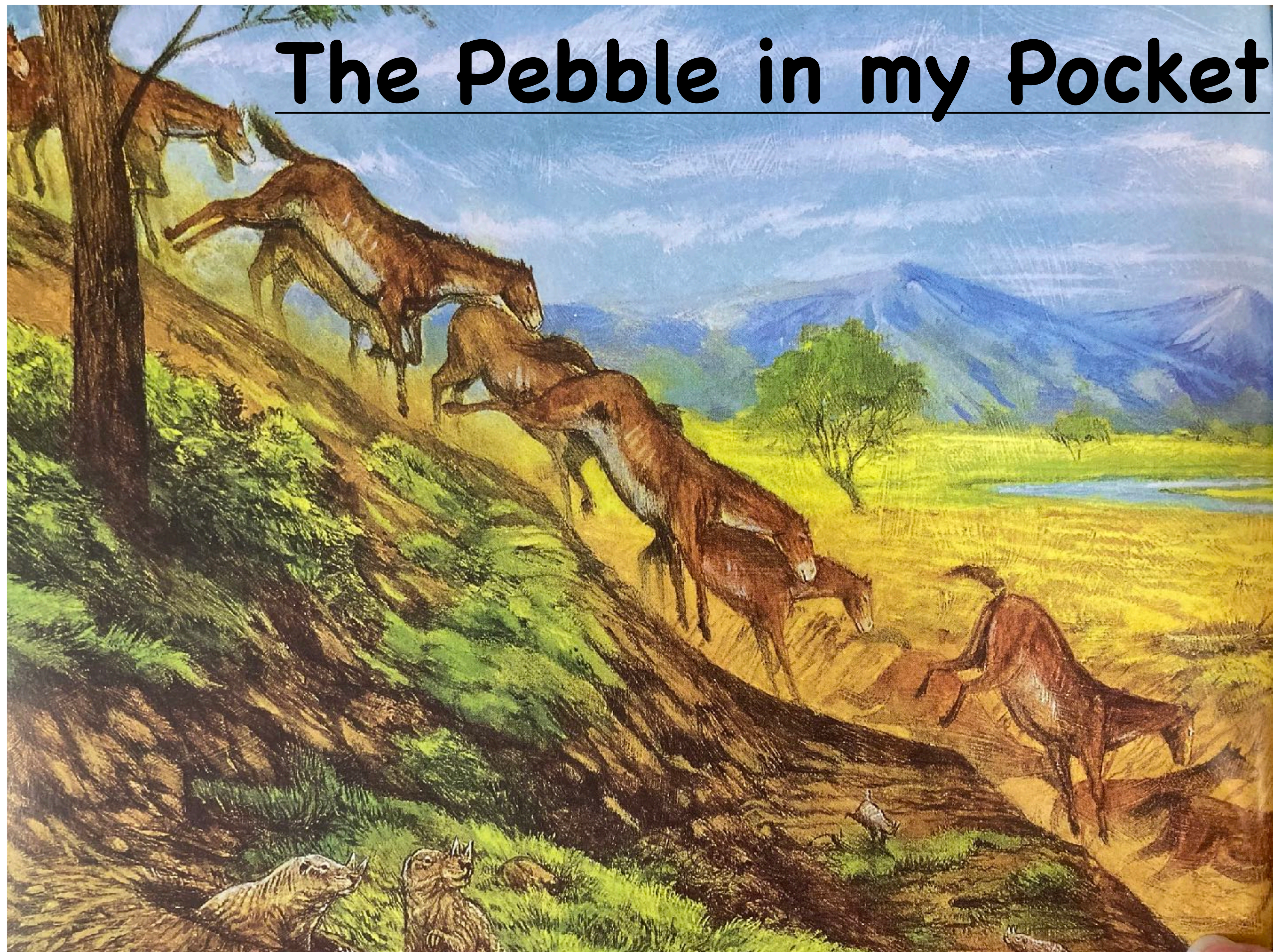


The Pebble in my Pocket



The river flows in a new course, and the pebble lies buried
in the old river bed. The dinosaurs have long since died out.
Now, grass grows, and herds of long-legged animals graze
above the pebble. A furry, two-horned rodent pushes past
the pebble in its burrow.

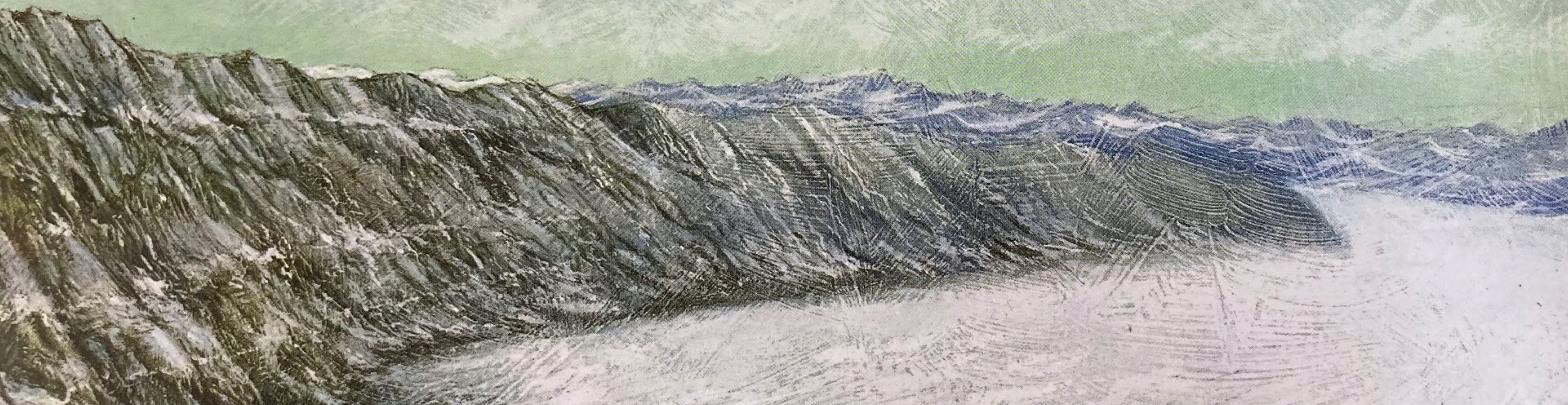
It is 15 million years ago.



The wind blows colder and colder. Snow falls. Blizzards blot out the light. The snow packs down, layer on layer. Deep underneath the surface snow, the old snow turns into clear blue glacier ice.

The glacier starts shifting, moving slowly down hill, grinding forward, a monstrous river of ice scraping across the land, scouring out valleys, sculpting mountains. The glacier picks up and moves everything in its way. It picks up the pebble and freezes it deep in its icy blue depths.

The glacier grinds on for thousands and thousands of years, roaring and groaning as the ice slides and shifts. Its surface is split with shadowy crevasses.

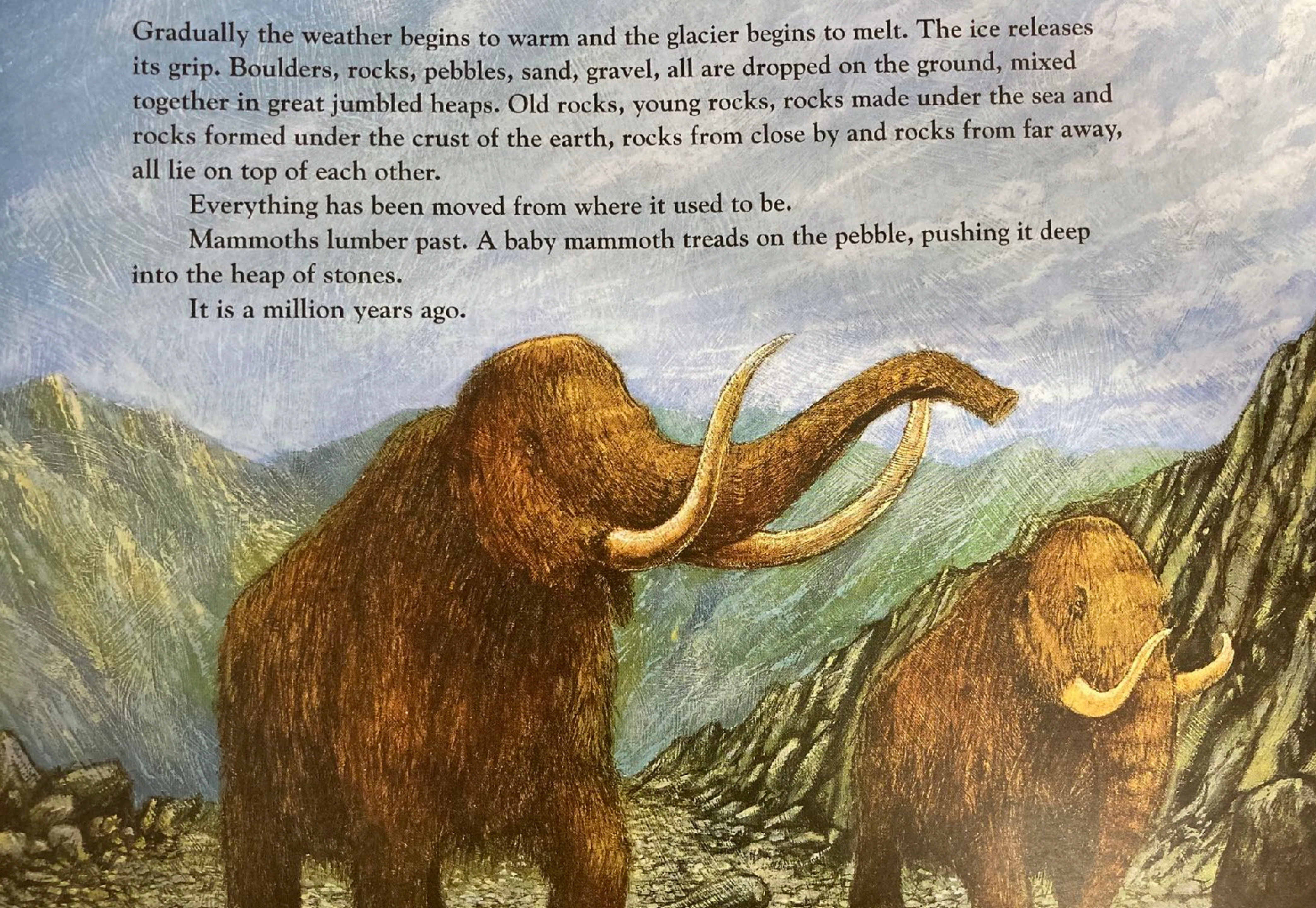


Gradually the weather begins to warm and the glacier begins to melt. The ice releases its grip. Boulders, rocks, pebbles, sand, gravel, all are dropped on the ground, mixed together in great jumbled heaps. Old rocks, young rocks, rocks made under the sea and rocks formed under the crust of the earth, rocks from close by and rocks from far away, all lie on top of each other.

Everything has been moved from where it used to be.

Mammoths lumber past. A baby mammoth treads on the pebble, pushing it deep into the heap of stones.

It is a million years ago.



**What
have you
learnt
from
reading
these
pages?**

Let's re-read the text on page 20:

The wind blows colder and colder. Snow falls. Blizzards blot out the light. The snow packs down, layer on layer. Deep underneath the surface snow, the old snow turns into clear blue glacier ice.

The glacier starts shifting, moving slowly down hill, grinding forward, a monstrous river of ice scraping across the land, scouring out valleys, sculpting mountains. The glacier picks up and moves everything in its way. It picks up the pebble and freezes it deep in its icy blue depths.

The glacier grinds on for thousands and thousands of years, roaring and groaning as the ice slides and shifts. Its surface is split with shadowy crevasses.

Which words and phrases are powerful? Why?

The wind blows colder and colder. Snow falls. Blizzards blot out the light. The snow packs down, layer on layer. Deep underneath the surface snow, the old snow turns into clear blue glacier ice.

The glacier starts shifting, moving slowly down hill, grinding forward, a monstrous river of ice scraping across the land, scouring out valleys, sculpting mountains. The glacier picks up and moves everything in its way. It picks up the pebble and freezes it deep in its icy blue depths.

The glacier grinds on for thousands and thousands of years, roaring and groaning as the ice slides and shifts. Its surface is split with shadowy crevasses.

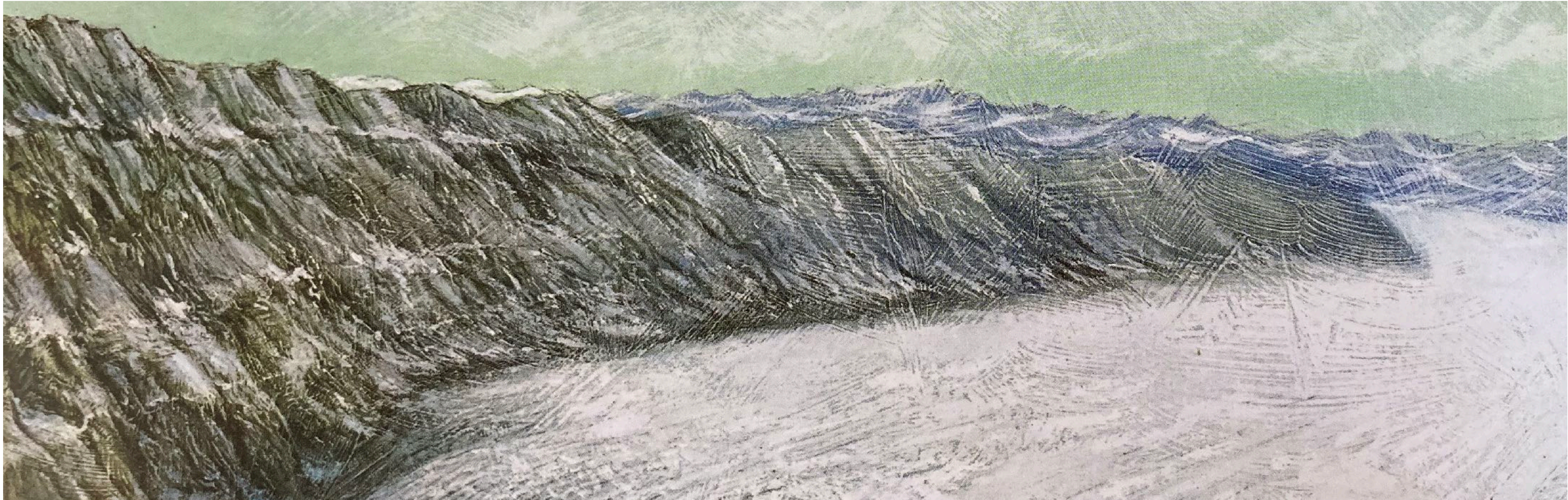
Did you find these powerful verbs?
What effects do they have?

grinding
scraping
scouring
sculpting
roaring
groaning

What about these
adjectives?

monstrous
colder and colder
shadowy

Focus on the illustration...



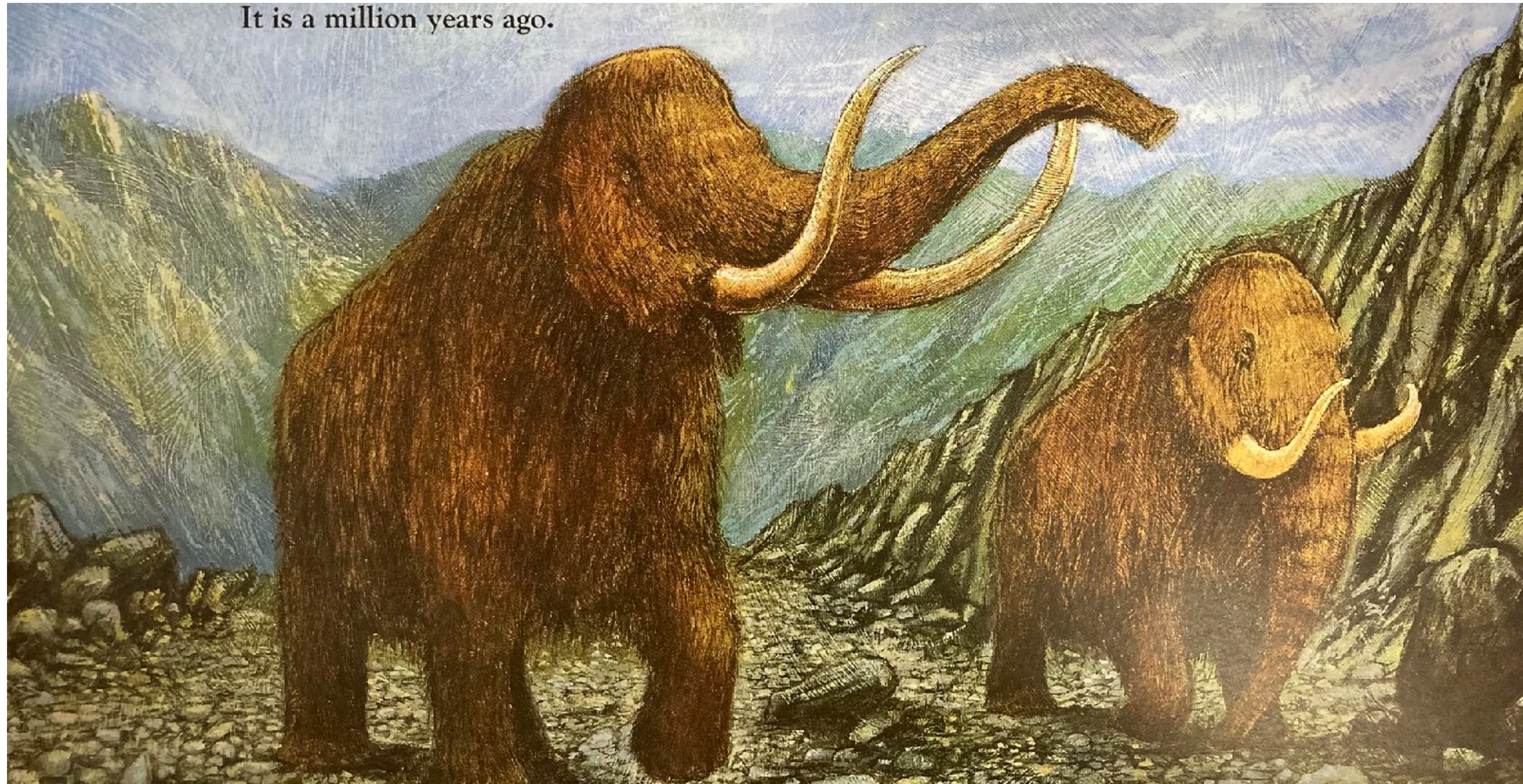
What can you see in the picture?
How has the Earth changed?

We've previously read about volcanoes, mountains, erosion, sea levels and moving tectonic plates dramatically changing the way our world looks and the evolution of life.



**What is changing the world in this era?
Do you know what this era in the past was called?**

This period is known as The Ice Age!



What do you know about it?

Learn about ice ages and glaciers:

Ice ages are periods of time in which ice and glaciers have covered large portions of the planet. They have occurred and recurred on a number of occasions.

- Youtube: The impact of ice ages on our planet
- Youtube: What causes ice ages?

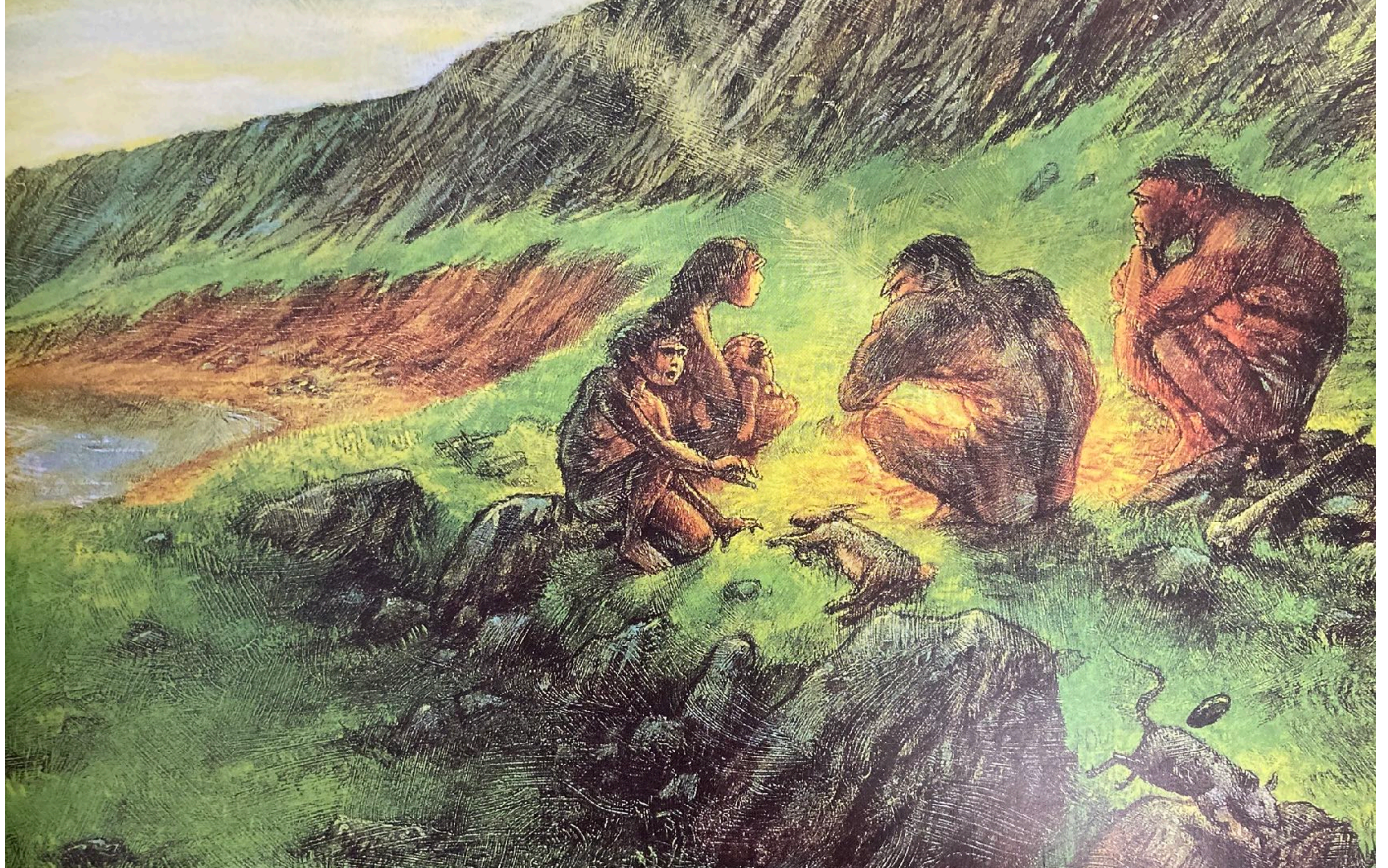
What do you think might be some of the consequences of recurring ice ages?

- National Geographic Youtube - Glaciers
- BBC Geography Youtube - Glaciers
- WorldWildlife website - Why glaciers are melting

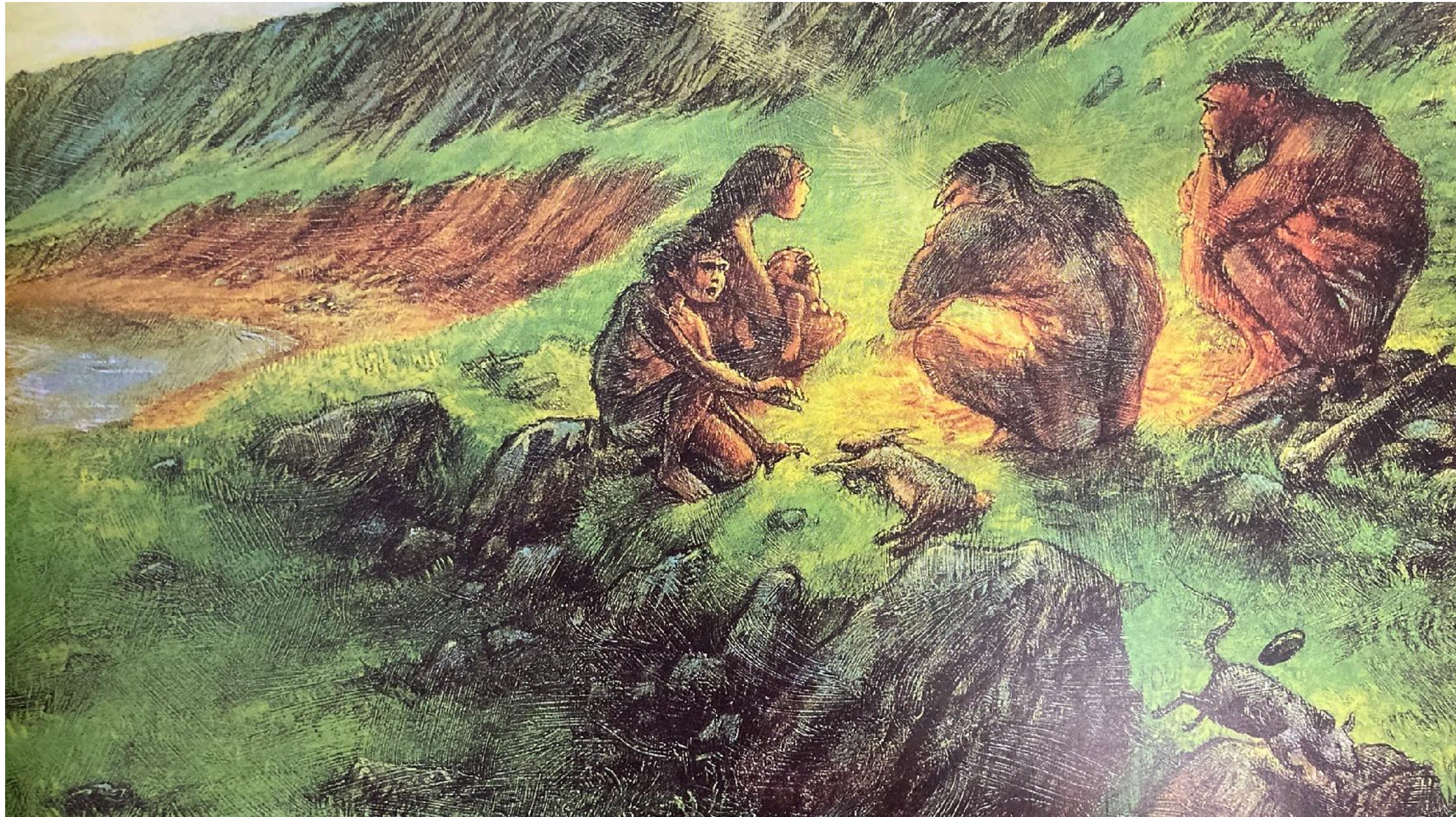
What is the potential impact on the planet from dramatic changes to the size of the Earth's glaciers?

- Climate message video
- Youtube: Climate Change Kids

Why are scientists worried about climate change? What can we do to help?



Who are these people?
What do you know about them from this illustration?



Make a list or mind map of what you notice and questions you have.

The Neanderthals (early humans)



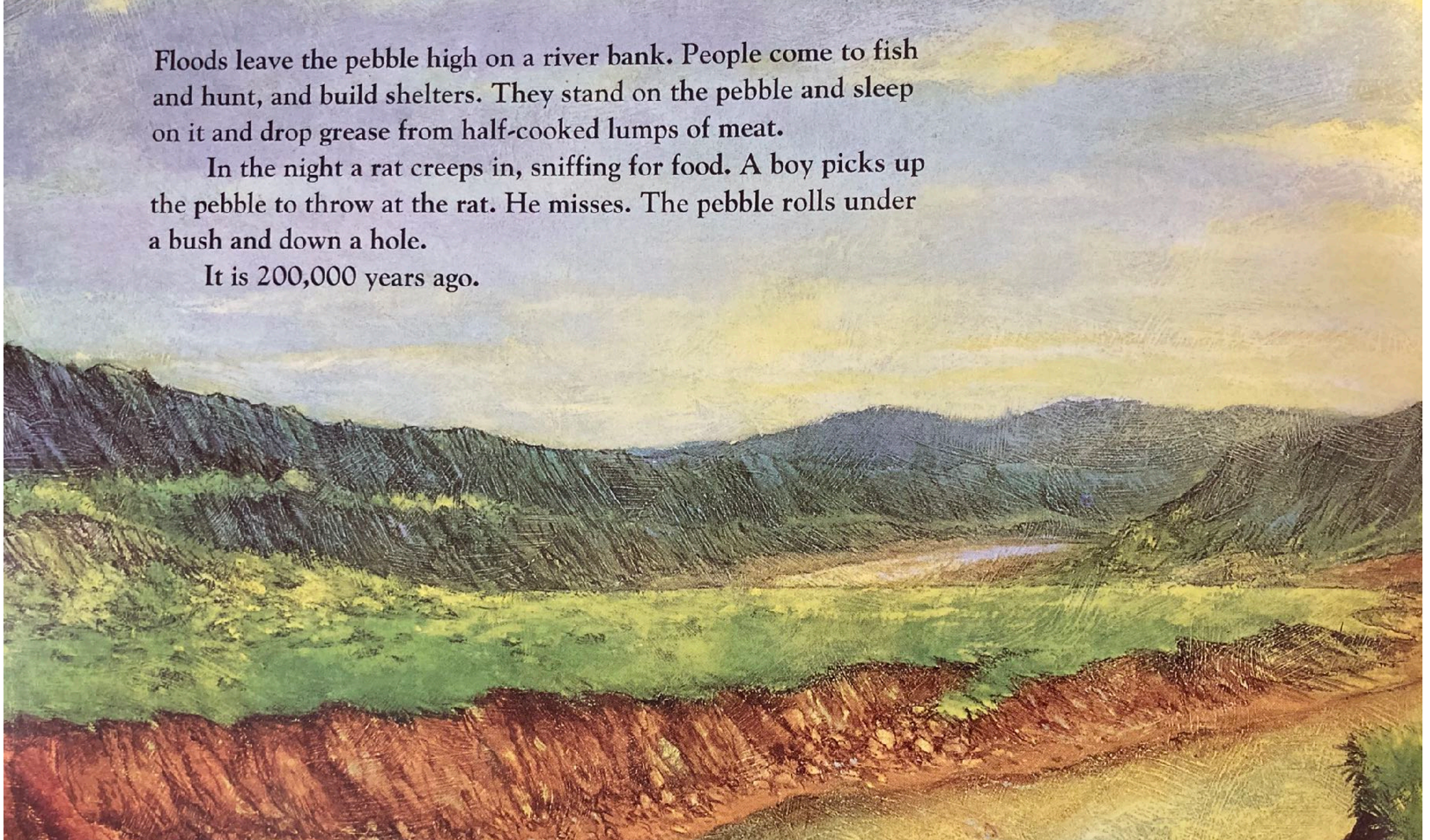
Use these links to learn about early human life on Earth...

- Natural History Museum: Who were the Neanderthals?
- National Geographic Youtube: Neanderthals

Floods leave the pebble high on a river bank. People come to fish and hunt, and build shelters. They stand on the pebble and sleep on it and drop grease from half-cooked lumps of meat.

In the night a rat creeps in, sniffing for food. A boy picks up the pebble to throw at the rat. He misses. The pebble rolls under a bush and down a hole.

It is 200,000 years ago.



Floods leave the pebble high on a river bank. People come to fish and hunt, and build shelters. They stand on the pebble and sleep on it and drop grease from half-cooked lumps of meat.

In the night a rat creeps in, sniffing for food. A boy picks up the pebble to throw at the rat. He misses. The pebble rolls under a bush and down a hole.

It is 200,000 years ago.

What can we learn from the text about this group of people and the era in which they live?

Focus on each character one at a time...

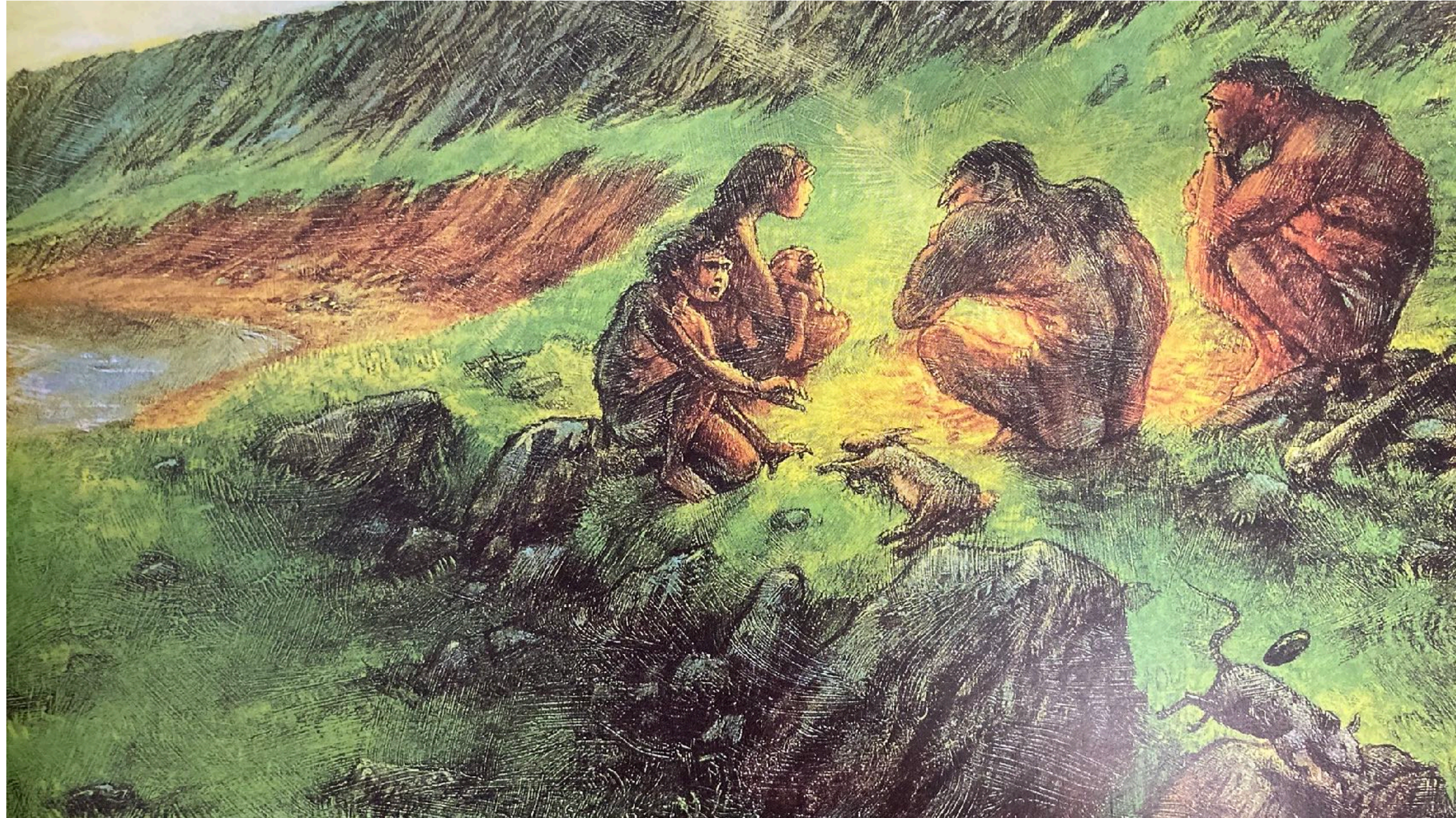


Using what you have learnt, act out what they might say.

How do you think they feel? How might they speak?

Look closely at their facial expressions and body language to help.

Write a speech bubble pretending you are living in the Stone Age...



Think about...

What might they have done during their day? What might they be pleased about? What might they be scared of? What do they want?

How do expert historians learn about life hundreds of thousands of years ago?

They might use evidence from skeletons, DNA, tools, carvings and remains of settlements and camps.

However, more recent civilisations have left behind oral and written stories, poems and songs to inform us but early humans (Neanderthals) did not write using any sort of alphabet.

Stone Age people recorded their events and lives through pictures...

Explore Cave paintings!

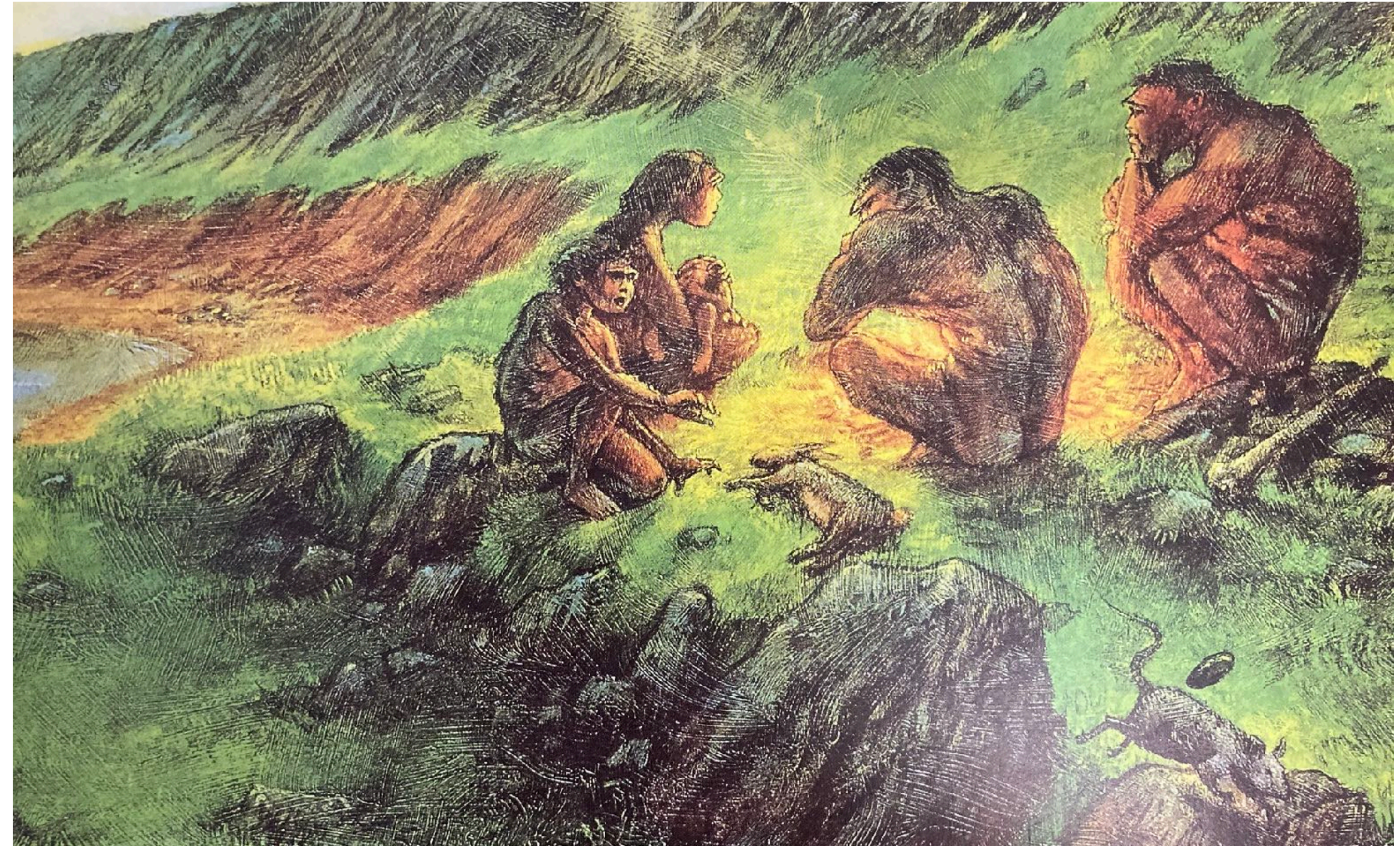


- Youtube: Explore cave paintings
- National Geographic Youtube: Cave Art
- BBC Youtube: Brian Cox visits oldest known cave paintings
- BBC Newsround: Chauvet cave

What can you see in the cave paintings? What can you learn from them? Why do you think these events were recorded?

Let's imagine!

If the group of Neanderthals from our illustration were to tell the story of their day using cave art, what might they paint?



Create your own cave artwork to tell their story.

Further activities:

Drama: Write a play script of the Stone Age scene.

Art: Design your own cave art!

English: Write a story of 'A day in the Stone Age'. It could even be a cartoon style!

Music: Go outside and explore what sounds you can make using natural materials (eg. using sticks or stones).

D.T: Build a Stone Age scene (it could be hut in your garden, a shoebox model, sew Stone Age style clothing...)