

# The Pebble in my Pocket

Can you retell the story so far?

Where has the pebble gone?

What has happened?

How has the Earth changed?



# Read the next part of the story:

The cold comes back. People move away. Massive ice sheets cover the land, burying forests and meadows. When warmth returns, the melting ice drops the pebble in a lake. It sinks into the soft mud, while hippos wallow above in the warm water.

It is 125,000 years ago.

A new glacier gouges the pebble out of the bottom of the lake and pushes it, clasped in its clear blue depths, for thousands and thousands of years. Then the ice retreats, leaving the pebble on the slope of a valley.

Shaggy bison graze the long grass. New people come, hunting for food. Sabre-tooth tigers watch. They can hunt what they like.

It is 12,000 years ago.

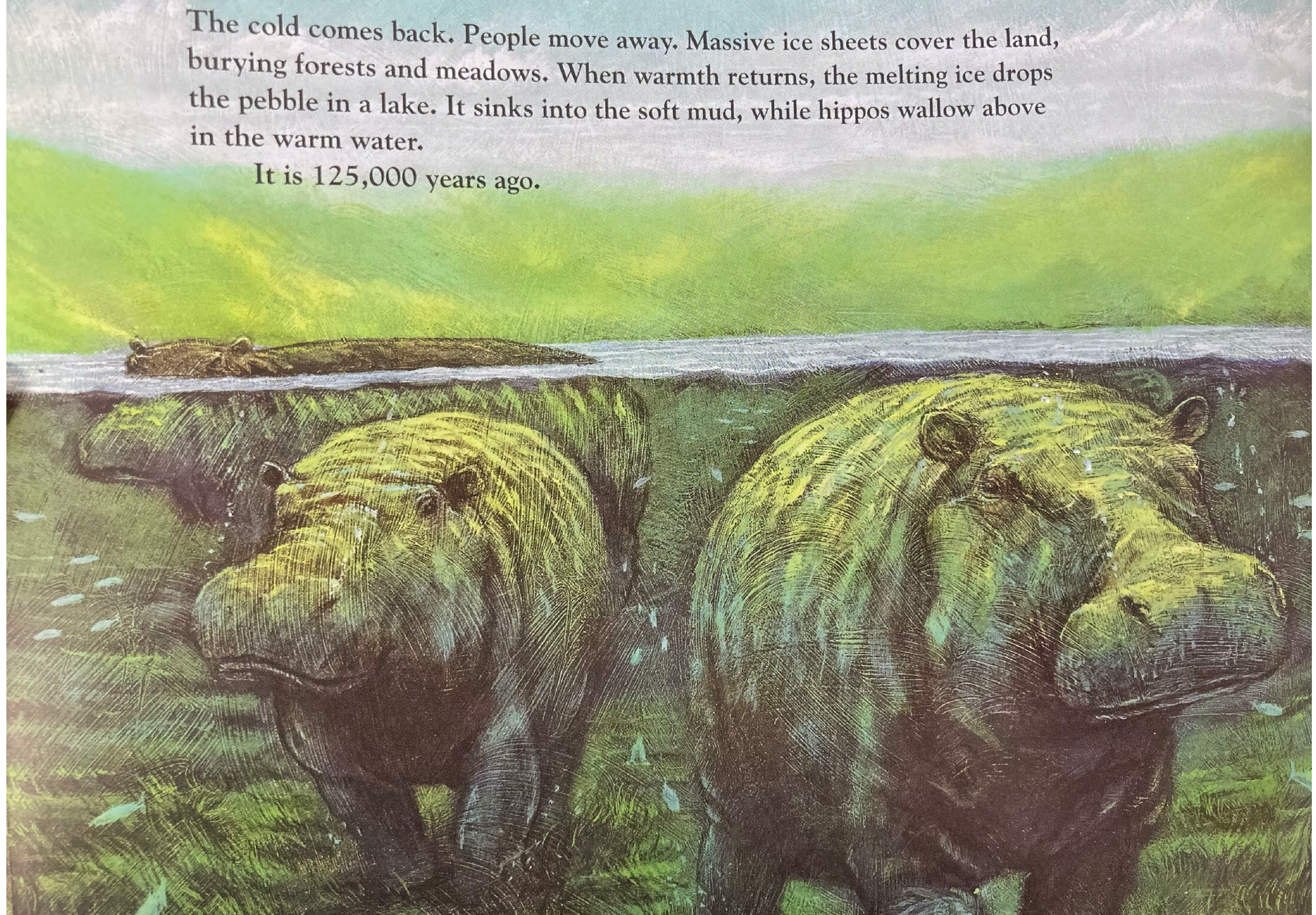
**How has the world changed? Is there anything that surprised you?**

**Now let's focus on the illustrations...**



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**The repeated return of the large glaciers as the extreme cold continues to affect our pebble and the Earth's landscape.**

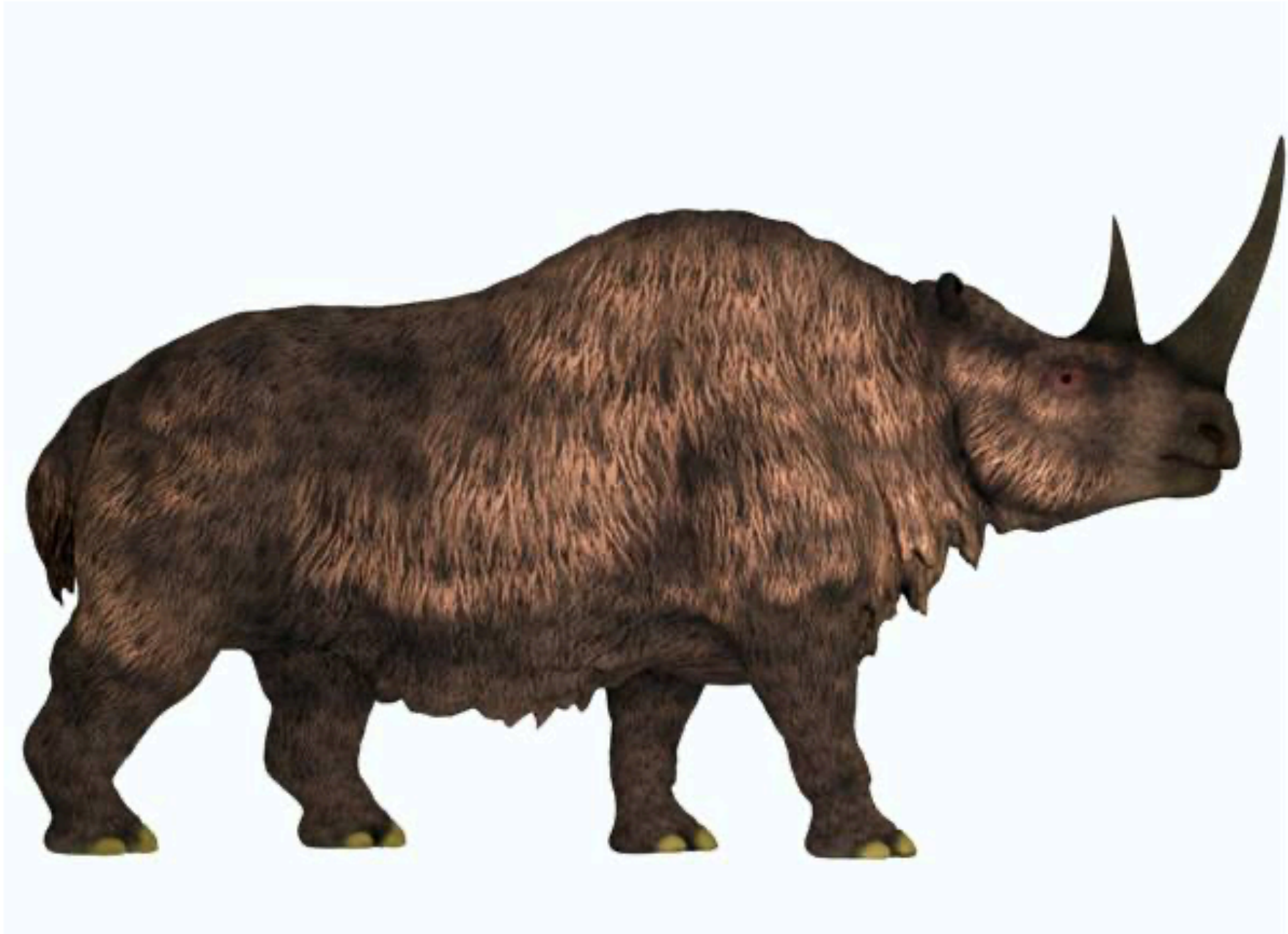


**The text mentions hippos, shaggy bison and sabre-tooth tigers. What other animals do you think might have existed at this time?**

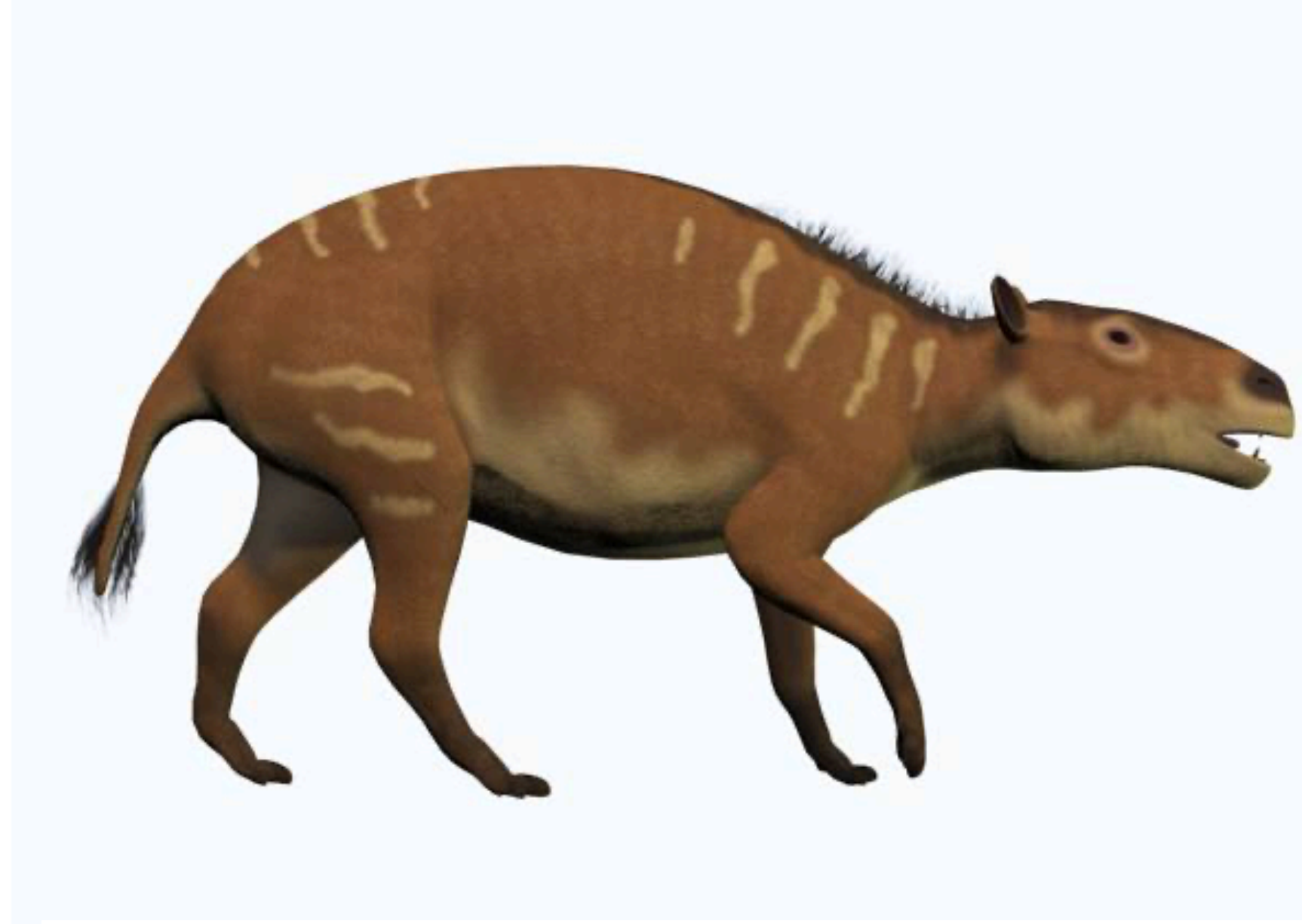


# Here are some extinct mammals that lived in the Cenozoic Era:

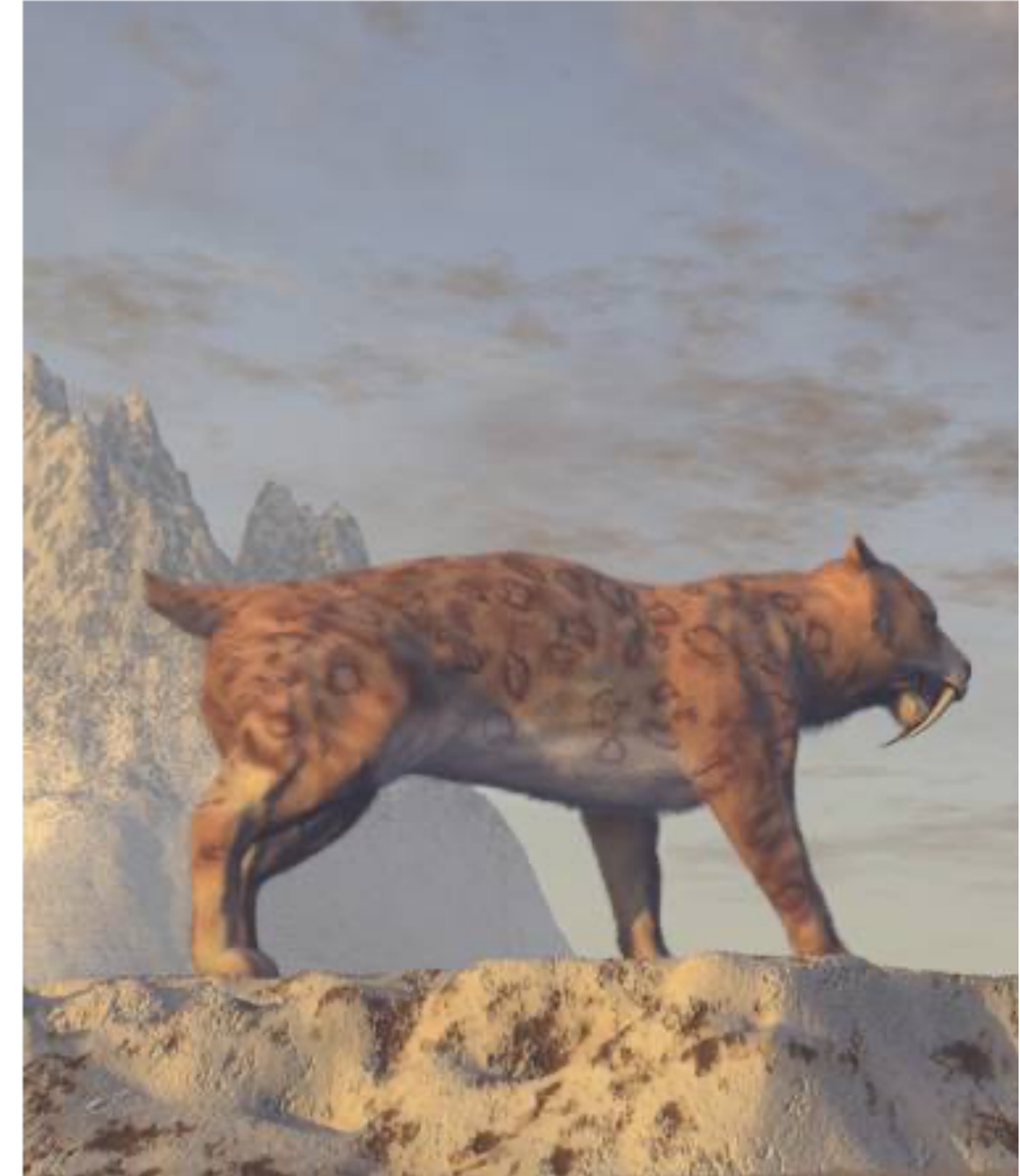
**Woolly Rhino**



**Eurohippus Horse**



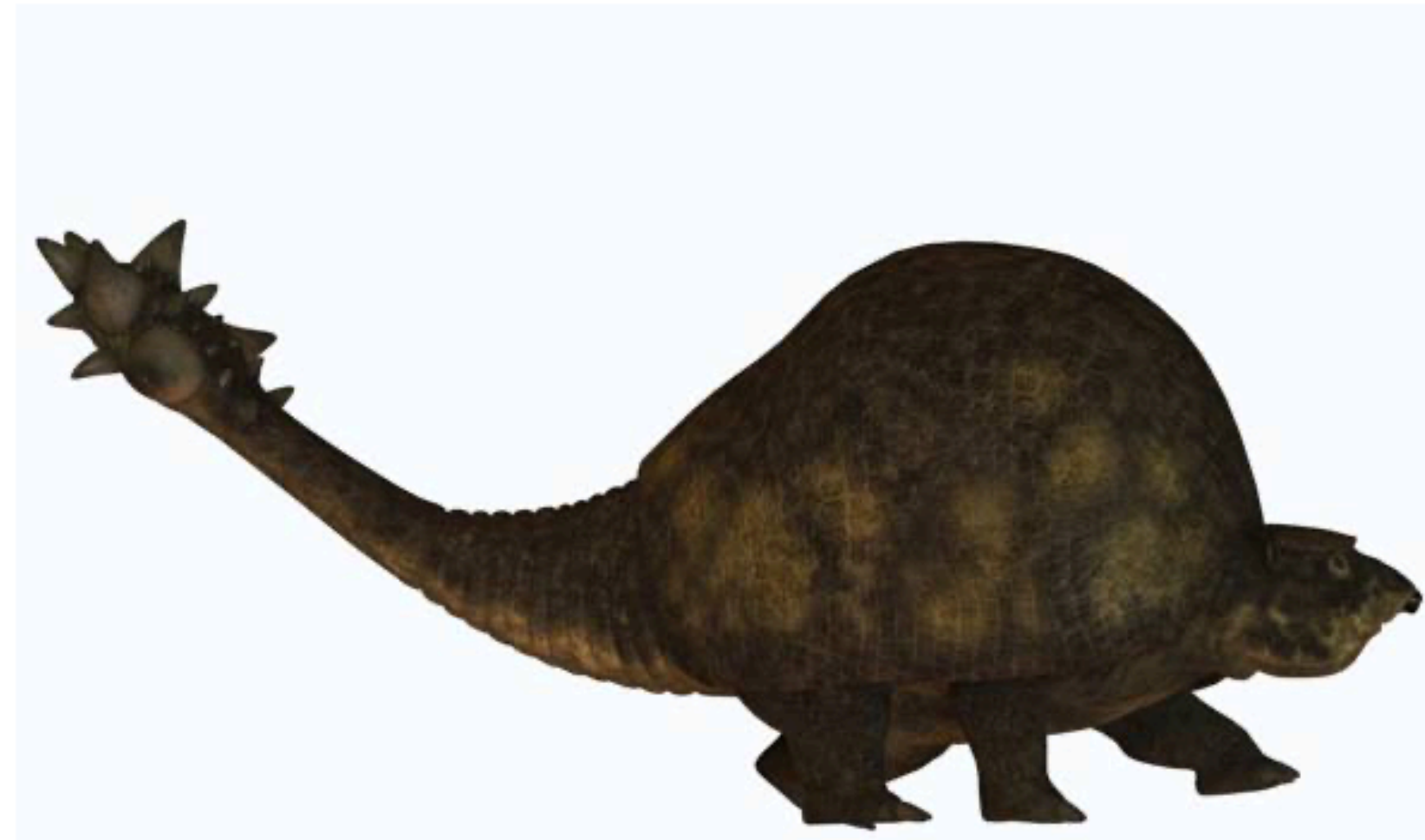
**Sabre-Toothed Tiger**



**Megalodon Shark**

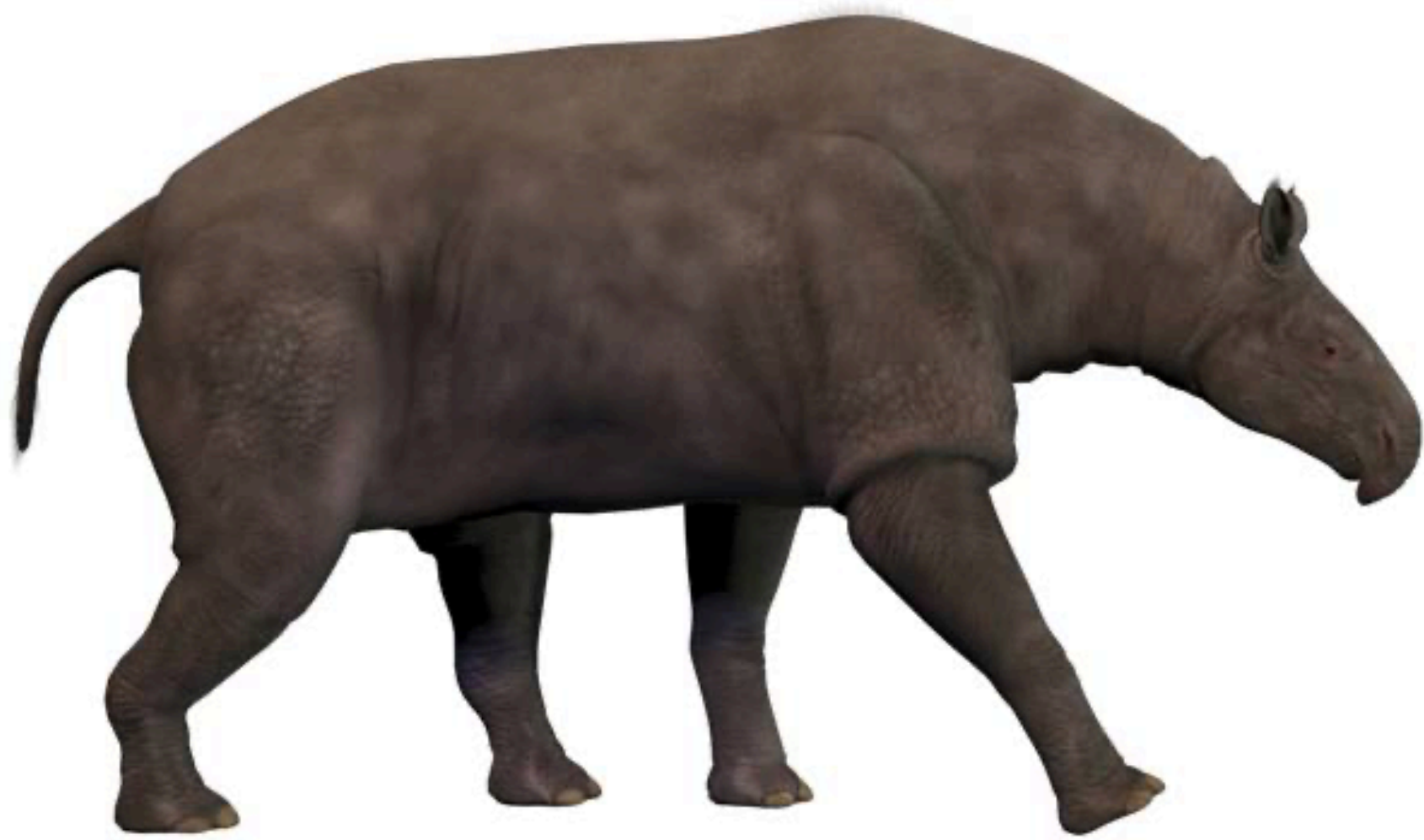


**Glyptodont**





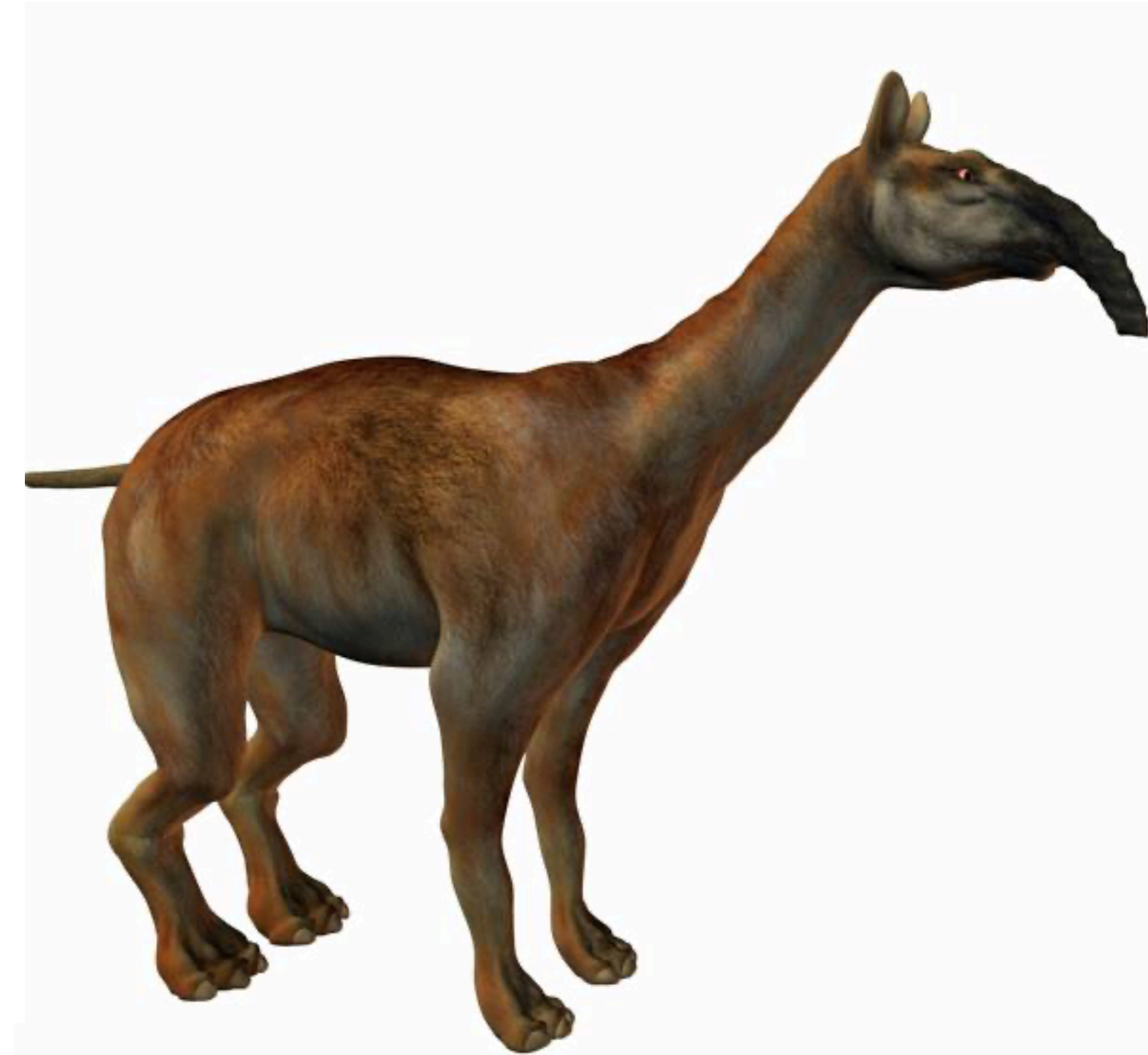
**Paraceratherium**



**Phorusrhacus**



**Macrauchenia Patachonica**



**Woolly Mammoth**



**What do you notice? How are these animals similar to ones you know nowadays? How are they different?**



**Choose one of the animals to research further.**  
**(Create a poster, fact file or information report about your animal).**



**Here are some links you could use to help you find out more:**

- Video showing more animals of the Cenozoic Era and their sizes
- Cenozoic mammals video
- Cenozoic Era facts and events video
- Extinct mammals facts



Read  
the next  
part of  
the  
story:



The pebble hasn't moved much since the last ice age.

It has been kicked and trodden on, by animals and people. Cattle have grazed over it. Farmers have grown crops on it. A new road runs near it. Houses are built next to the road, and their foundations cover rocks and earth, pebbles and gravel.

But the houses miss the pebble. It lies, smooth and warm, in the sun.



**Why do you think the pebble might not have moved much since the last ice age (nearly 12,000 years ago)?**

**Use the illustrations to help you make a list of causes of change to the Earth's surface.**





# Since human civilisations developed, what changes do you think have caused the biggest impact to our environment?



**You might consider:**

- **early settlements**
- **farming**
- **animals**
- **villages and towns**
- **factories (industrial revolution)**
- **population growth**
- **buildings (eg. hospitals and schools)**
- **developments in transport (eg. roads and railways)**

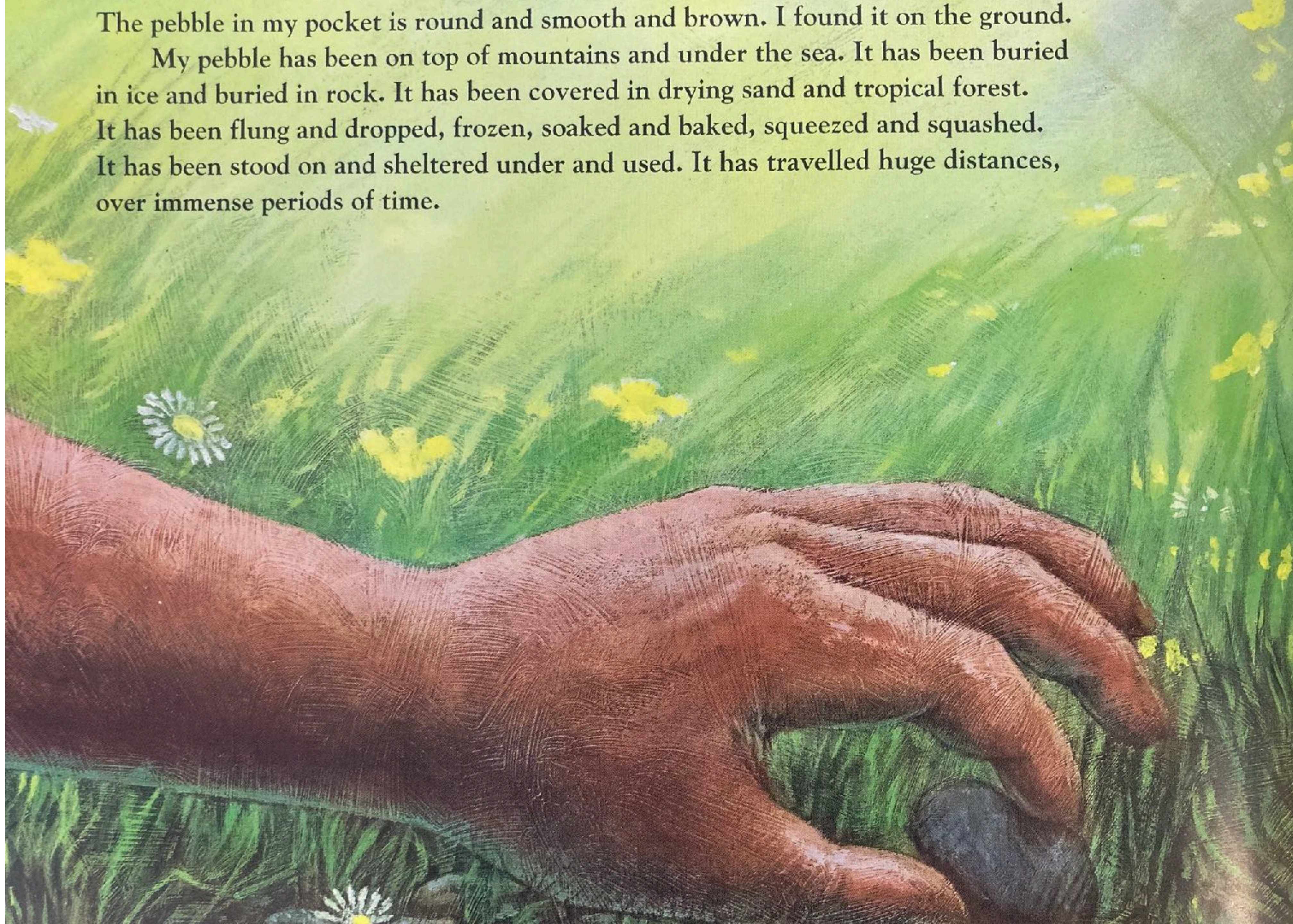


**Read  
the rest  
of the  
book...**

**What do  
you  
notice?**

The pebble in my pocket is round and smooth and brown. I found it on the ground.

My pebble has been on top of mountains and under the sea. It has been buried in ice and buried in rock. It has been covered in drying sand and tropical forest. It has been flung and dropped, frozen, soaked and baked, squeezed and squashed. It has been stood on and sheltered under and used. It has travelled huge distances, over immense periods of time.





My pebble is four hundred and eighty million years old. So far.  
Keep travelling, pebble!

Every pebble in the world is different from every other pebble.  
Every pebble has its own story. Pick up a pebble and you are holding  
a little piece of the history of our planet.





Complete this grid with your opinions about the book:

<u>The Pebble in my Pocket</u>	
<u>My likes</u>	<u>My dislikes</u>
<u>My connections</u>	<u>My questions</u>

Discuss your views with your family. Share what you liked and didn't like about the book. What did you enjoy?



# Book review!

## Book Review

Book review by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Non fiction ☐

Fiction ☐

What is the book about?

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Who would this book be suitable for? Age/interests

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Would you/would you not recommend the book? Why?

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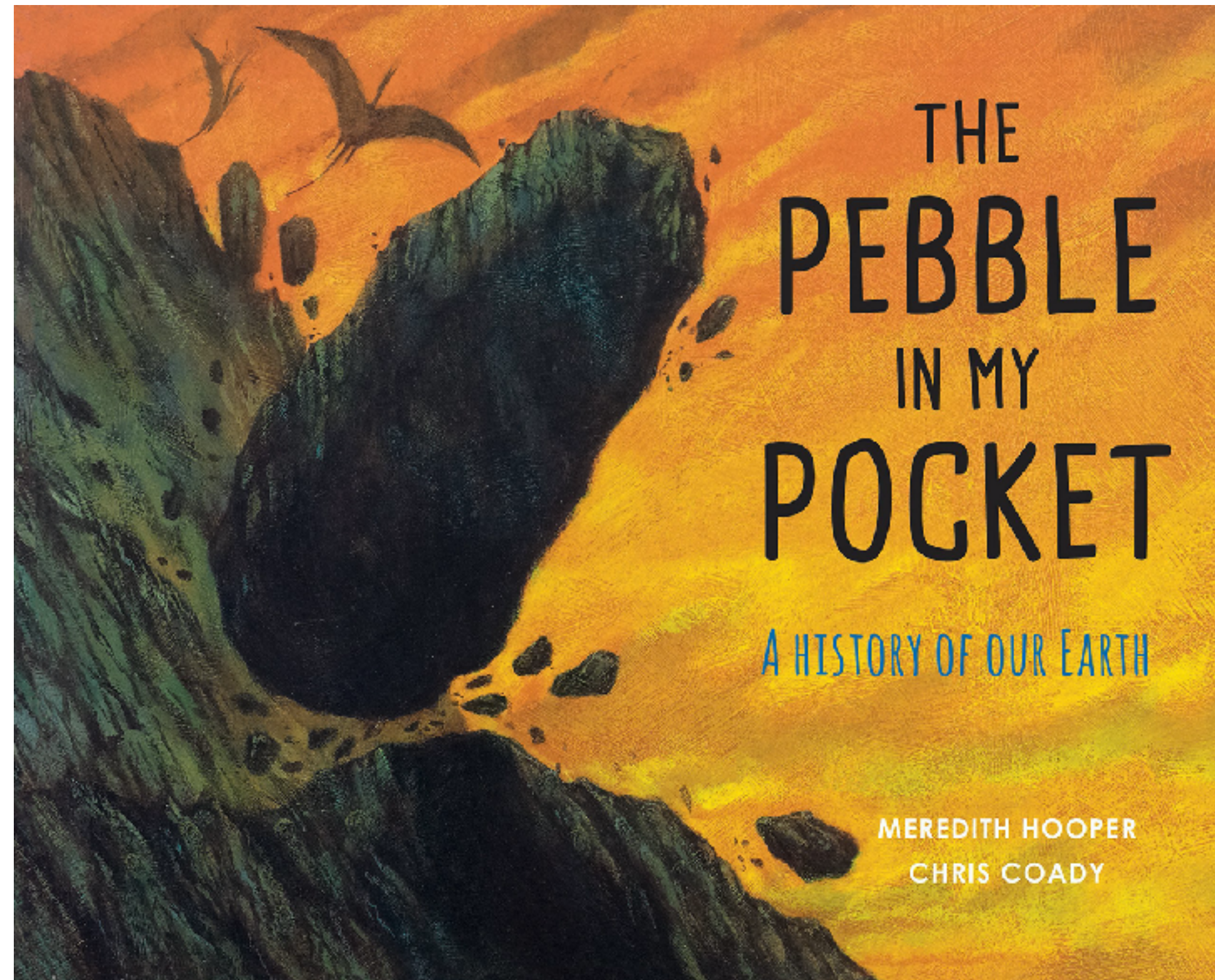
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## Book Illustration



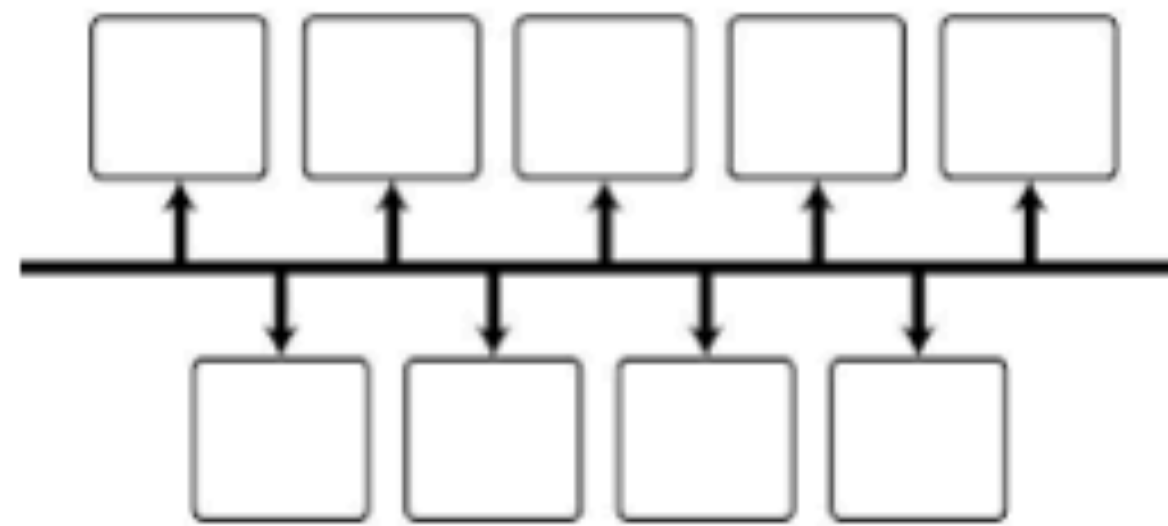
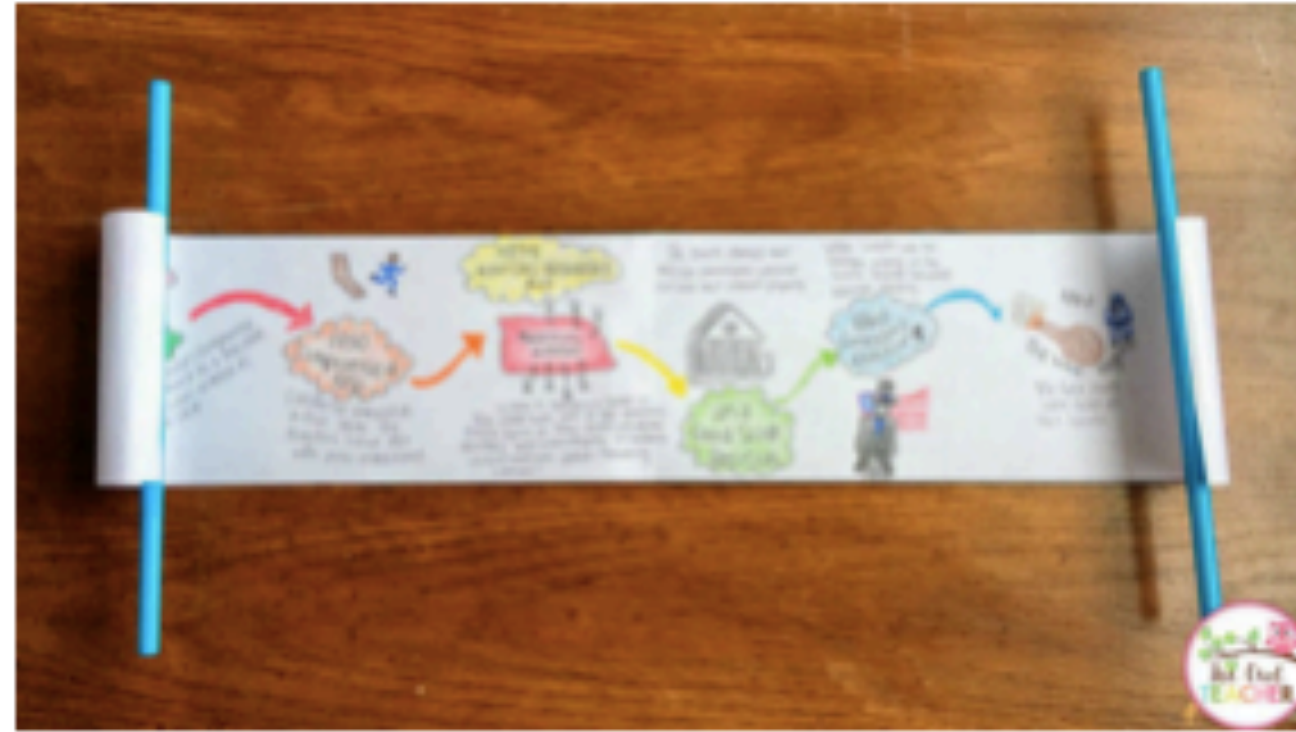
**Returning to the front cover, have you answered any of your original questions about the book?**



**Is there anything else now you'd like to ask the author or learn about?**



If you started a timeline, now is a good time to update it with key dates and events we have learnt about.



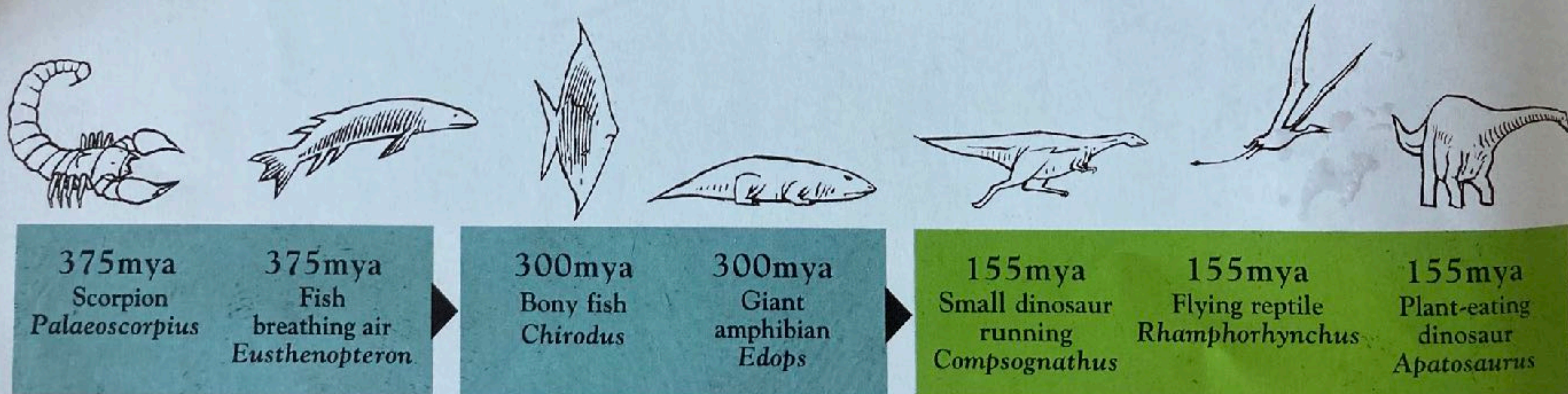
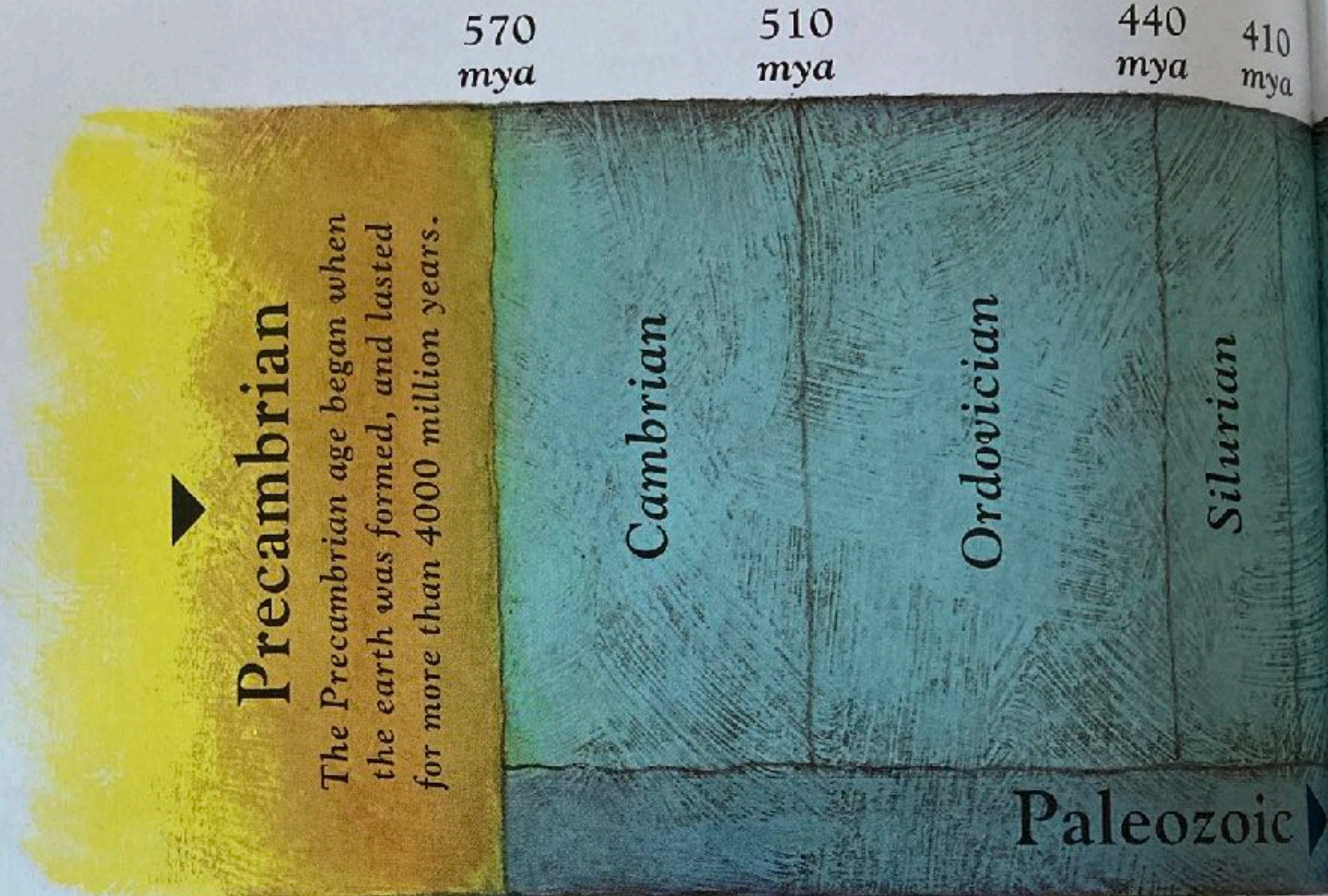
If you haven't yet started a timeline, the next 2 pictures show a timeline in the back of the book. You can follow the development of animals along the bottom. You could create your own with pictures similar to this...



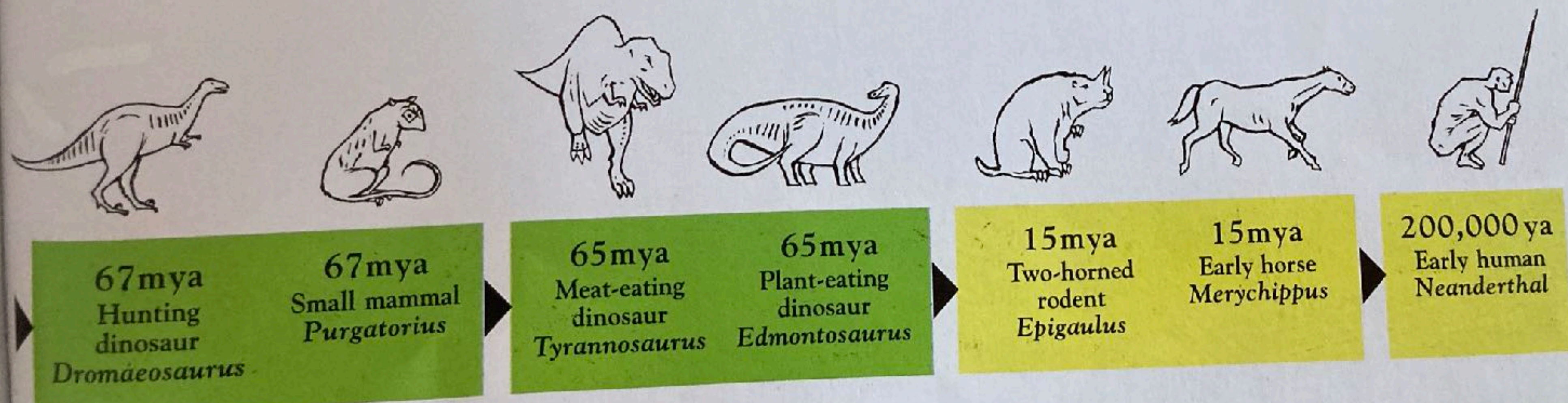
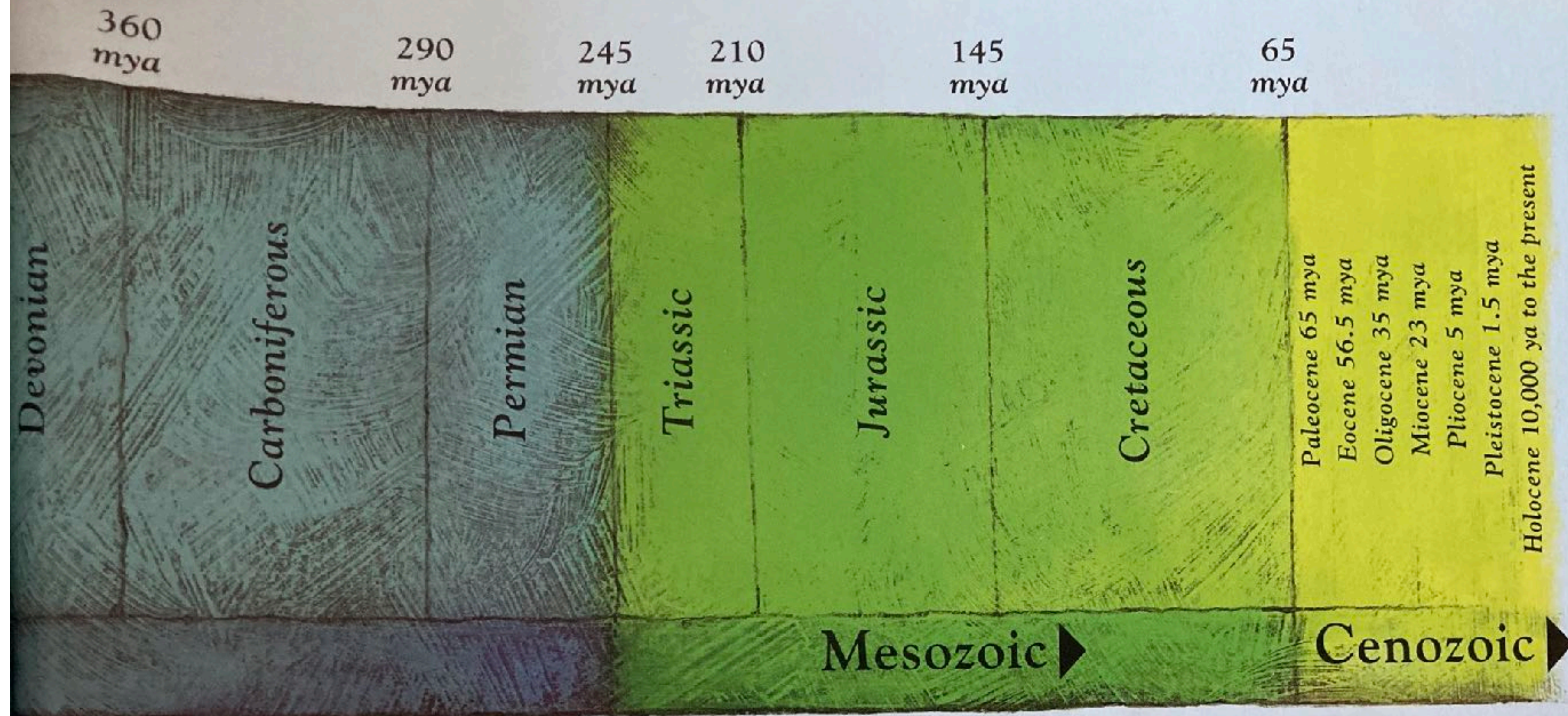
# When did it all happen?

The story of *The Pebble in my Pocket* begins with a lava flow from an erupting volcano, 480 million years ago. Nine-tenths of earth's history has already happened. Geological changes occur over staggeringly huge periods of time. They are caused by constant tiny events, difficult to see - the action of water, wind and sun, and the downward pull of gravity. They are everyday forces which happen every day. They have always happened, and they are happening right now.

Geologists divide the earth's history into various time periods. The chart on the right is a geological time line, from the beginnings of the earth, around 4600 million years ago, to the present day. Some of the animals that appear in this book are shown below.







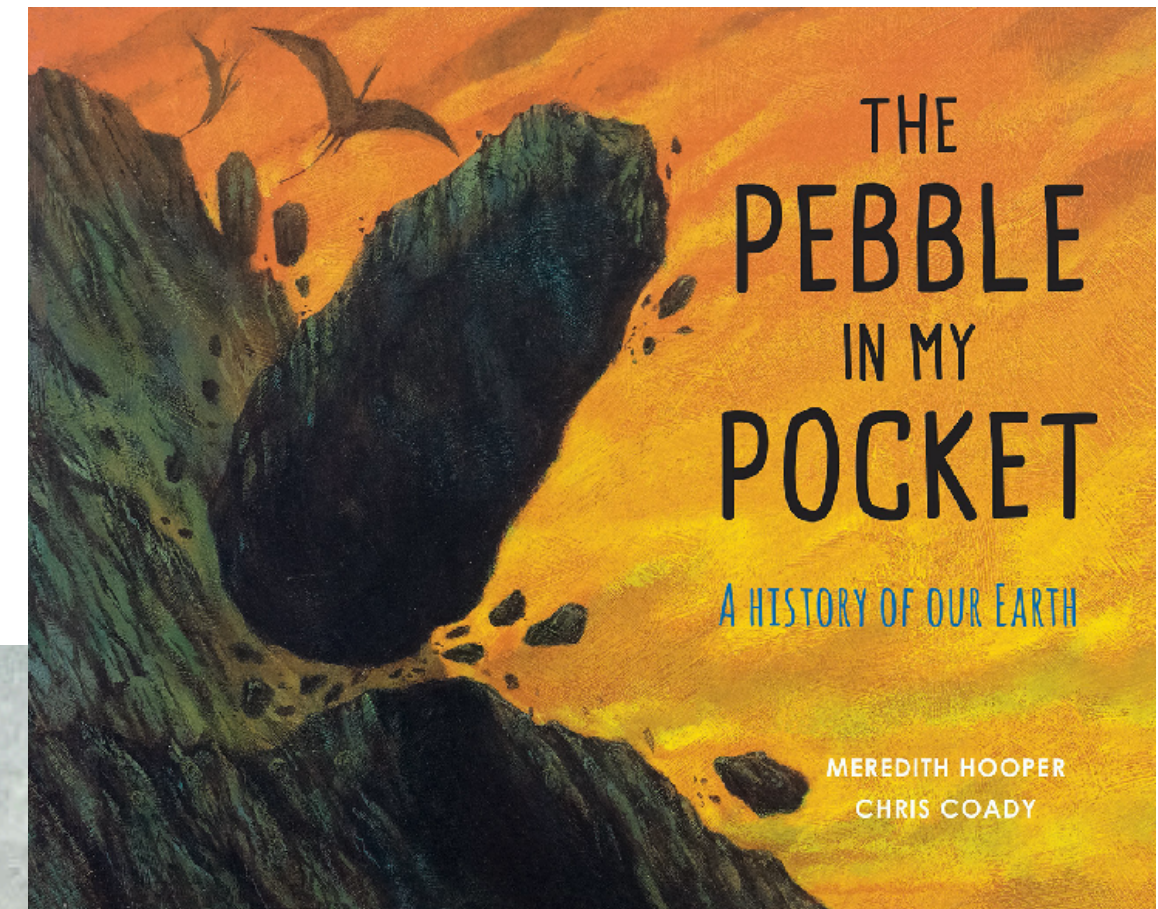


# Be an author!

## Every pebble has its own story...

My pebble is four hundred and eighty million years old. So far.  
Keep travelling, pebble!

Every pebble in the world is different from every other pebble.  
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a little piece of the history of our planet.



## Could you write the story of where another object has come from?



# Here are just some ideas:

You could write the story of...

- a feather (the bird that it fell from and the egg that the bird hatched from...)
- a tomato (the supermarket it came from, the truck that brought it to the supermarket, the farm that it grew on...)
- a raindrop (the water cycle)
- a flowering plant (the plant cycle)
- a similar food item or something from nature
- something interesting you have found



# Publish your story!

Things to consider:

- What will your title be?
- How will you plan your story?
- How will you present your story?

**You could write it, illustrate it, make a picture book, cartoon strip, use ICT or any form you wish!**

**Be creative and we look forward to you sharing it with us by emailing your work for others to enjoy!**