



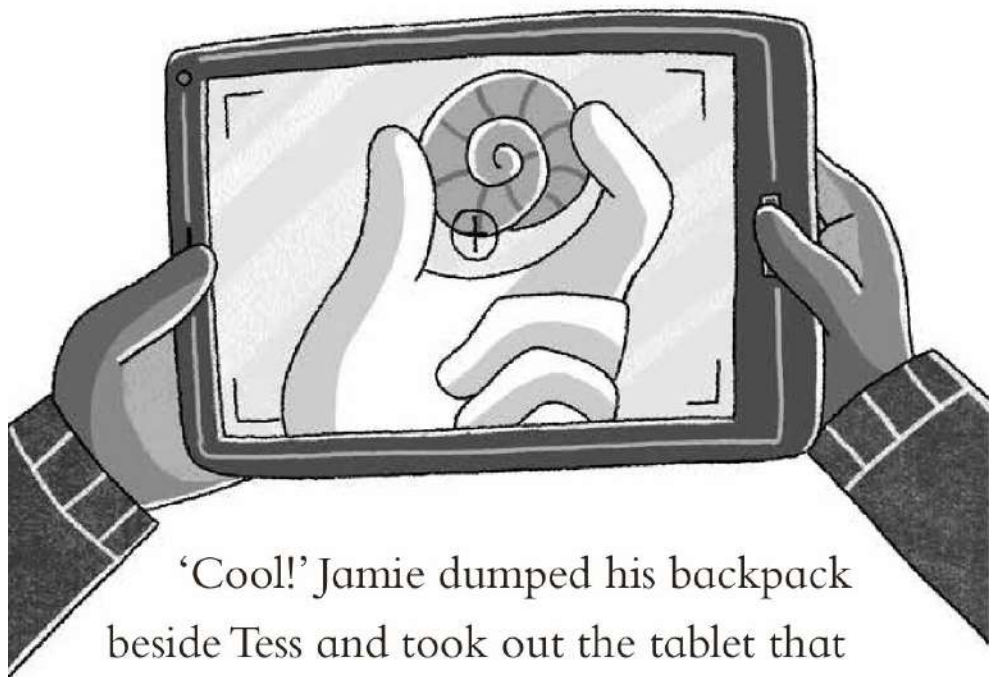
Jamie waved goodbye to his mum, shoved his lunchbox into his backpack, and charged out of the lighthouse where they lived. He was meeting his best friend, Tess, in Ammonite Bay to search for fossils.

He scrambled down the steep path to the beach. Tess was already there, scrabbling around in a patch of pebbles.

‘Found one!’ Tess’s freckly face,

crocodile T-shirt, and binoculars were splattered with mud and sand. She held up a round fossil the size of a bottle top. It looked like a coil of grey modelling clay, but it had once been a sea creature with tentacles and a shell.





‘Cool!’ Jamie dumped his backpack beside Tess and took out the tablet that went everywhere with him. *Click!* He snapped a photo of the ammonite, then pressed the dino footprint icon to open the app for Dinosaur Club. He posted the photo, and immediately messages popped up from kids from all over the world, who loved dinosaurs and fossils as much as he and Tess did.



‘Nice ammonite!’ Commented
Laura, from the Netherlands.

‘Jurassic or Cretaceous?’ Typed Jamie.



‘Cretaceous.’ The reply came
from Kim, who lived in Korea.



‘Late Cretaceous,’ added Leon from
Germany. ‘Around 66 million years ago.’

Tess leaned over to type a reply. ‘Great!’



Jamie carefully stored the ammonite and the tablet in his backpack and grinned at Tess. Finding fossils was fun, but Jamie and Tess had discovered something even better: a world of living, breathing dinosaurs! This Cretaceous fossil was going to help them travel to the *actual* Cretaceous period for an exciting adventure.

‘Race you there!’ Tess’s boots kicked up a spray of sand and pebbles as she sped off toward the opposite end of the bay. The two friends climbed up the boulders and dashed to the entrance of the old smugglers cave.

Jamie clicked on his torch and ran the beam of light along the back wall of the cave, until it disappeared in a narrow gap in the rocks. He watched Tess squeeze through the gap, then took a deep breath, and followed.

The second cave was their special secret. It was eerily silent, dark, and damp – and it had five fossil dinosaur footprints embedded in the floor.

Jamie stepped onto the first footprint. He began to count as he stepped along the ancient dino tracks.

‘One, two, three...’

His whole body buzzed with excitement.

‘Four...’

Five...’

There was a dazzling *flash* of light.





Instantly, he was outside in bright daylight. A dragonfly the size of a paper aeroplane whizzed past his nose, and his ears rang with the high-pitched whirring noise of countless insects.

Jamie breathed in the warm humid air. Yuck! Something here smelled worse than Granddad's compost heap on a hot summer day. He glanced down. He was standing in a puddle of orange slime covered in a fuzzy pinkish mould. There were small dinosaur footprints all over it.

There was another flash, and Tess appeared beside him. She screwed up her face. 'Eww. Smells like sick!'

Jamie pointed to some trees with yellowy-green, fan-shaped leaves. 'It's because the ginkgo trees are dropping their stinky fruit.'

'Wanna will be happy,' Tess grinned. Their little dinosaur friend loved ginkgo fruit. 'I can't wait to see him again!'

They squelched through pools of rotting fruit to the top of a hill. From there, they had a great view over a dense green jungle of tree ferns, cycads, and conifers. Beyond lay dusty plains and a lagoon. In the distance were mountains and the shimmer of the ocean.

‘The Cretaceous!’ Jamie and Tess jumped for joy as they high-fived.

A faint Aa-aaa-aaaaark cut through the constant hum of insects.

Tess wiped her binoculars on her T-shirt and put them to her eyes. ‘Look! There’s a gigantic pterosaur flying over the lagoon!’

She passed the binoculars to Jamie. He watched the winged creature swoop down to the water in search of prey. ‘So cool!’



‘Hey, what’s that?’ Asked Tess.

A low boom was echoing over the jungle. The note rose higher as the sound got louder and louder.

Whooop, whooo-ooop,
whooo-ooo-ooop!

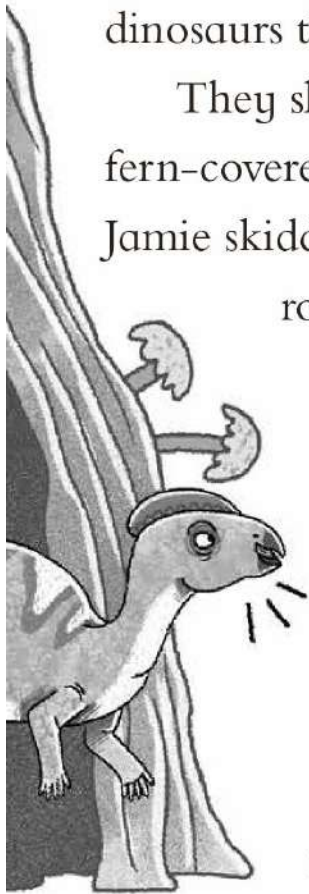
There was an answering call.
Wheeeep, wheee-eeep,
wheee-eee-eeep!

Tess giggled. 'The first one sounds like you trying to play the trumpet.'

'The second one's more like a giant guinea-pig with a megaphone.' Jamie laughed. 'Can't wait to see the dinosaurs that are making that noise!'

They slithered down the steep fern-covered slope, into the jungle. Jamie skidded to a halt beside a huge rotting tree trunk, covered in moss. A frilly purple fungus shaped like a half-moon sprouted from the side. It was crumpled, and smelled of garlic.

Tess knocked on the trunk. 'It's hollow – the inside must have rotted away.'



Grunk!

A small scaly green-brown dinosaur with a flat bony head jumped out at them. Jamie fell over backwards with surprise.

Grunk, grunk, grunk! The dino nudged him with his bony head.

'We're happy to see you too, Wanna!' Jamie scratched the top of the little dinosaur's head. His skin felt like sandpaper and he stank of ginkgo fruit – and garlic. There was a purple patch on his side.



‘Why have you been rubbing yourself on that purple fungus?’ Tess wondered, as she scratched him under his chin.

Suddenly, Wanna froze. Jamie and Tess looked at each other. Branches were snapping and ferns were rustling. Something was crashing through the jungle towards them – and it was fast!

Wanna dived head-first into the rotting tree trunk. Tess and Jamie squeezed in beside him. Just in time...

From their hiding place, they glimpsed a massive head parting the ferns. Its huge jaws were lined with long, pointed teeth, their edges serrated like knives.

‘Wow!’ Jamie gasped. ‘A T. rex!’

