

Zala Runs for Her Life

Story by Hugh Price

Illustrations by Rudolf Farkas



PM

Zala Runs for Her Life

Level 19

Running Words 464 **Text Type** Narrative

Curriculum Areas English (Literacy, Literature, Language); Humanities (Geography, History); Science (Biological Sciences)

Retelling to Encourage Critical Thinking About the Content

Ask each student to retell the story in their own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to Reinforce Meaning and Stimulate Discussion

Literal

- 1 Where did Zala make a nest for her babies?
- 2 How did Drome know there was something good to eat inside the log?
- 3 How did Drome use his sharp claws?

Inferential

- 4 Why didn't the babies run around in the log before their eyes were open?
- 5 Why did Zala spring out of the log first, when Drome arrived?
- 6 Why did the babies run in different directions?
- 7 Why did Drome tear the nest to pieces with his claws?
- 8 How would the babies have felt when they were back safely with Zala?

Applied Knowledge

- 9 Why did Zala go out to hunt at night, instead of during the day?
- 10 Why do you think Drome might have had brown and green feathers?

Links with Other PM Guided Reading Books

Level 19	Narrative	<i>A Troop of Little Dinosaurs</i>
Level 20	Narrative	<i>Gorgo Meets Her Match</i>
Level 20	Explanation	<i>Why Animals Hibernate</i>
Level 20	Information Report	<i>Animals of the Rainforest</i>



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Long, long ago,
in the days of the dinosaurs,
some small, furry animals were living in a forest.
One of them, called Zala,
had made a nest inside a hollow log.



Zala had six very tiny babies.
At first they were pink, because they had no fur,
and their eyes were tightly closed.
Zala fed them with her milk
and they grew quickly.

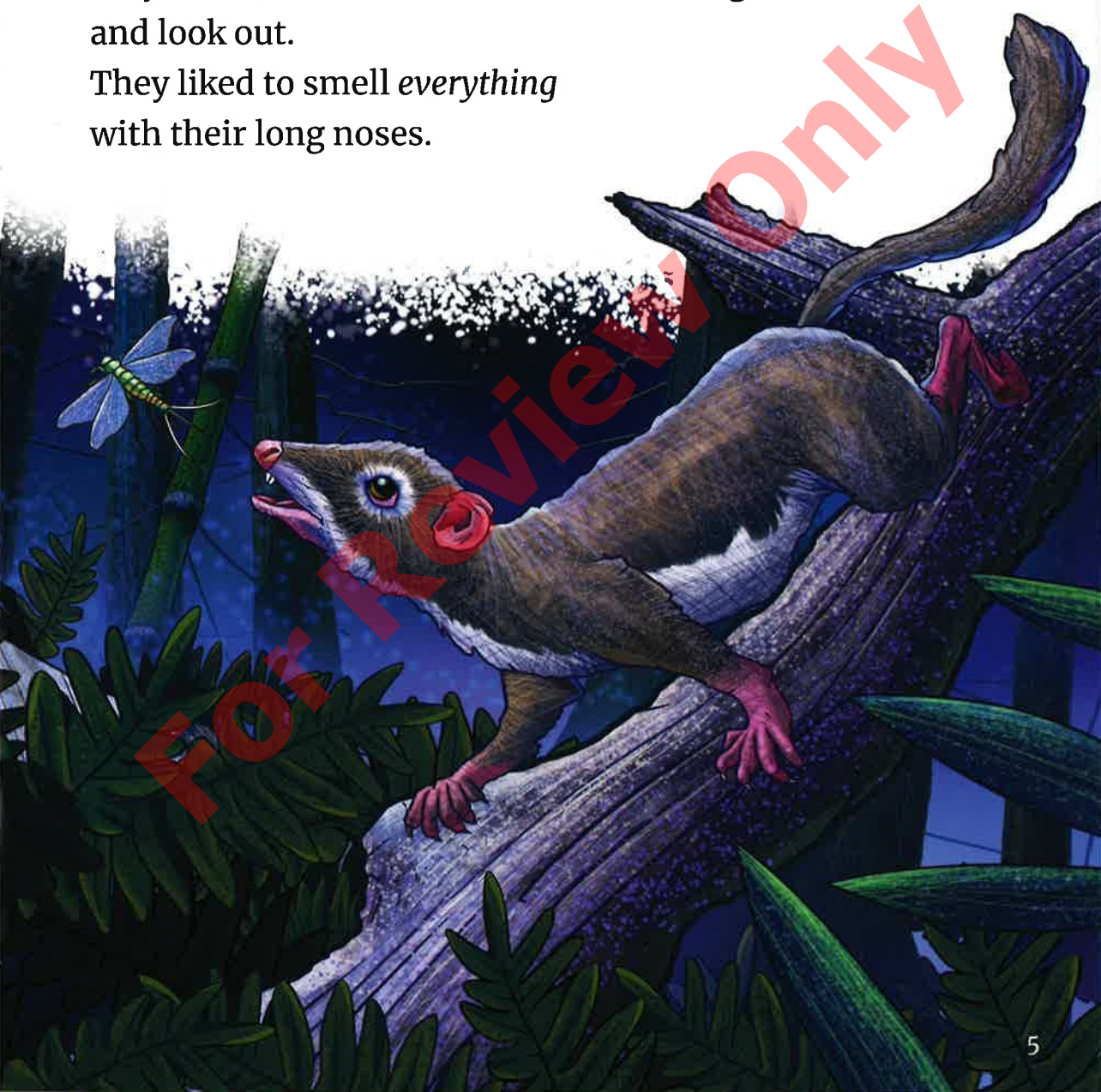


When the babies were two weeks old,
their fur had grown and their eyes were open.
Now they could run around inside the log.



They were sleepy in the daytime,
but at night, when Zala was out hunting for insects,
they would run down to the end of the log
and look out.

They liked to smell *everything*
with their long noses.



Then, when the babies
were two-and-a-half weeks old,
Drome, the sharp-clawed dinosaur,
came looking for a meal.
He was only a small dinosaur,
but he was much bigger than Zala,
and he was hungry.





Sniff, sniff! Scratch, scratch!
Zala and her babies woke up.

Sniff, sniff! Scratch, scratch!
They heard the scratching noises
coming nearer and nearer.