

The Asteroid

Story by Hugh Price and Beverley Randell

Illustrations by Ben Spiby



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Level 22

Running Words 759 **Text Type** Narrative

Curriculum Areas English (Literacy, Literature, Language); Science (Biological Sciences, Earth and Space 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 What did Tor look like?
- 2 What was needed for dinosaur eggs to hatch?
- 3 What did Tor and her family eat in the cold forest?

Inferential

- 4 Why did the little mammals flee if they heard a dinosaur coming?
- 5 What caused the trees to catch fire after the asteroid hit the ground?
- 6 Why were the days grey and cold after the explosion?
- 7 Why had the mammals always gone hunting in the dark?
- 8 What do you think was the main reason the dinosaurs died out?

Applied Knowledge

- 9 What is hibernation?
- 10 What is the difference between 'extinct' and 'endangered'?

Links with Other PM Guided Reading Books

Level 22	Narrative	<i>The Missing Bone</i>
Level 22	Narrative	<i>Space Junk</i>
Level 22	Narrative	<i>Pandas in the Mountains</i>
Level 22	Information Report	<i>Megafauna</i>

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Long, long ago, in the age of the dinosaurs,
Tor lived in a forest.

She was a little furry mammal with a tail,
and she was not much bigger than a mouse.

Tor had claws for climbing trees.

She had a long nose,
and large eyes that saw well in the dark.

At night, when the dinosaurs slept,
Tor and her troop hurried about.

They ate the insects that hid in the trees,
and other little creatures
that crawled on the forest floor.



The dinosaurs were all much, much larger
than the little mammals.

If the mammals heard a dinosaur coming,
they fled!

Tyrannosaurus Rex was a thousand times heavier
than they were!



Tor was going to have some babies.
They were growing inside her
where they were warm and safe.

When it was time for them to be born,
Tor found a hole inside a fallen tree.
There she made a warm nest,
and when her babies were born
she fed them with her milk.





The dinosaurs did **not** give birth to babies.

They laid eggs instead.

Dinosaur eggs could not hatch

unless they were warmed by the hot sun.

The huge dinosaurs were busy in the daytime,

and the tiny mammals were busy at night,

as they had been for millions of years.

Then, suddenly,
the world changed forever!

A huge white-hot ball of burning rock
roared down from the sky.
It was an asteroid.

For Review Only

