# Lucy



John Parsons

Andrew Leck

Nelson Literacy Directions

NELSON CENGAGE Learning

**NLD Level: 8**
**Reading Age: 9.4–9.7**
**Text Type: Recount**

**Lucy**

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# Meet the Characters



**Lucy**

A female Australopithecus who lived over three million years ago.



**Tang**

A male Australopithecus from Lucy's group.



**A Giant Hyena**

A vicious predator.

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Dear Reader

Everything we know about the earliest humans comes from studying fossilised skeletons. There is one amazing skeleton, named Lucy, that has taught scientists much about our early beginnings. When Lucy was alive, she would never have dreamed of being famous – but now she is!

John Parsons
Author

## Ethiopia




1. The country now known as Ethiopia
2. The area where Lucy lived

# 1 An Earth-Shattering Roar

**The midday sun burned the African plain. Lucy ran and ran.**

Her heart pounded. Her lungs gasped for air. Behind her, she heard wild panting and thundering paws – but she dared not look back, even for a second.



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Lucy ran to the top of the hill. The acacia trees beyond the grassy plain seemed within reach. An earth-shattering roar from behind told her there was no time to rest her aching legs. With a yell, she ran as fast as she could.

The panting and the thunderous running grew closer. Then Lucy heard another sound.



An earth-shattering *roar* from behind told her there was no time to



From the trees came a chorus of yelling and screaming. Lucy's eyes turned towards the sound – and she saw the rest of her family group, urging her on.

There was another roar and Lucy could almost smell the rotting flesh on the breath of the giant hyena close behind her.



rest her aching legs. *WITH A YELL*, she ran as fast as she could.



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