

The New Zealand
Curriculum

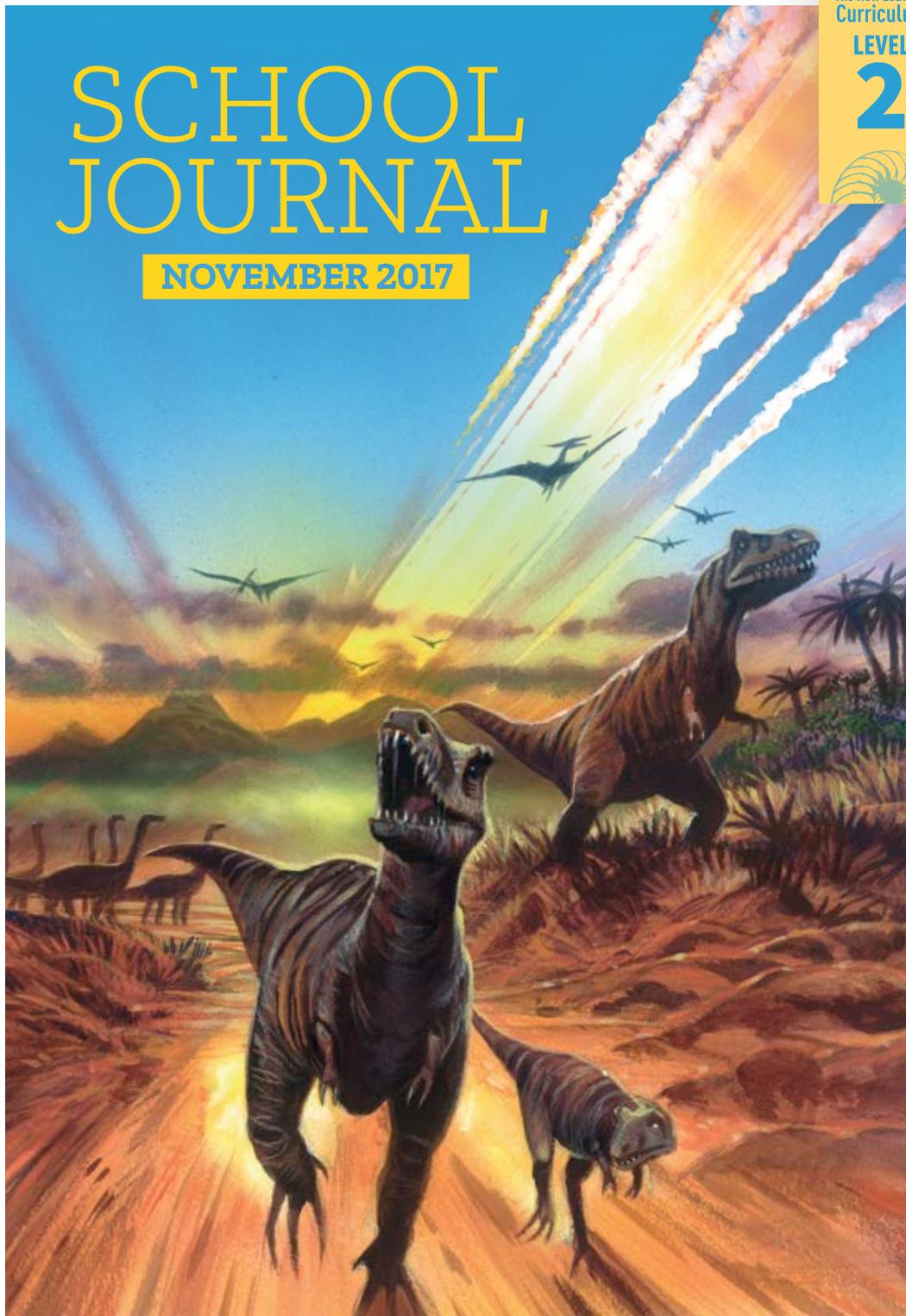
LEVEL

2



SCHOOL JOURNAL

NOVEMBER 2017



TITLE	READING YEAR LEVEL
Celebrating Puanga at Ramanui	4
New Zealand Dinosaurs	4
The Show Went On	4
Finders, Keepers	4

This Journal supports learning across the New Zealand Curriculum at level 2. It supports literacy learning by providing opportunities for students to develop the knowledge and skills they need to meet the reading demands of the curriculum at this level. Each text has been carefully levelled in relation to these demands; its reading year level is indicated above.

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Celebrating Puanga at Ramanui

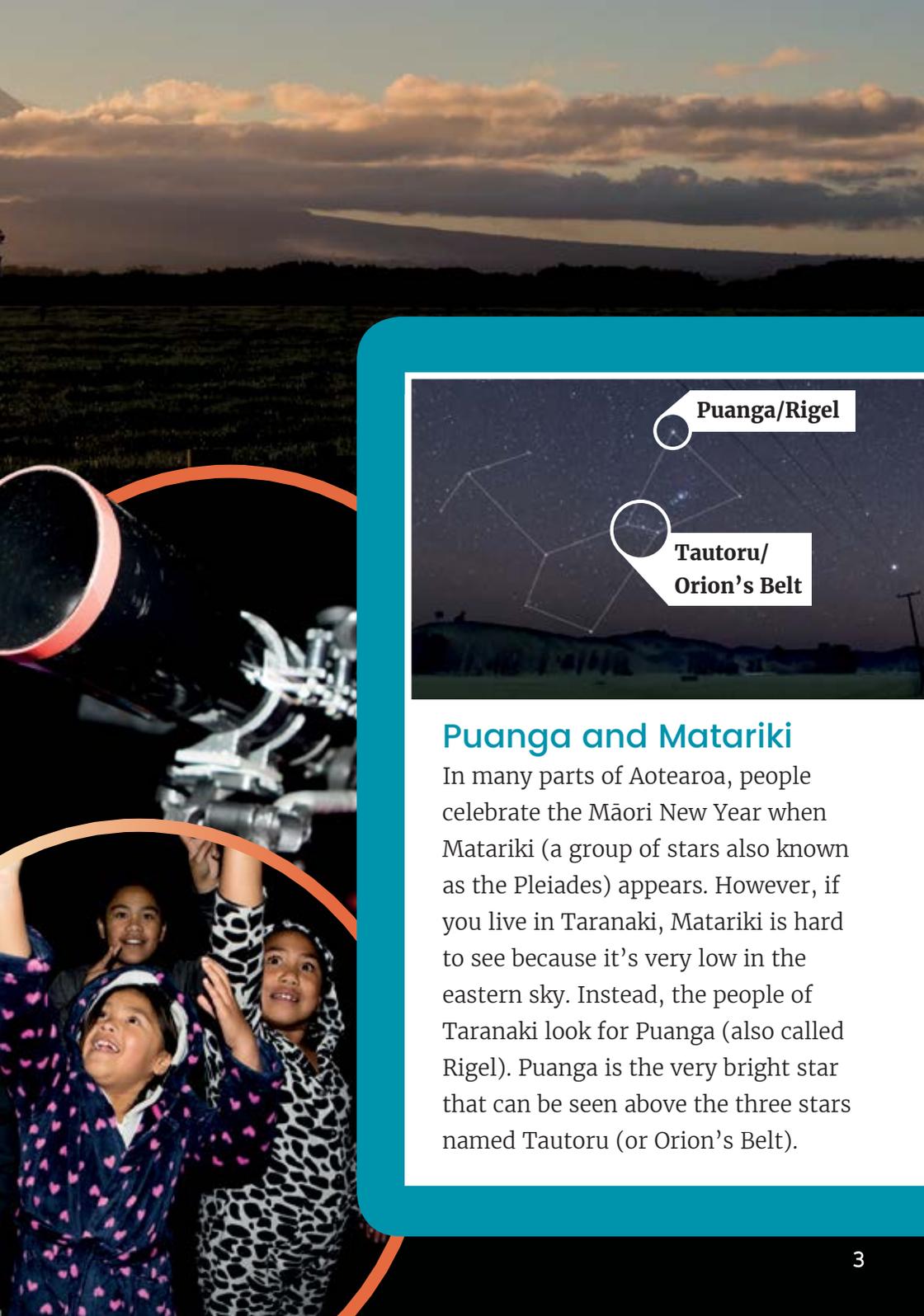
by Maakere Edwards
and Kiwa Hammond



Near the maunga (mountain) of Taranaki, a small school is celebrating a very special event. Every year, Ramanui School in Hāwera honours the arrival of the star Puanga. When Puanga appears in the eastern sky just before dawn, it marks the start of the Māori New Year in Taranaki.

Hāwera





Puanga/Rigel

**Tautoru/
Orion's Belt**

Puanga and Matariki

In many parts of Aotearoa, people celebrate the Māori New Year when Matariki (a group of stars also known as the Pleiades) appears. However, if you live in Taranaki, Matariki is hard to see because it's very low in the eastern sky. Instead, the people of Taranaki look for Puanga (also called Rigel). Puanga is the very bright star that can be seen above the three stars named Tautoru (or Orion's Belt).



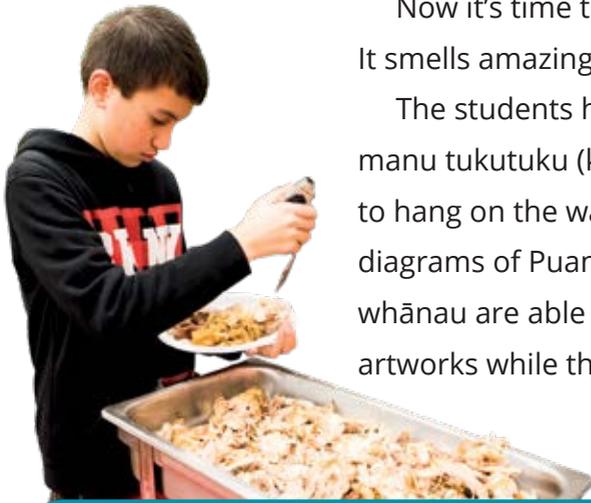
This year, the students have invited friends and whānau to join them for a hākari (feast). Earlier in the day, a hāngī was put down. Everyone had a job. It's the first time the school has had a big hāngī for Puanga. Koro Bill is the "hāngī master" – he knows how to make a really good hāngī.



The evening starts with a mihi (speech) and karakia (chant) led by Matua Louie. He greets the whānau of Ramanui School and takes time to remember those who have passed on. Farewelling the ancestors and welcoming the living are important parts of celebrating Puanga.

Next, it's kapa haka in the school hall. All the students are in the kapa haka. It's a great performance – whānau and teachers start singing along, too. Everyone is buzzing!





Now it's time to eat the food from the hāngī.
It smells amazing and tastes even better!

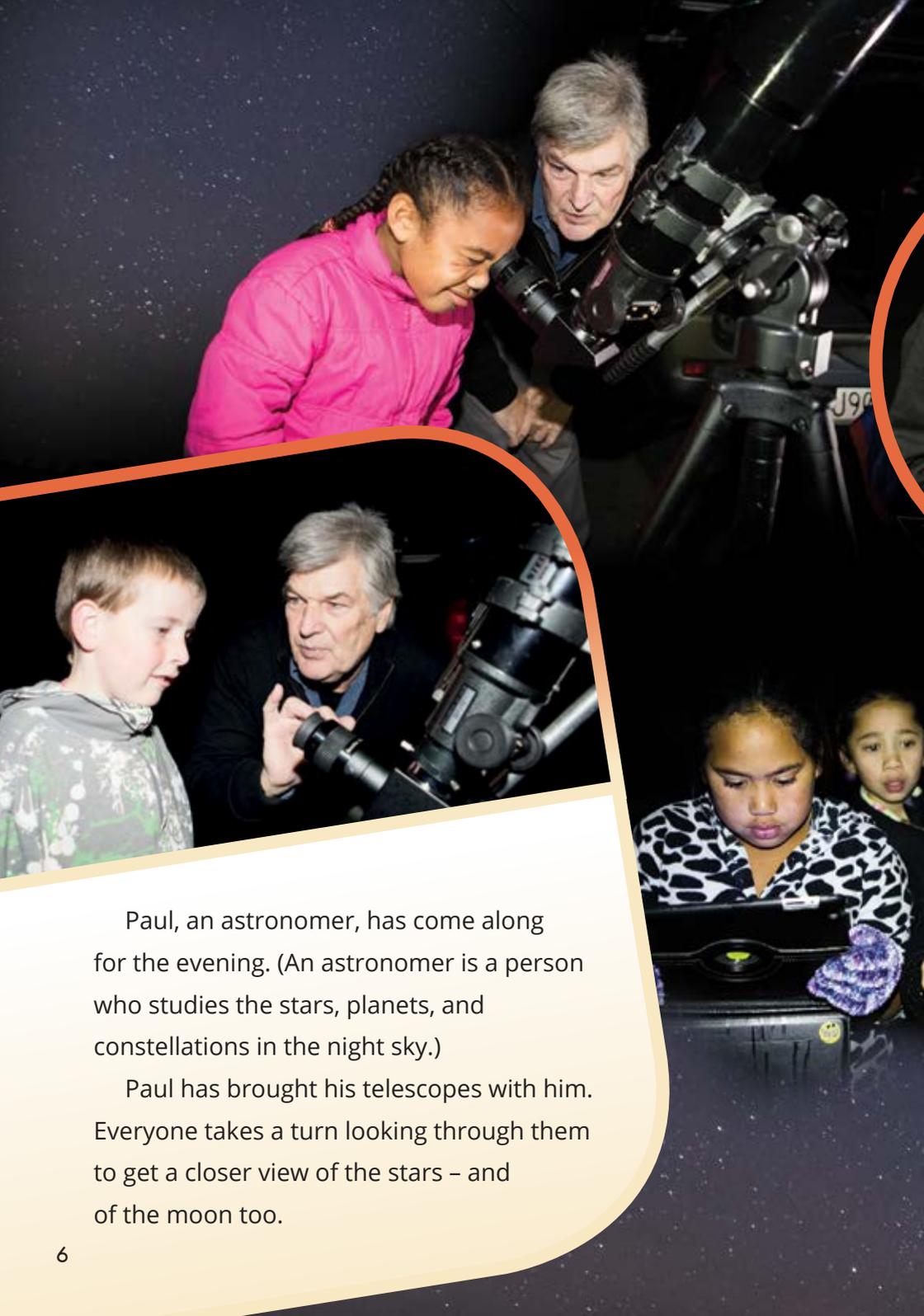
The students have made Puanga stars, manu tukutuku (kites), and rama (lanterns) to hang on the walls of the hall. There are diagrams of Puanga and Matariki too. All the whānau are able to have a good look at the artworks while they eat. Tau kē!

Puanga Kai Rau

The celebration for Māori New Year is often called “Puanga Kai Rau”. Kai rau means “lots of food”. At this time of the year, the ancestors’ crops had been harvested, so the pātaka (storehouses) were full.

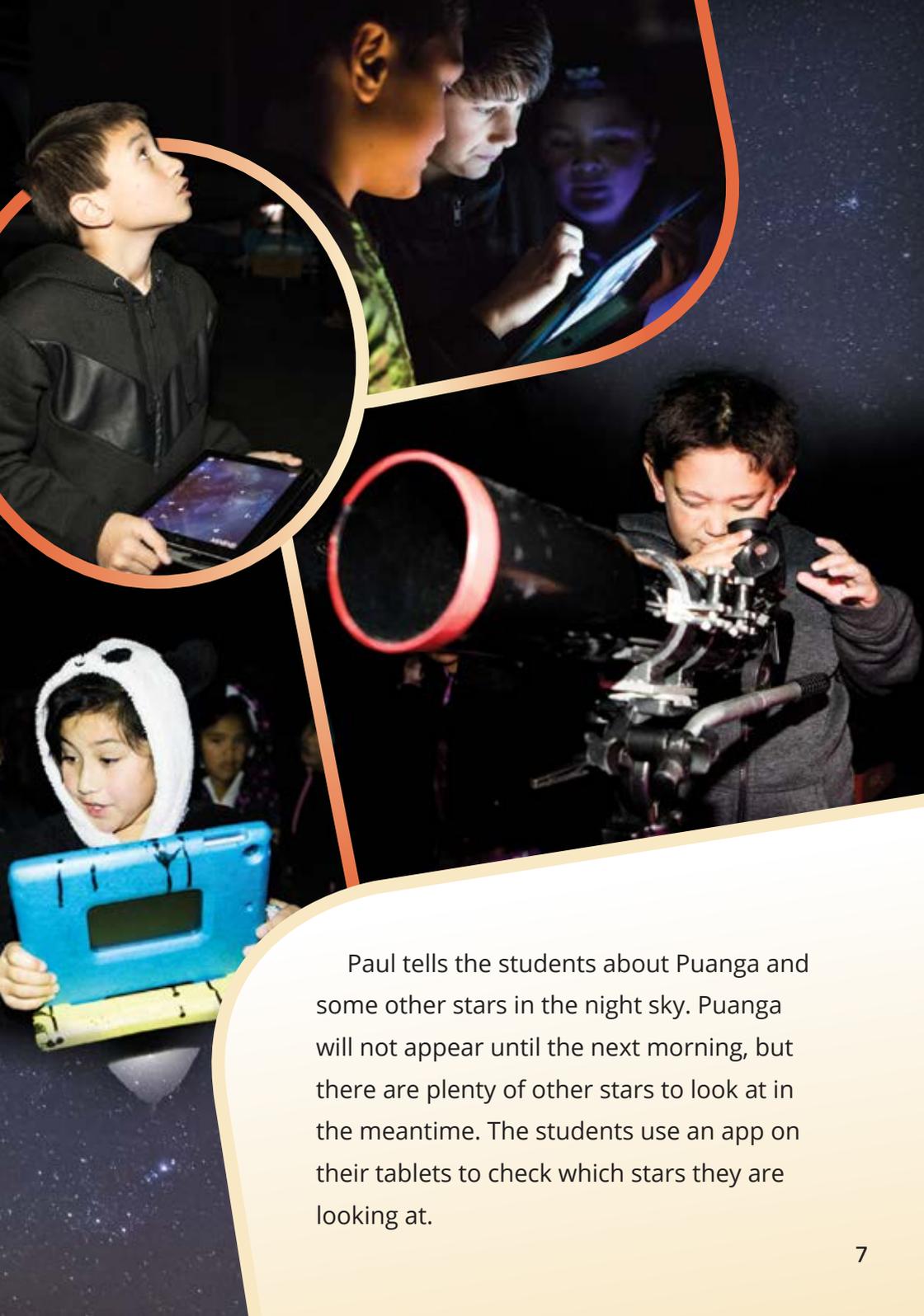
Puanga is also a time for new beginnings and making plans. It was the time when the ancestors got their gardens ready for planting. At Ramanui, new raised gardens are being made so that the students can grow lots of vegetables. Kōwhai trees and koromiko are also ready to plant around the school.





Paul, an astronomer, has come along for the evening. (An astronomer is a person who studies the stars, planets, and constellations in the night sky.)

Paul has brought his telescopes with him. Everyone takes a turn looking through them to get a closer view of the stars – and of the moon too.



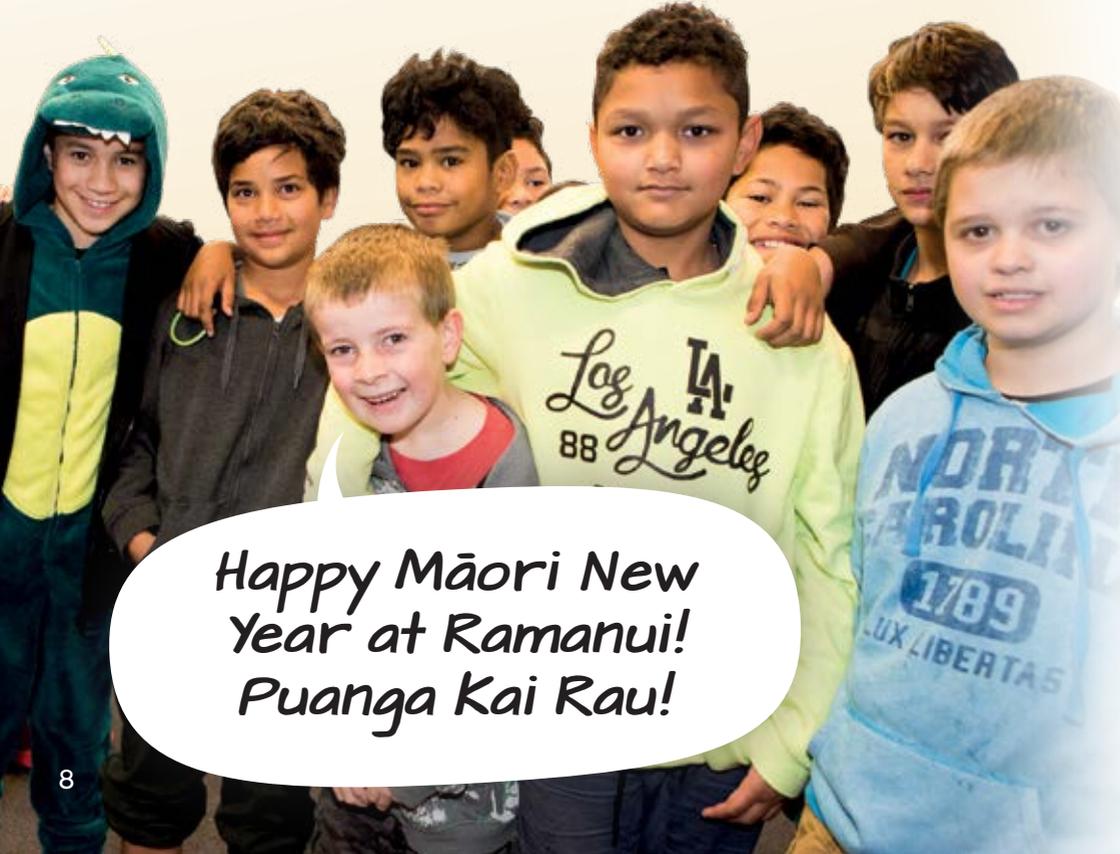
Paul tells the students about Puanga and some other stars in the night sky. Puanga will not appear until the next morning, but there are plenty of other stars to look at in the meantime. The students use an app on their tablets to check which stars they are looking at.

That night, the students sleep over at school. For some, it's the first night they've spent away from whānau. Everyone has brought their sleeping bags and blankets. They sleep on mattresses on the floor – just like staying on a marae.



It's just like staying on a marae.

Next morning, some kids are wide awake before dawn, ready to search the sky for Puanga. Unfortunately, they can't see it because the sky is too cloudy. Never mind. Māori New Year isn't just for one night – it's celebrated over a whole month. There will be plenty more opportunities to look for Puanga.



*Happy Māori New Year at Ramanui!
Puanga Kai Rau!*



RAMANUI SCHOOL 1953



History in a Capsule

As part of the Puanga celebrations, Ramanui School has been preparing a time capsule. It contains pictures of the school, the students, and their whānau. The students have written about their dreams for the future, and those have gone into the capsule, too. It will be opened in 2053 when the school celebrates its one hundredth birthday. By then, most of the students will be in their forties. That's older than some of their parents now!

THE SHOW WENT ON



by **Bernard Beckett**

The children of Room 7 stood in line and tried to stay quiet. Their teacher, Mr Appleton, waited at the front with his finger to his lips. Next door, in the school hall, they could hear the audience laughing. Seth knew why. They were laughing because Rex and Anthea, dressed as a taniwha, were rolling on their backs with their legs in the air while Chen tickled their taniwha tummy with a broom. During dress rehearsal, the taniwha had accidentally rolled back into the lake. (The lake was actually a paddling pool filled with water.) It had taken three days – and ten hairdryers – to get the costume dry.

Very soon, Seth and his classmates would rush into the scene. They were dressed as farm animals. The taniwha would chase them, and then they would all do the farmyard dance. They had been practising this for the last six weeks. Mr Appleton had reminded them that, tonight, they must be perfect.



In front of Seth, Helen the rooster stepped from one foot to the other. Last year, she had been so nervous she had vomited before the show. Behind Seth, Talia and George were dressed as a horse. Talia was the front end. George was bent down behind her, a long tail sticking out at the rear.

Josh was at the very back of the line. Josh found it difficult to be still and quiet. He was dressed as a frog because he was very good at jumping. Seth could hear Josh humming to himself, the way he did when he wanted to say something but wasn't allowed.

Mr Appleton looked to the back of the line. "Quiet, Josh," he whispered.

"But –"

"No, Josh, quiet!" Mr Appleton's voice rose dangerously. Josh didn't notice.

"But it's George and Talia, Mr A."

"Not now, Josh!"



Josh hummed louder. Seth could feel the children around him begin to worry. Seth wasn't worried. He was dressed as a cat. Cats never worry.

"They're standing way too close to the heater, Mr A!" Josh blurted.

"You just worry about yourself, Josh," Mr Appleton replied.

Seth turned round. Now he could see what Josh was trying to say. So could the rest of the children.

"Excuse me, Mr A," Seth said. "I think George's tail might be on fire!"

The end of George's tail was beginning to smoulder.

"What!" Mr Appleton gasped. He ran to the fire extinguisher, but it wasn't in its usual place. During show week, a lot of things got moved. "I'll be back in a moment," he called as he ran off in search of another one.



Smoke was now billowing from the end of the horse's tail. It looked like a firework that was about to explode. Helen the rooster screamed. Max the sheepdog began to laugh. The horse broke in two. The head ran into a wall and fell over. The back end ran round in circles, patting its bottom.

Melanie the duck, who went to ballet lessons every Tuesday and Thursday and had a solo during the farmyard dance, said, "It doesn't matter. Everybody get back in line." But nobody listened.

Constance the pig began to cry.

Stefanie, the tallest child in the class, whose father had once rowed at the Olympics, took control. She ran to George and lifted him over her shoulder, burning tail and all. Seth could see exactly what she had in mind.

"Quick," Seth called to the others. "We have to clear the way!"

So, even though there was still another thirty seconds before their entry, the farmyard animals followed the cat onto the stage. The cat meowed, the dog barked, the duck quacked, and the surprised taniwha jumped out of the way. The crowd cheered.





The cheering turned to laughter when an oversized chicken came bursting through the gap, carrying half a horse over her back. Stefanie dumped George, and the horse's bottom, into the pool. There was a mighty splash. Water sprayed over the school band. The trumpeter gave a surprised honk. The audience roared. Josh, who always had trouble containing his excitement, rushed forward and leapfrogged right over the pool, horse's smouldering bottom and all.

George stood slowly. Water dripped from the stump where his tail had been. Now there was silence. The audience waited to see what would happen next. George waited, too. So did the band. So did the farm animals. So did the taniwha. Everybody waited. Seth felt butterflies in his stomach. If something didn't happen soon, the show would be ruined.



Then Josh gave a long croak. Max looked up at him and barked. Josh hopped, and Max ran after him, exactly the way they had practised. Seth guided Talia across the stage to the dripping George and helped them put the horse back together. Rex and Anthea the taniwha chased Max the dog and Chen the farmer, just like they had in the rehearsals. The bandleader began the farmyard song.

Seth found his place on the end of the row. He kicked and turned and clapped in time. The audience clapped and sang along. The show went on.

illustrations by Rachel Smythe

NEW ZEALAND DINOSAURS

— by Hamish Campbell —

Dinosaurs – these huge animals ruled the world for more than 150 million years. But for a long time, scientists thought that no dinosaurs had ever lived in New Zealand. Then, in 1975, something happened to change their minds.



What were dinosaurs?

Dinosaurs were **reptiles** that lived many millions of years ago (long before humans lived on Earth). Many dinosaurs were enormous.

The name “dinosaur” means “terrible lizard”, but dinosaurs were not really lizards. Dinosaurs had legs beneath their bodies. Lizards’ legs are on the sides of their bodies. Also, a dinosaur’s skull has a big hole behind each eye for its jaw muscles to go through. Lizards’ skulls don’t have these holes.

Dinosaur

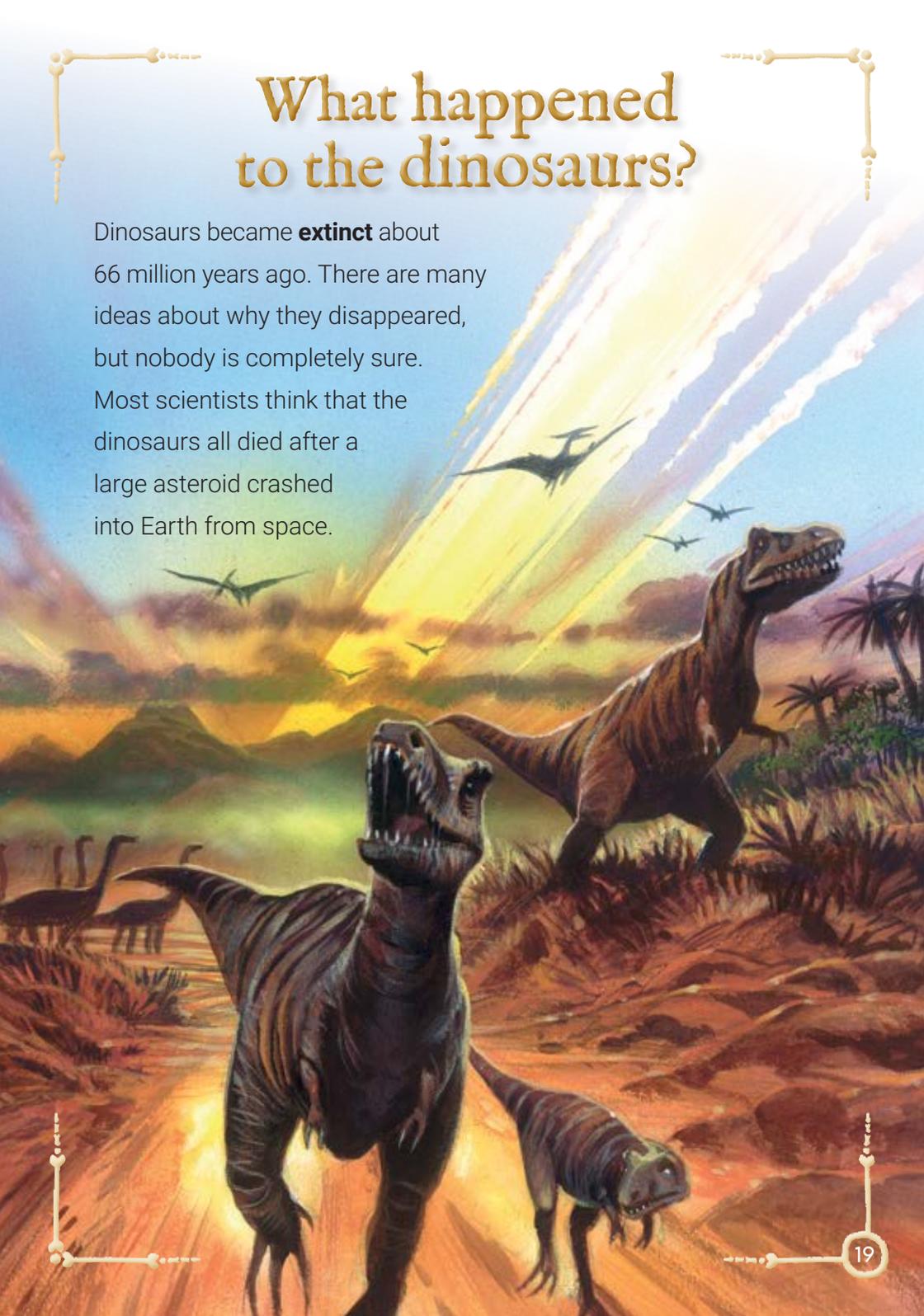


Lizard



What happened to the dinosaurs?

Dinosaurs became **extinct** about 66 million years ago. There are many ideas about why they disappeared, but nobody is completely sure. Most scientists think that the dinosaurs all died after a large asteroid crashed into Earth from space.



Did New Zealand have dinosaurs?

When people first arrived in Aotearoa, the only animals they found were bats and seals – and lots of birds. For a long time, people thought that no dinosaurs had ever lived here. They thought birds had always ruled the land.

Then, in 1975, Joan Wiffen found the first dinosaur **fossil** in New Zealand – a small piece of a dinosaur’s tailbone. She found it in rock in the Mangahouanga Stream in central Hawke’s Bay. This stream is very famous now. Joan and her family and friends found several more fossil dinosaur bones there as well.

Since then, other people have found dinosaur fossils near Port

Waikato and on the Chatham Islands.

Fossil footprints, probably from dinosaurs, have also been discovered in Nelson. No fossil bones have been found there yet – but perhaps they will be one day!

(The map on page 24 shows where dinosaur fossils have been found.)

Joan Wiffen



Mangahouanga Stream



What kinds of dinosaur fossils have been found in New Zealand?

So far, less than twenty fossil bones have been found in New Zealand. None of these bones are complete. They are parts of backbones and tailbones, rib bones, and bones from the forepaws and feet. No skeletons, skulls, or teeth have ever been found.

Luckily, these fossil bones all have special features, so scientists can work out what kind of dinosaur each bone belongs to.



Some of the dinosaur fossils that have been found in New Zealand

50 mm

What are the names of the New Zealand dinosaurs?

There are four main groups of dinosaurs – theropods, sauropods, thyreophorids, and cerapods. Each group is made up of many kinds of dinosaurs. Scientists know that the fossils found in New Zealand come from at least seven different kinds of dinosaur. They can work out what group each fossil came from, but they can't always tell exactly what kind of dinosaur it was. Here's what they know so far:

GROUP**KIND OF DINOSAUR**

Theropods

At least three kinds, including a dromaeosaurid



Sauropods

At least two kinds, including a titanosaurid



GROUP

KIND OF DINOSAUR

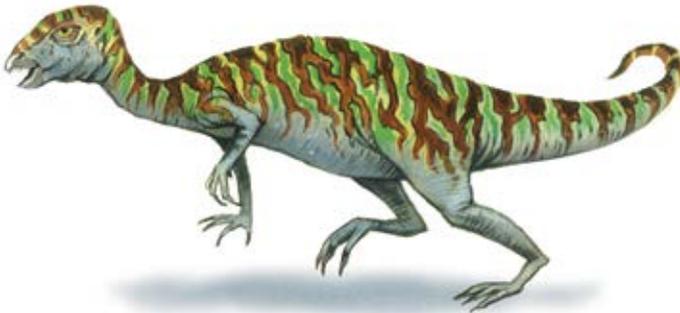
Thyreophorids

An ankylosaur



Cerapods

A possible hypsilophodont ornithopod



Where are the bones kept?

The Port Waikato fossil is kept in the fossil collections of the University of Auckland. Most of the other fossils are kept in the National Paleontological Collections at GNS Science in Lower Hutt. The first dinosaur fossil that Joan Wiffen found is on display at Te Papa in Wellington (on loan from GNS Science).

Evidence of dinosaurs in New Zealand

Where? South of Port Waikato (in cliffs along the coast)

What? A single, very small finger bone of a theropod dinosaur

How old? About 150 million years

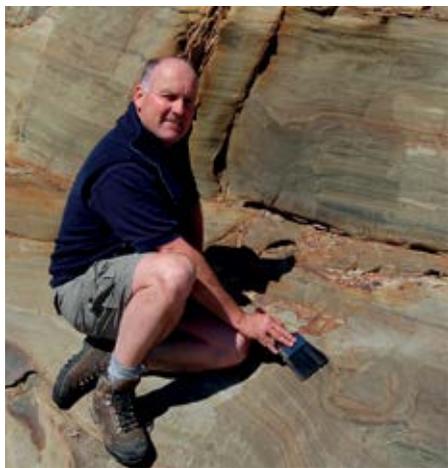
Found by Brendan Hayes

Where? Northwest Nelson

What? Dinosaur footprints

How old? About 70 million years

Found by Dr Greg Browne

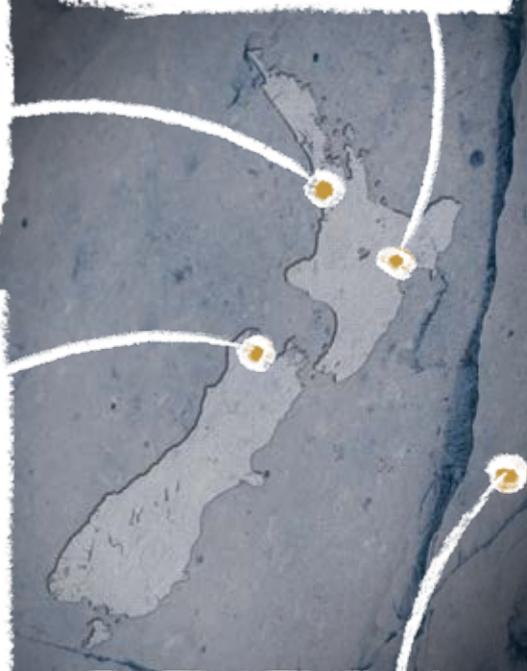


Where? Mangahouanga Stream, inland Hawke's Bay

What? At least six different kinds of dinosaur bones

How old? 70–80 million years

Found by Joan Wiffen and her family and friends



Where? Tioriori, Chatham Islands

What? Several dinosaur bones (theropod and sauropod)

How old? 66–145 million years

Found by Dr Jeffrey Stilwell

Are birds dinosaurs?



When dinosaurs were living, there were also several kinds of large reptiles in the oceans and other reptiles that flew, but these animals are not classed as dinosaurs. Dinosaurs mostly lived on land. But one group of dinosaurs did something special – they developed feathers and the ability to fly.

Today most scientists believe that those flying dinosaurs are still with us. But instead of calling them dinosaurs, we call them birds. This idea was first put forward in the 1970s. Like that special group of dinosaurs, birds have feathers. Bird skulls are also very like dinosaur skulls, and birds have legs beneath their bodies, too.

If birds are dinosaurs, you could say that New Zealand has always been a land ruled by dinosaurs!

Glossary

extinct: no longer living

fossil: the remains of a plant or an animal preserved in rock

reptile: a type of animal that is cold-blooded and has scales (such as snakes, lizards, turtles, and alligators)

Finders, Keepers

◆◆◆◆◆ by SARAH JOHNSON ◆◆◆◆◆



Joe found the dinosaur egg in the washing basket in the laundry. He knew straightaway that the egg belonged to a dinosaur. It was too big to belong to a chicken and not round enough for a soccer ball. “I wonder if I need to keep it warm?” he said to himself.

Joe put the egg in Molly’s basket in the kitchen and balanced the cat on top of it. Molly protested at first, but once she got the hang of it, she was happy enough. Joe brought her a regular supply of cat biscuits, and when he checked the egg, it was nice and warm.

“Good,” said Joe, “I wonder what type of egg it is?”

Joe went to the library and got out a book called *Dinosaurs of New Zealand*. The book had lots of pictures of dinosaur eggs, but none of them looked like his egg.

“I’ll have to wait until it hatches,” he said.

In the morning, Joe’s sister, Leigh, was in the kitchen baking chocolate fudge cupcakes. The kitchen was covered in flour, cocoa, and icing sugar.



“What’s that in Molly’s basket?” asked Leigh.

“It’s a dinosaur egg,” said Joe.

“No, it’s not,” said Leigh. “You don’t know anything. There weren’t any dinosaurs in New Zealand.”

“Yes, there were,” said Joe. He showed her the *Dinosaurs of New Zealand* book. “I found the egg in the washing basket,” he said.

“There’s never been a dinosaur in our laundry,” said Leigh.



Later that day, while Joe was checking the egg, a dinosaur appeared. Joe smelt its breath before he saw it, and when he turned round, there it was. The dinosaur looked a bit like a *Tyrannosaurus rex*, only smaller.

“Hey,” said the dinosaur. “That’s my egg!”

Joe took the egg out of the basket and gave it to the dinosaur. The dinosaur had little stubby arms, so Joe placed the egg between its feet.

“It’s very warm,” said the dinosaur.

“The cat was sitting on it,” said Joe.

“Was it now,” said the dinosaur, glaring at Molly with its small red eyes. “I should eat that cat.”

“It was my idea,” said Joe.

“Then I should eat you,” said the dinosaur.

“I’d rather you didn’t,” said Joe. “But if you’re hungry, you could have one of my sister’s cupcakes. They’re chocolate fudge.”



The dinosaur ate a cupcake. “Hmm,” it said. “Needs a pinch of salt.”

Joe pointed at the egg. “What type of dinosaur is it?” he asked.

“I don’t know,” said the dinosaur. “I found it.”

“I thought you said it was your egg,” said Joe.

“It is,” said the dinosaur. “I found it, and you know what they say – finders, keepers. But then I lost it. I put it down for a moment, and I forgot where I put it.”

Joe looked at the egg. He’d found it, too, after the dinosaur had lost it, so didn’t that make the egg his? Finders, keepers. Then he looked at the dinosaur’s sharp teeth, glistening with chocolate. He decided not to argue.

“I’m waiting until it hatches to see what it is,” the dinosaur said.

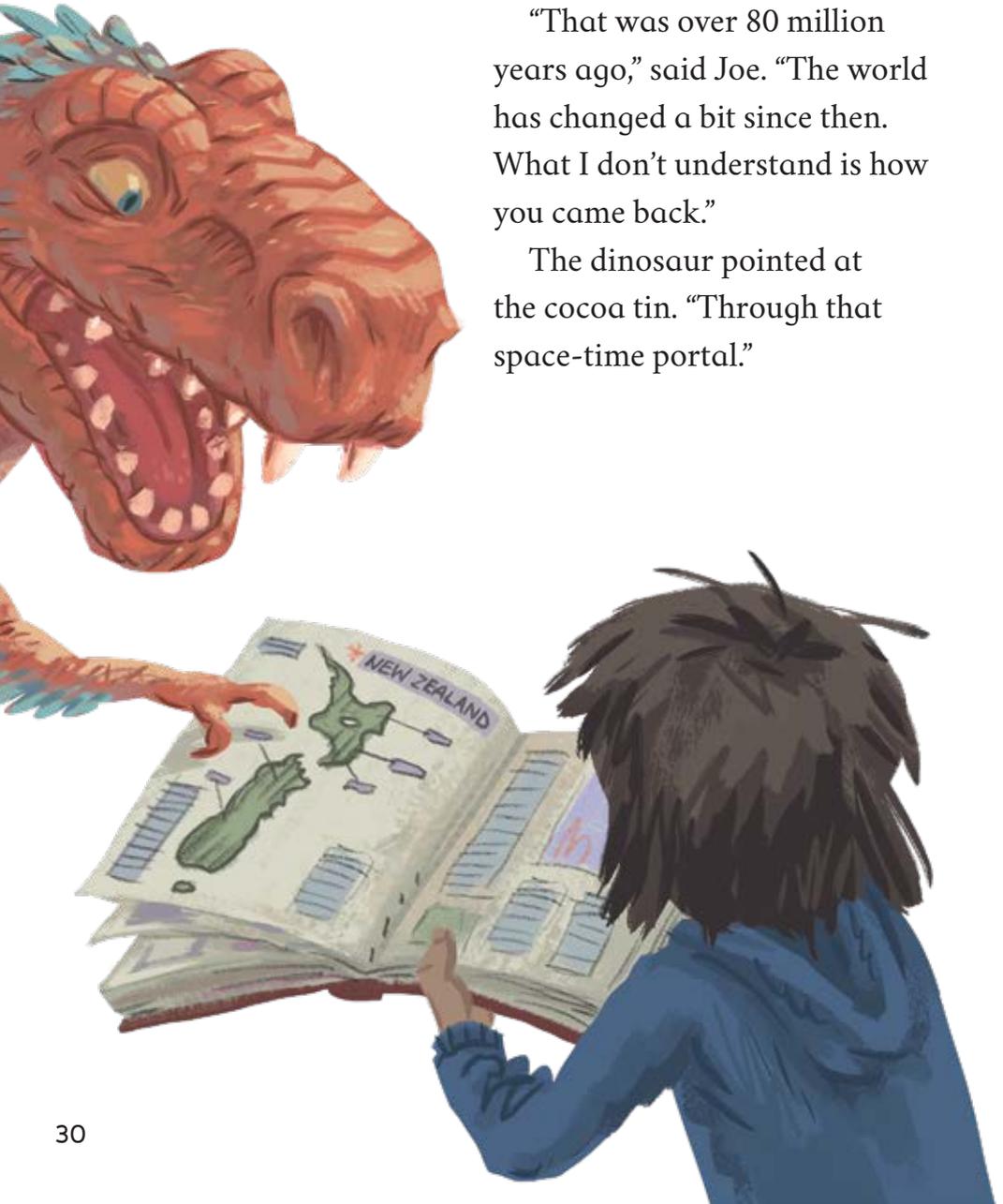


“That’s what I was doing, too,” said Joe. He showed the dinosaur the book.

“Is that where we are?” asked the dinosaur. “New Zealand? It was called Gondwana when I lived here.”

“That was over 80 million years ago,” said Joe. “The world has changed a bit since then. What I don’t understand is how you came back.”

The dinosaur pointed at the cocoa tin. “Through that space-time portal.”



Joe peered into the cocoa tin. Leigh had left it on the bench with the lid off. Inside, the cocoa was arranged in dark, chocolatey swirls. “Really?” he said. “You’d never know it was a portal.”

“That’s the problem with space-time portals,” said the dinosaur. “You never do know where they’ll turn up. Last time, the portal was in a whirlpool in a box that went round and round.”

“That would be the washing machine,” said Joe.

The dinosaur picked up the egg. “Anyway, I’d better go,” it said. “As they say, ‘time waits for no dinosaur’. Is there anything I can do to thank you for looking after my egg?”

“I wouldn’t mind seeing the baby,” said Joe. “When it hatches.”

“I’ll bring it back,” the dinosaur said.

It stuck one stumpy arm inside the cocoa tin, then turned back to Joe. “Do you think I could borrow that book for a while? It might come in useful.”



Joe handed the dinosaur the *Dinosaurs of New Zealand* book. It would be worth paying the library fine, he thought, if it meant he got to see the dinosaur again.

The dinosaur nodded – then it was gone.

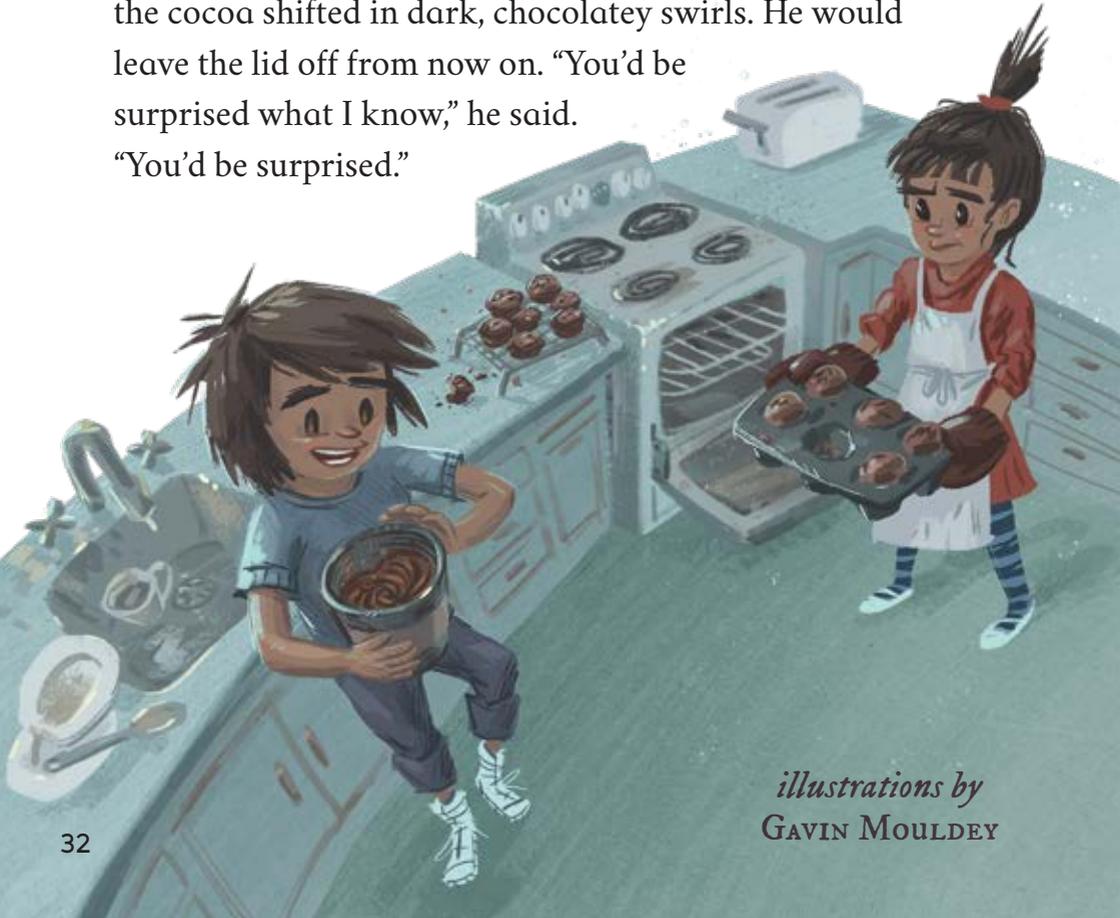


In the morning, Leigh was baking again. When Joe entered the kitchen, she was taking the latest batch of chocolate fudge cupcakes out of the oven. Joe took one, blew hard, and had a bite. “Needs a pinch of salt,” he said.

“Salt!” said Leigh. “You don’t know anything.”

Joe smiled and tapped the rim of the cocoa tin. Inside, the cocoa shifted in dark, chocolatey swirls. He would leave the lid off from now on. “You’d be surprised what I know,” he said.

“You’d be surprised.”



illustrations by
GAVIN MOULDEY

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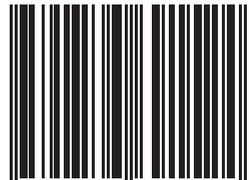
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