THE STORY OF PLANET EARTH'S EVOLUTION, FROM 4.5 BILLION YEARS AGO TO TODAY

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GRADE

K – 5

READING LEVEL

Fountas & Pinnell : Q
Lexile measure : 530L

CURRICULUM LINKS

Language Arts:
Reading Comprehension
Science: Biology; Evolution
History / Prehistoric
Science & Nature / Environmental Conservation & Protection
Science & Nature / Biology

WHEN PLANET EARTH WAS NEW

WRITTEN BY JAMES GLADSTONE & ILLUSTRATED BY KATHERINE DIEMERT

BEFORE READING, ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

1. How old do you think planet Earth is?

2. What do you think were the earliest living creatures to exist on planet Earth?

3. Why is it important to learn about how planet Earth came to be what it is today?

AFTER READING, ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

1. What surprised you most about planet Earth's history?

2. Why do you think life evolved first on water, and then on land?

3. How do the colors of the artwork in the book help to tell the story?

4. Planet Earth is more than 4.5 billion years old! It's hard to imagine such a big number. Explore what 4.5 billion means. If you had 4.5 billion students in the class, how much room would they take up? What geographical area can you compare that to?

5. What is next in the history of planet Earth, and what role do humans have in it?

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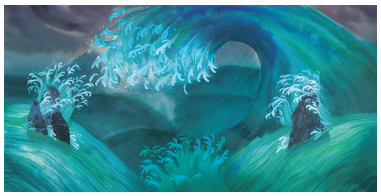
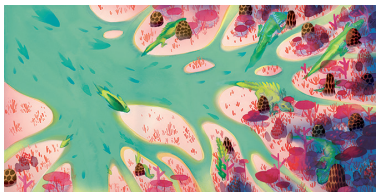
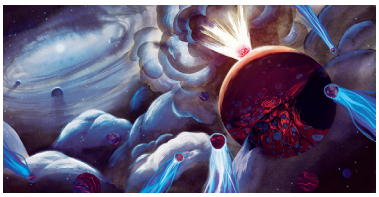
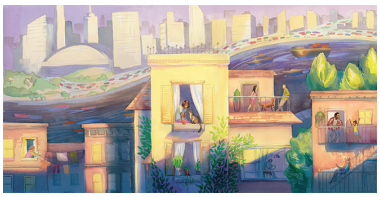
ACTIVITY SHEET

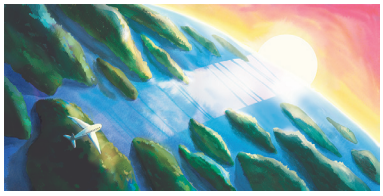
WHAT HAPPENED WHEN? LABEL EACH IMAGE BELOW WITH A NUMBER FROM 1 TO 15 TO PUT EACH MOMENT IN HISTORY IN THE CORRECT ORDER.

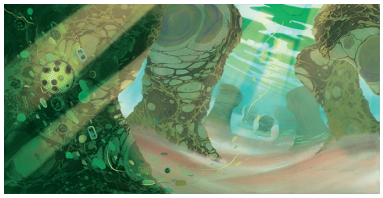












Answer key (from left to right): 4, 11, 6, 8, 1, 14, 2, 9, 13, 15, 10, 3, 7, 12, 5

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