



# TEACHERS' RESOURCES

## RECOMMENDED FOR

Upper Primary – lower secondary  
Ages 9+

## CONTENTS

1. Plot summary
2. About the author
3. Author's inspiration
4. Writing style
5. Pre-reading questions
6. Key study topics
7. Extension Activities
8. Further reading

## KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- **Learning areas:** English, Humanities and Social Sciences (7–10 History: The Ancient World)
- **General capabilities:** Literacy, Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, Ethical Understanding

## REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

- Investigate historical, geographic, civic and economic concepts and ideas
- Develop critical and creative thinking

## THEMES

- Ancient History (Paleolithic Age)
- Relationships
- Society
- Personal and social ethics
- Language
- Exploration and European historical identity

## PREPARED BY

Penguin Random House Australia

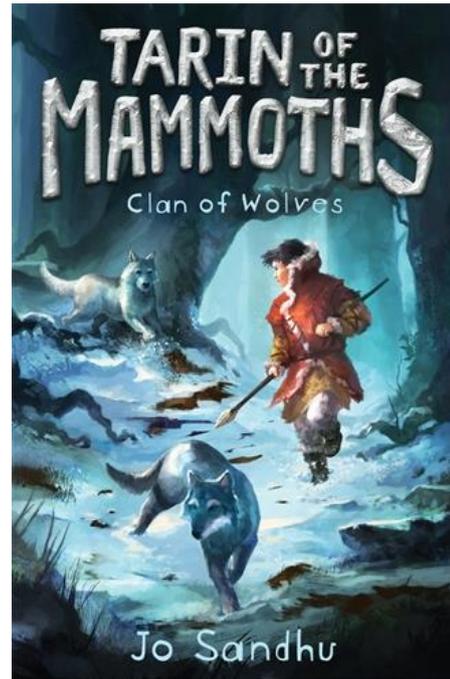
## PUBLICATION DETAILS

ISBN: 9780143309383 (paperback)  
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## Tarin of the Mammoths Book 2: Clan of Wolves Jo Sandhu

### PLOT SUMMARY

For fans of Michelle Paver's *Chronicles of Ancient Darkness* and the *Spirit Animals* series comes the second book in this exciting new Stone Age series, perfect for middle readers.

Badly injured and lost while fleeing the Boar Clan, Tarin, Luuka and Kaija take refuge with the peaceful Esi tribe during the harsh Winter. As Kaija slowly recovers, Tarin's greatest wish is realised when he and Luuka join an Esi bison hunt. But with the arrival of Spring, Tarin must decide whether to continue his dangerous journey – even though his Offering is fast dwindling.

The second book in the exciting new Stone Age adventure series.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Growing up, Jo was sure she was going to be a Shakespearean actress or a pianist, and gained her Associate Diploma in Speech and Drama. However, on leaving school she spent a year in Finland as a Rotary Exchange Student before returning to Australia and working in banking and HR.

These days she is a writer, a personal carer, and volunteers at her sons' sporting clubs. Her short stories have been highly commended in numerous competitions, including the FAW Mary Grant Bruce Award for Children's Literature, and the CYA Later Alligator Competition (Brisbane) in both the Children's and YA sections. She is a member of Queensland Writers Centre and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

Jo currently lives in the Tweed Valley in Northern NSW with her family and enjoys cooking, travelling and reading.

## AUTHOR'S INSPIRATION

Jo says:

I've always been passionately interested in Ancient History. One of the very first stories I ever wrote was in my Year 7 History Class. It was a time-slip story of a modern girl (me) who wakes up in Neanderthal times, and I wrote it on pretty yellow paper. I think I got an 'A' for it. Many years later, I was reading adult novels such as William Golding's *The Inheritors* and Jean Auel's *Earth's Children* series, and I thought I'd like to write a story I could share with my own children.

I was sure about three things:

1. It would be a Quest story, with an unlikely hero.
2. It would have mammoths and wolves and Neanderthals in it.
3. It would be set in the Palaeolithic age, approximately 30 000 years ago, in Northern European, close to the ice shelf that covered Scandinavia in the last stages of the Ice Age.

I spent a year as an Exchange Student in Rovaniemi, Lapland in Northern Finland, and it is my experiences with the forests and snow and the long winter that I used to create Tarin's world. The idea of a boy with a twisted leg came to me one day when I was brainstorming Tarin's character. I've always liked the idea of an unlikely hero and I wanted him to have hidden strengths and talents that even he was unaware of. Kaija was always the feisty one in my mind, but I wanted her to fear and worry and make mistakes too, because that's what we all do, isn't it?

The history I've used to create Tarin's world is as authentic as possible, always remembering Tarin of the Mammoths is a work of fiction. Approximately 30,000 years ago, people lived in earth lodges made of mammoth bones and animal hides in places such as Mezhirich in Ukraine and Kostenki in Russia. Neanderthal tools have been found as far north as Byzovaya in Northern Russia. And 30 000 years ago, mammoths, bison and aurochs roamed the steppes and cave lions and cave bears were larger than their modern day equivalents.

I hope you enjoy following Tarin on his journey, in this world of so long ago.

## PRE-READING QUESTIONS

1. Prepare students for their journey to this primitive age by discussing their earliest memories or the earliest events in history they know about. Put these on a timeline and introduce the idea of just how long ago the Stone Age was. Is it a period that students have heard of?
2. Get students to think about what life was like back then. What did early humans look like, what did they wear and how did they communicate?
3. Research the Stone Age, including when it was and why it is split into three different parts (Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic).

## WRITING STYLE

1. What is the novel's writing style? Consider the use of different narrative perspectives. How effectively does this contribute to the novel's storytelling?
2. What is another way this story could have been told? Compare and contrast to another book you have read.
3. What are the main themes of the novel and how does the use of history and culture contribute to the story?
4. Do you feel like the author integrates fact and fiction authentically without making it feel like it is non-fiction?
5. How does the third-person point-of-view affect what is revealed to the reader? What does Tarin/Kaija know or not know? How might the story have been different if only Tarin's perspective had been used? Choose an incident in the story and write it in first-person from Tarin's perspective.
6. How authentic is the life and culture of the Esi depicted in the book.



7. What did you think of the novel's ending? How would you have ended this story?
8. Read the note about the Esi at the end of the book. What are the main types of evidence that a historian might look up? Where in the story can you see that the author has researched using the methods and evidence he mentions?
9. Use the resources at the end of the book and the author's website <http://www.josandhu.com/research.html> to look up more interesting information about this period of history and about the Esi. Include information from one website, one online newspaper and one book.

## KEY STUDY TOPICS

1. What did the Esi eat? How did they hunt for food? How did the male/female roles differ in the Esi compared to Tarin's clan? How does this compare to today's society? (Answer: Women were gatherers and men were hunters in Tarin's clan, but in the Esi women hunted beside the men and children and old people gathered.).
2. What did you learn about the Esi and about the Stone Age from this book.
3. The Stone Age is a time that pre-dates language and written records. Everything we know about the period has come from archaeology. How do the Esi communicate and record their stories? How do we know this? How does this differ to today?
4. What tools were used during the Stone Age?
5. How were they made and how were they used?
6. Ask groups to get together and re-tell an event that they have experienced or seen on the news through Stone Age communication (eg dance/wall art/verbal storytelling).
7. Working in groups, ask them to write down their ideas about the Stone Age diet. What are the main differences from what we eat today? If possible, ask your class to bring in some items for a Stone Age snack such as sunflower seeds, blackberries and hazelnuts.
8. See the Bibliography at the back of the novel and the author's website for more information about her research: <http://www.josandhu.com/research.html>
9. How has Esi language evolved? As a group, write up the list of Esi words and meanings on the whiteboard. Find some words in Esi that still exist today/have relevance today.

## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

1. Develop a pitch for a film company to convince them that this story would make a great film. Consider elements such as characters (humans, wolves, bears, and mammoths), landscape, historical setting, mystery, emotional pull etc.
  - o Make sure you suggest a cast and include your soundtrack.
2. Develop a 500 word monologue from any character's perspective in the book and present it to the class. Consider where the character is – in a cave, a forest, near a river, at a dancing ceremony? What do they want to talk about – are they upset, happy or angry?
  - o Make sure you focus on your expression of words, facial expressions and body language.

## FURTHER READING

### Books

- Cox, Phil Roxbee, and Struan Reid. *Who Were the First People?* London: Usborne, 2002.
- *Early People, London:* Dorling Kindersley, 2003.
- Hattingh, Garth. *The Outdoor Survival Manual.* London: New Holland, 2001.
- Lister, Adrian, and Paul G. Bahn. *Mammoths: Giants of the Ice Age.* London: Frances Lincoln, 2007.
- Fagan, Brian, ed. *The Complete Ice Age.* London: Thames and Hudson, 2009. Print.
- Jordan, Paul. *Neanderthal: Neanderthal Man and the Story of Human Origins.* Stroud, Gloucestershire: Sutton Pub., 1999.

### Websites

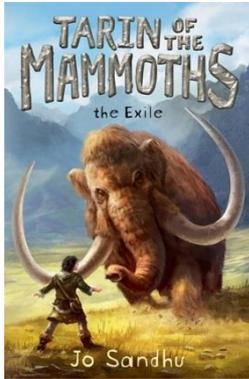
- <http://donsmaps.com> – Information on the Palaeolithic era
- <http://www.welcome-ural.ru> – An adventure travel expedition site: River rafting and visiting Palaeolithic sites and caves
- <http://www.encyclopediaofukraine.com> – Information on animals and landscapes
- <http://www.luontoportti.com/suomi> – Information on plants and animals in Finland
- <http://www.primitiveways.com> – Information on survival skills



- <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0502/feature4/index.html> – Information on Great Gray owls
- <http://www.mariatrebenherbs.com/> – Information on herbal remedies



FURTHER READING FROM PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA

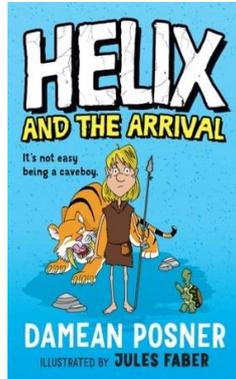


*Tarin of the Mammoths  
Book 1: The Exile*  
by Jo Sandhu

For fans of Michelle Paver's *Chronicles of Ancient Darkness* and the *Spirit Animals* series comes this exciting new *Stone Age* series, perfect for middle readers.

Tarin longs to be a hunter, but his twisted leg means he is feared and bullied. After a disastrous mishap, Tarin is forced to leave his family and travel alone across wild, unknown land to save the Mammoth Clan. Battling the hostile and savage Boar Clan, a deadly illness and treacherous terrain with twins Kaija and Luuka and their wolf cubs, Tarin realises that if they are all to survive he must conquer his greatest fear – his true self – and embrace the magic that is hiding within him.

*Teachers' resources available.*



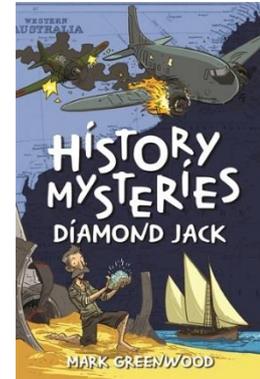
*Helix and the Arrival*  
by Damean Posner

What if a wimpy kid was born in the Stone Age?

Hi, I'm Helix. I'm twelve years old and the worst caveman-to-be that Rockfall has ever seen. I'm even less cavemanly than my lazy bonehead brother, whose hobby is grooming his nose hair.

It's almost time for my Arrival. I'll be expected to disappear into the woods and return with something big, dangerous or rare – preferably all three. My best friend Ug is preparing for his Arrival too. He has the strength of a hungry rhinovore so he will no doubt bring back something impressive. And our friend Saleeka would pass with flying colours, except girls aren't allowed to take the test – a rule that makes her angrier than a sabre-tooth.

But me? I can't even lift a club above my shoulder. Banishment to the Dark Side, here I come...



*History Mysteries:  
Diamond Jack*  
by Mark Greenwood

Delve into some of Australian history's most baffling mysteries!

In March 1942, an aircraft prepares for a desperate midnight escape, taking refugees to safety in Australia. Just before take-off, the pilot is entrusted with a mysterious, wax-sealed package. But when the plane is shot down by the enemy and crash lands on the Kimberley coast, the package is forgotten. Until someone stumbles across the find of a lifetime . . .



## ORDER FORM

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN	SCHOOL YEAR	RRP	QTY	TOTAL
Tarin of the Mammoths 2: Clan of Wolves	Jo Sandhu	9781760143152	5-8	\$16.99		
Tarin of the Mammoths: The Exile	Jo Sandhu	9780143309376	5-8	\$16.99		
Helix and the Arrival	Damean Posner	9780857986535	3-7	\$15.99		
History Mysteries: Diamond Jack	Mark Greenwood	9780143309260	3-7	\$12.99		
History Mysteries: Lasseter's Gold	Mark Greenwood	9780143309321	3-7	\$12.99		
History Mysteries: The Last Tiger	Mark Greenwood	9780143309253	3-7	\$12.99		
History Mysteries: The Lost Explorer	Mark Greenwood	9780143309277	3-7	\$12.99		
<b>TOTAL</b>						

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