

Stage 4 A2

Readers



Young

Classic

Jules Verne

Journey to the Centre of the Earth

Illustrated
by Gustavo
Mazali

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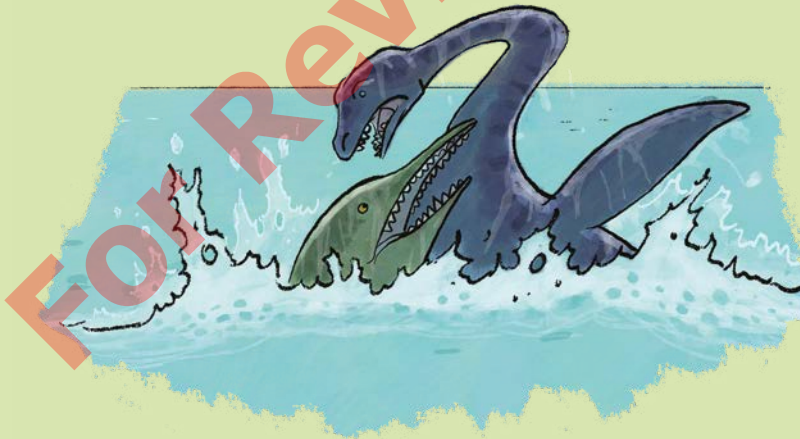
YOUNG  READERS

Jules Verne

Journey to the Centre of the Earth

Retold and activities by Jane Cadwallader

Illustrated by Gustavo Mazali



► 2 Introduction

Jules Verne wrote *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* more than 150 years ago. He also wrote *Around the World in Eighty Days* and *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*.

His stories were all exciting adventures. He is often called the ‘Father of Science Fiction’.



Who was Jules Verne?

He was born in a town near the sea in France. When he was a child he watched the ships and imagined their adventures. There's a story that his father stopped Jules Verne from running away to sea to have adventures himself!

His father wanted him to be a lawyer but, Jules Verne wanted to write books. In the end, that's what he did.

He wanted to share his passion for science and experiments. In *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* he says, ‘Science is made up of mistakes, but these are useful as they lead little by little to the truth.’

Meet the characters

Professor Otto Lidenbrock:

A famous and very enthusiastic scientist. Nothing is too difficult or too dangerous for him and he is determined to get to the centre of the Earth.



Axel: An orphan, he lives with his uncle, Professor Lidenbrock. He is afraid of the dangers they find under the ground but he stays with his uncle and helps him when he can.

Hans: A guide from Iceland. He is very big and strong and is good at making things with his hands. He doesn't talk very much but he is kind and clever. Hans is very important for the success of the journey.



▶ 3 CHAPTER 1: Into the volcano

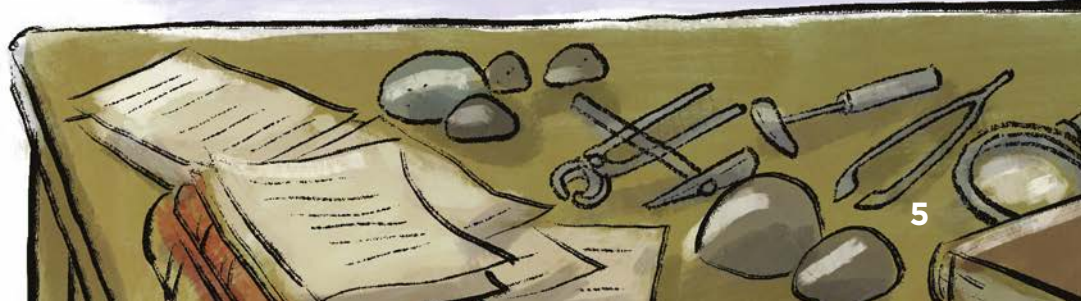
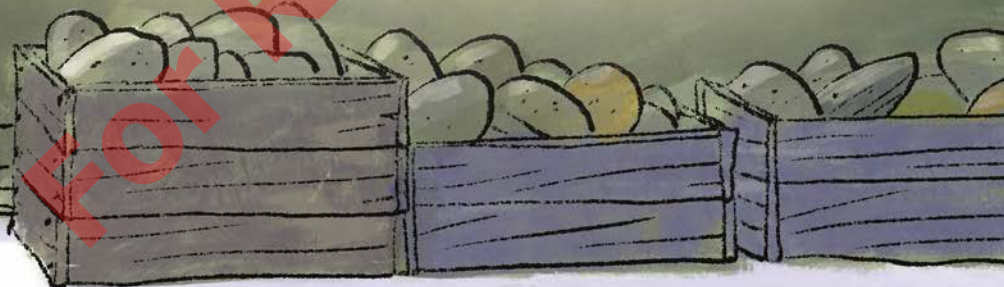


I live with my uncle, the famous geologist Professor Lidenbrock. Our journey to the centre of the Earth started one day when he was reading a very old book from Iceland. Suddenly, a piece of paper fell out. It was a letter with strange writing. My uncle couldn't read it but I could.

The words were in reverse order.

It was from a man who lived five hundred years ago. His name was Arne Saknussemm. It said, 'Go down the volcano of Snaefells Yoculand and you will come to the centre of the Earth. I did it myself.'

'Pack our bags!' said my uncle, 'We're going to Iceland.' I thought, 'Oh no! Down a volcano? I don't like that idea!'



- 4 But my uncle loves adventures and that is exactly what we did. We found a guide called Hans and went to the Snaefells Yoculand volcano. We started climbing down into the volcano. It was very cold. ‘I hope we don’t find anything!’ I thought.





But at the bottom there were three chimneys...
and on one of them were the letters *A S*.
'I knew we were right! I knew this was the
volcano! Arne Saknussemm was here!' called
my uncle. 'Hurry up Axel! We're on our way to
the centre of the Earth!' I looked at Hans but he
didn't say anything.



Activity Pages

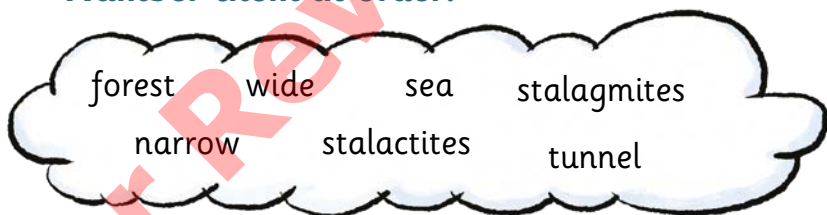


- 1** Underline the adjectives in blue and the nouns in red. Then match them to the characters in the story.



afraid geologist young guide
strong excited nephew kind famous

- 2** Use the words to complete the sentences. Number them in order.



- ☐ Sometimes the tunnel was _____
sometimes it was _____.
- ☐ They came to a _____ and then to an underground _____.
- ☐ At the bottom of the chimney there was a _____.
- ☐ The caves had _____ and _____.