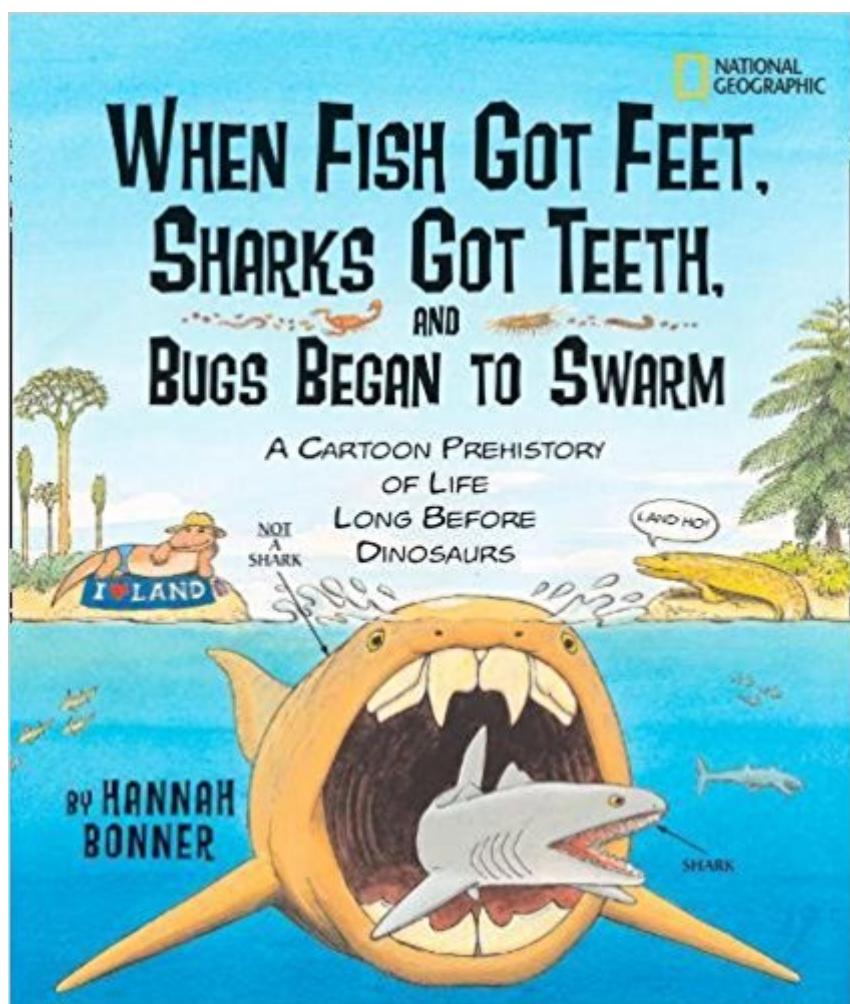


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# When Fish Got Feet, Sharks Got Teeth, And Bugs Began To Swarm: A Cartoon Prehistory Of Life Long Before Dinosaurs



## **Synopsis**

Take a fun, fact-filled trip back to Earth as it was 430 million years ago. Then, watch as continents drift and oceans take shape. Watch out (!) as fish get toothier, plants stretch skywards and bugs get bigger. Soon fish get feet and four-legged creatures stalk the planet. Here is the story of Earth in conversational text, informative illustrations, and humorous cartoons. Complete with time line, pronunciation guide, glossary and index.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: National Geographic Children's Books; Reprint edition (September 8, 2009)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.2 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #627,192 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Prehistoric #69 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Fossils #186 in Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Prehistory

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

This picture-book-size title offers a lighthearted look at some of the earliest life-forms on Earth. As promised in the title, the information packed into the double-page spreads starts with the oceans already teeming with primitive life and stops long before the dinosaurs appear on the scene. The passing of hundreds of millions of years can't quite be captured with a turn of the page, but a creative time line, which manages to be funny with the insertion of a few jokes, will help kids put each time period into context. Also included in the back matter are a glossary, a pronunciation guide, and a skimpy index. The suggested resources prove disappointing; only one video and a few Web sites are mentioned, along with the advice to go forth and Google. Overall, though, Bonner creates an effective and fun introduction to a complicated subject. Morning, Todd --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"The use of age-appropriate appendixes...make this an exemplary curriculum support resource, but kids who dig dinosaurs will read the book purely for pleasure. Let's hope this author-illustrator will decide to present more history for young readers." ; Starred review, BooklistFrom the Hardcover edition.

This book offers a unique and delightful look at the Silurian and Devonian periods, suitable for school children but including some funny bits and cool facts that will help adults learn or recall the main events of this pivotal time in our planet's history. It also is the only book I've seen for kids that provides some information on my favorite predator, Dunkleosteus, incidentally playing it conservative and assigning a length of 6 meters where some books say 8 and a few old ones say 10. There are short, clear explanations of everything from the creation of soil to the adaptations needed for plants and animals to invade the dry land environment. Recommended to my by no less than paleontologists Matt Mossbrucker and Dr. Robert Bakker, this is just a terrific book: order one for your kid's library and another for yourself.  Rumors of Existence

This short book by National Geographic introduces the reader to the diverse forms of the original plant and animal life that originally appeared on Earth. The book starts with the Ordovician period, and ends with the Permian period before the dinosaurs appeared. The principal topics covered are the appearance of fishes, the rise of bony fishes, the greening of the Earth's surface, and the appearance on land of the first arthropods and tetrapods. The level and detail of text is appropriate for anyone above 6 years old. This book contains no photographs, only color illustrations and an occasional graph or timeline. The illustrations of the plants and animals are not overly detailed, and match the style and detail of the cover art. The book is interesting to read, and I myself enjoyed reading it as much as my children

Ever try to go to the natural history museum and get stumped on those things in the dioramas next to the t-rex? I do and I could barely pronounce their names correctly with my son... this is a great intro to that story - which is in some ways more interesting than dinosaurs. We like the information, the cute ideas... I wish the drawings were a bit better without the corny talking animals/species. But all in all, good book to have for the budding naturalist/paleontologist/scientist.

I was immediately taken with this wonderful book. Although intended for younger readers, the charm

of the illustrations (both 'realistic' and 'cartoony') and humor makes it a delight for older readers as well. This book covers the Silurian and Devonian periods, giving a good overview of the Earth and its life in those time eras. It should be enjoyed by both children and adults. My highest compliments to Hannah Bonner for writing and illustrating this book. I highly recommend it for old and young paleontologists everywhere!

What a wonderful format for presenting a lot of information about the prehistory of the earth. This heavily illustrated book is very "readable" and humorous. A good gift for a 7-8 year old budding paleontologist.

Solid science attractively presented so it's engaging for both a 4 year old and for his parents -- a repeated request for bedtime reading.

My son loves this book! It is intelligently written, wonderfully illustrated, and funny!

My only beef is a wish that more pronunciation hints were in the text. More, please, more and more and more.

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