

## National Geographic Kids Reader: Prehistoric Mammals

### Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before your child shares this book with you, look at the front cover and discuss what is happening in the drawing. Ask if any of the creatures look familiar, and what they are.
- Look through the images together and read the names of the prehistoric mammals. Some words are difficult to pronounce, and you may have to work them out together using decoding (sounding out) skills: *Cimolestes*, *Megaloceros*, *Alphadon*, *Uintatherium*, *Andrewsarchus*, *Indricotherium*, *Basilosaurus*, *Arsinoitherium*, *Megacerops*, *Glyptotherium*, *Ceratogaulus*, *Entelodon*, *Elasmotherium*, *Tinimomys*, *Thylacoleo*, *Sthenurus*, *Mammuthus*, *Coelodonta*, *Smilodon*, *Megatherium*, *Homo sapiens*.
- Look at the picture glossary together to find definitions for some of the key language, e.g. *prehistoric*.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read more complex information books:
  - Help children read mammal names and any unfamiliar words.
  - Show your interest in the information and facts that your child reads.
  - Encourage your child to talk about what they have read, recounting some key ideas.
  - Enjoy the jokes together, teasing out the meaning from the word-play if necessary.
  - Encourage your child to use the pictures to develop their understanding of the size and features of the prehistoric mammals.
  - Give them lots of praise and encouragement as they tackle tricky words.
- Discuss how prehistoric mammals are similar and different to today's mammals.

**Pronunciation guide:** *Cimolestes* (*si-moh-less-tees*), *Megaloceros* (*mega-loss-er-us*), *Alphadon* (*al-fuh-don*), *uintatherium* (*you-in-tath-eer-ium*), *Andrewsarchus* (*andrew-sar-cus*), *Indricotherium* (*in-dric-oh-theer-ium*), *Basilosaurus* (*basil-oh-sor-us*), *Arsinoitherium* (*ar-sin-oy-theer-ium*), *Megacerops* (*mega-ser-ops*), *Glyptotherium* (*glip-toh-theer-ium*), *Ceratogaulus*, (*se-ra-toh-gall-us*) *Entelodon* (*en-tel-oh-don*), *Elasmotherium* (*el-as-moth-eer-ium*), *Tinimomys* (*tini-mom-is*), *Thylacoleo* (*thy-la-coh-lee-oh*), *Sthenurus* (*s-th-en-your-us*), *Coelodonta* (*coh-e-loh-don-tuh*), *Smilodon* (*smile-oh-don*), *Megatherium* (*mega-thee-rium*)