









IAN MORRIS

The Dragon Who Lost His Spark













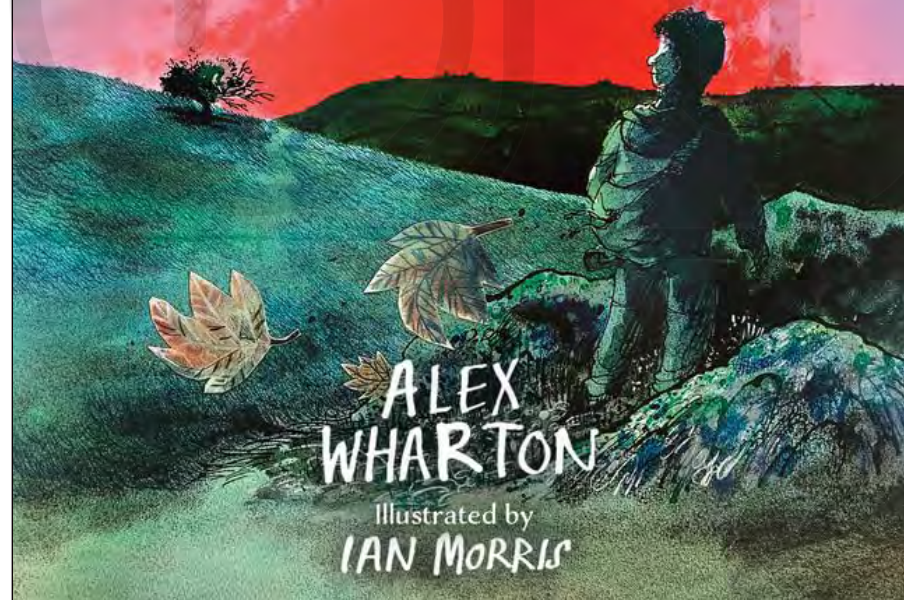








Red Sky in the Morning
Poet's Warning



ALEX
WHARTON

Illustrated by
IAN MORRIS

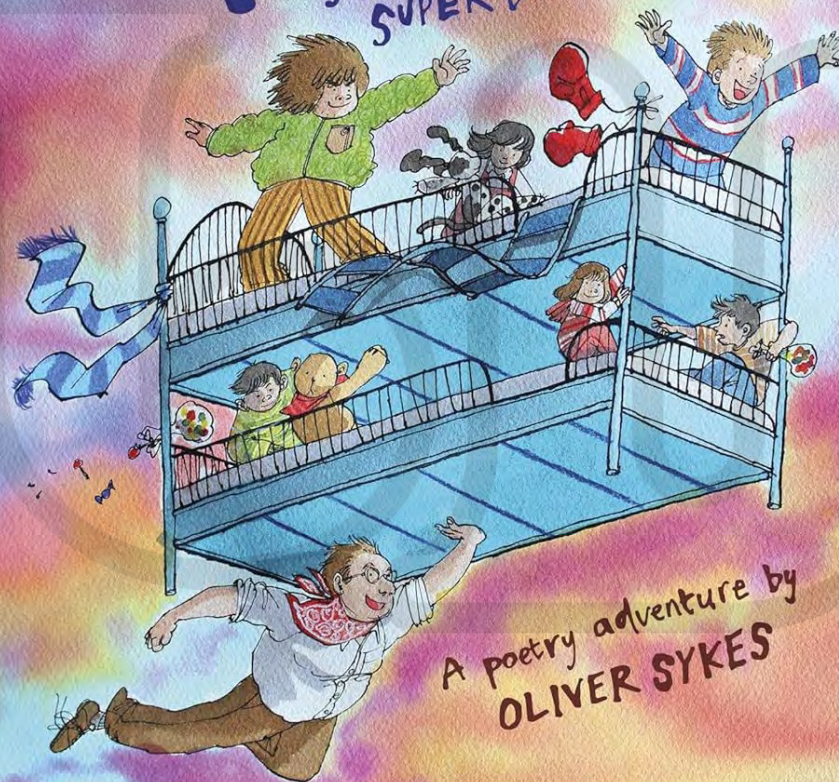






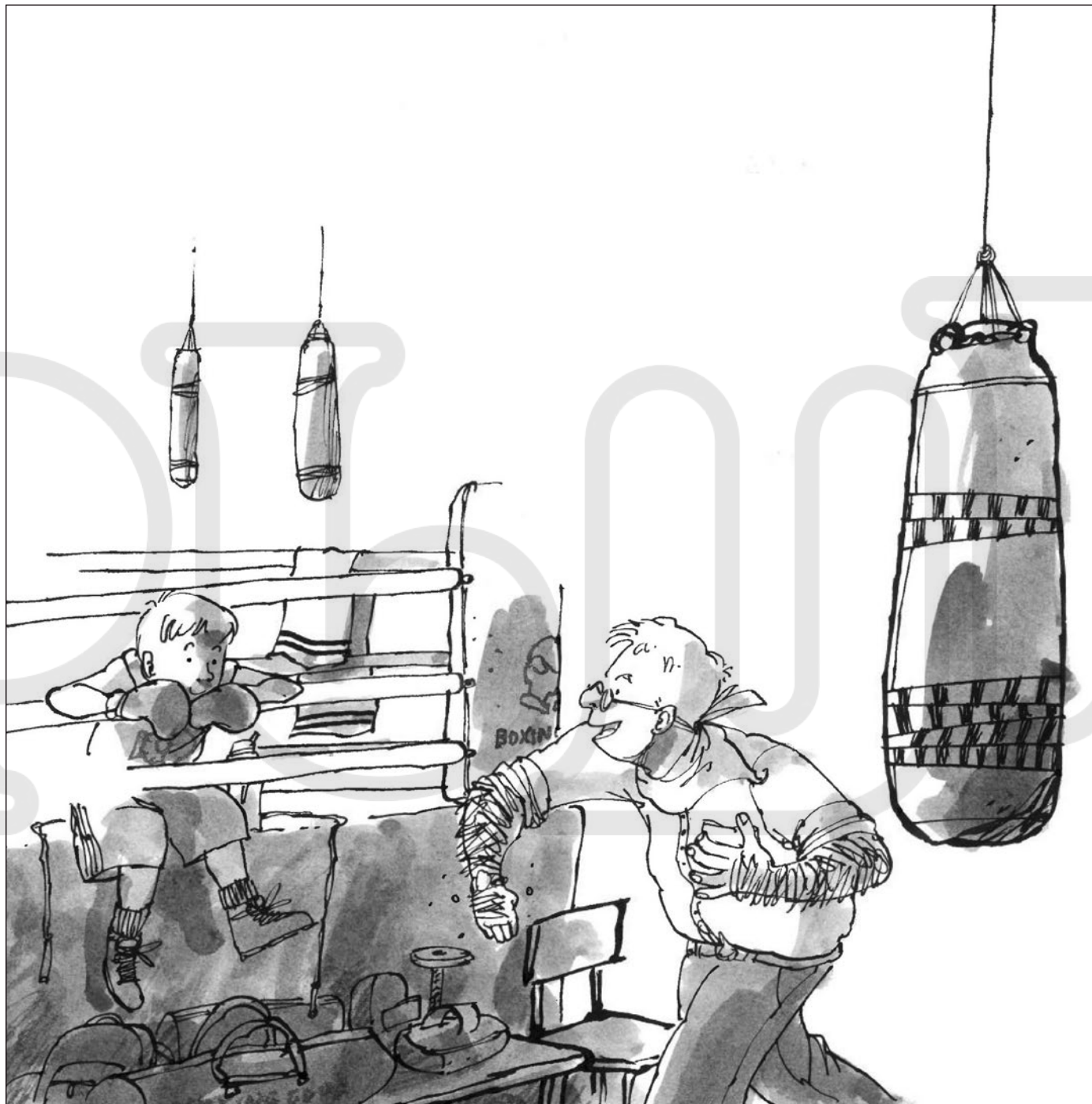
We Are Family

SIX KIDS AND A
SUPER-DAD

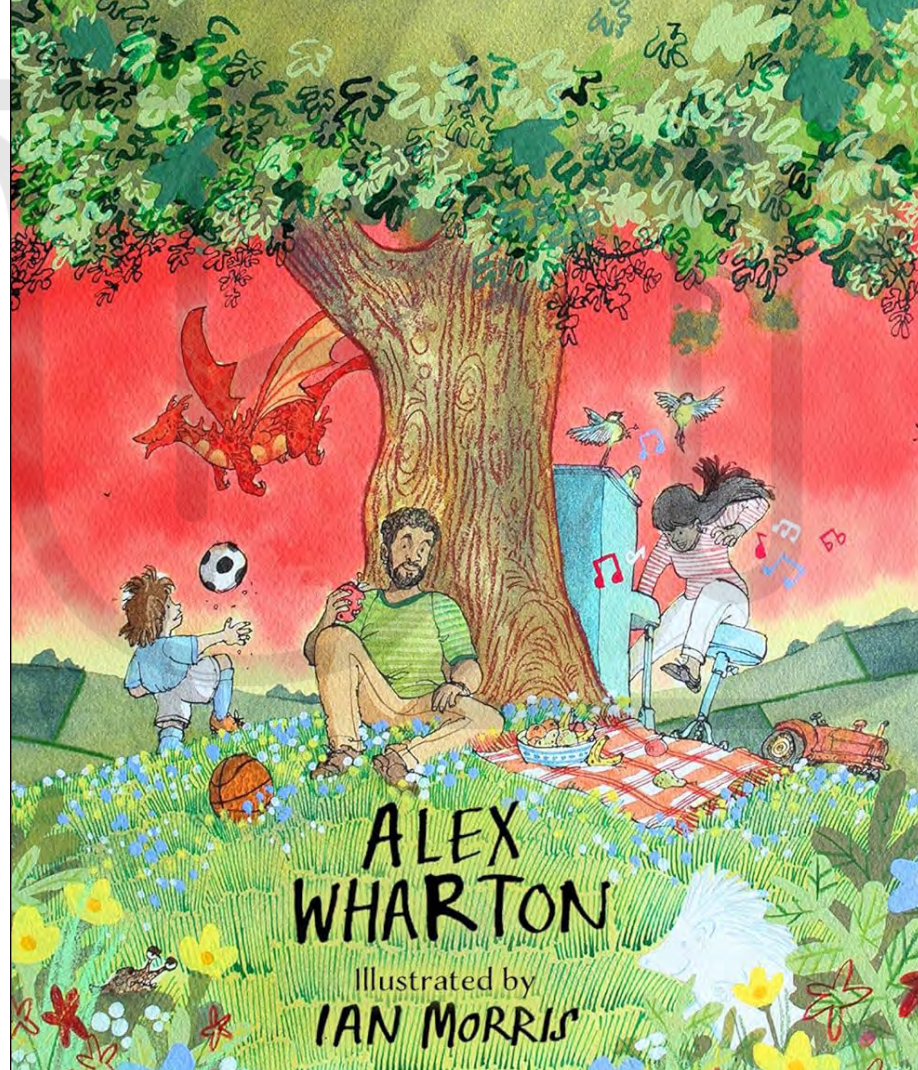


A poetry adventure by
OLIVER SYKES

Illustrated by Ian Morris



Red Sky at Night A Poet's Delight







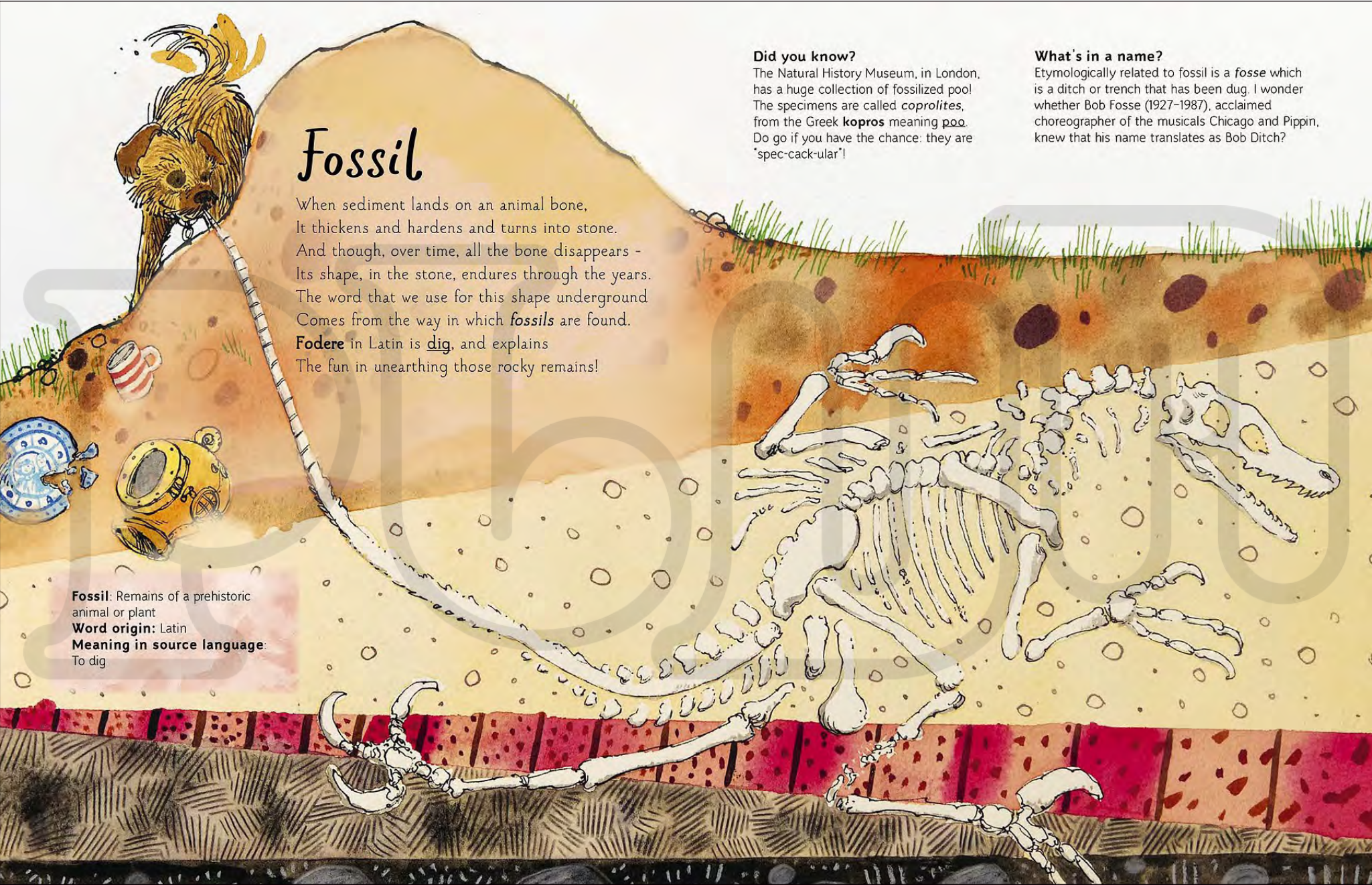
Tom Read Wilson

Wonderful Words That Tell A Tale



Illustrated by
Ian Morris

words &
pictures



Fossil

When sediment lands on an animal bone,
It thickens and hardens and turns into stone.
And though, over time, all the bone disappears -
Its shape, in the stone, endures through the years.
The word that we use for this shape underground
Comes from the way in which *fossils* are found.
Fodere in Latin is dig, and explains
The fun in unearthing those rocky remains!

Did you know?

The Natural History Museum, in London, has a huge collection of fossilized poo! The specimens are called *coprolites*, from the Greek **kopros** meaning poo. Do go if you have the chance: they are "spec-cack-ular"!

What's in a name?

Etymologically related to fossil is a *fosse* which is a ditch or trench that has been dug. I wonder whether Bob Fosse (1927-1987), acclaimed choreographer of the musicals *Chicago* and *Pippin*, knew that his name translates as Bob Ditch?

Fossil: Remains of a prehistoric animal or plant
Word origin: Latin
Meaning in source language: To dig

Yoghurt

Adding to yoghurt is par for the course:
Raspberries, blueberries . . . Worcestershire sauce!
The word comes from Turkish that sounded like "yort"
(The "ğ" with its accent an unspoken sort.)
When turned into English the "g" was restored
Something the Turks might have simply abhorred!
Yo urt translates as condense, which is true:
When milk starts to curdle it turns into gool!
Next time you eat it, add gherkin, add brie!
But might you - for fun - just try dropping the "g"?

What's in a name?

Yoghurt is just one kind of fermented food to enjoy. Another is sauerkraut - cabbage that has been finely chopped and pickled. We've borrowed the word from the German Sauerkraut which means sour vegetable.

Did you know?

-Although yoghurt has been eaten for more than 5000 years, frozen yoghurt was not introduced until the 1970s when American food company H.P. Hood began to sell a new product that they marketed as "froyurt".

Yoghurt: A food prepared from milk (or plant-based alternatives) fermented by adding healthy bacteria and often flavoured or sweetened

Word origin: Turkish

Meaning in source language: Condensed



★ Tom Read Wilson ★
★ Every Word ★
★ Tells A Story ★



Illustrated by Ian Morris

Astronaut

The night sky is quite magical -
It's always been a draw
For thinkers and explorers
For centuries and more.
But in the 1920s
The dream was in our reach,
We needed words to voice it:
A kind of new "space speech".
Nautes and **astro** or sailor and **star**
(Which come from Ancient Greek)
Describe the journeys that astronauts make
When they sail into cosmic mystique!

Astronaut: Someone who travels in a spacecraft
Word origin: Ancient Greek, but first used in the 1920s
Meaning in source language: Star sailor

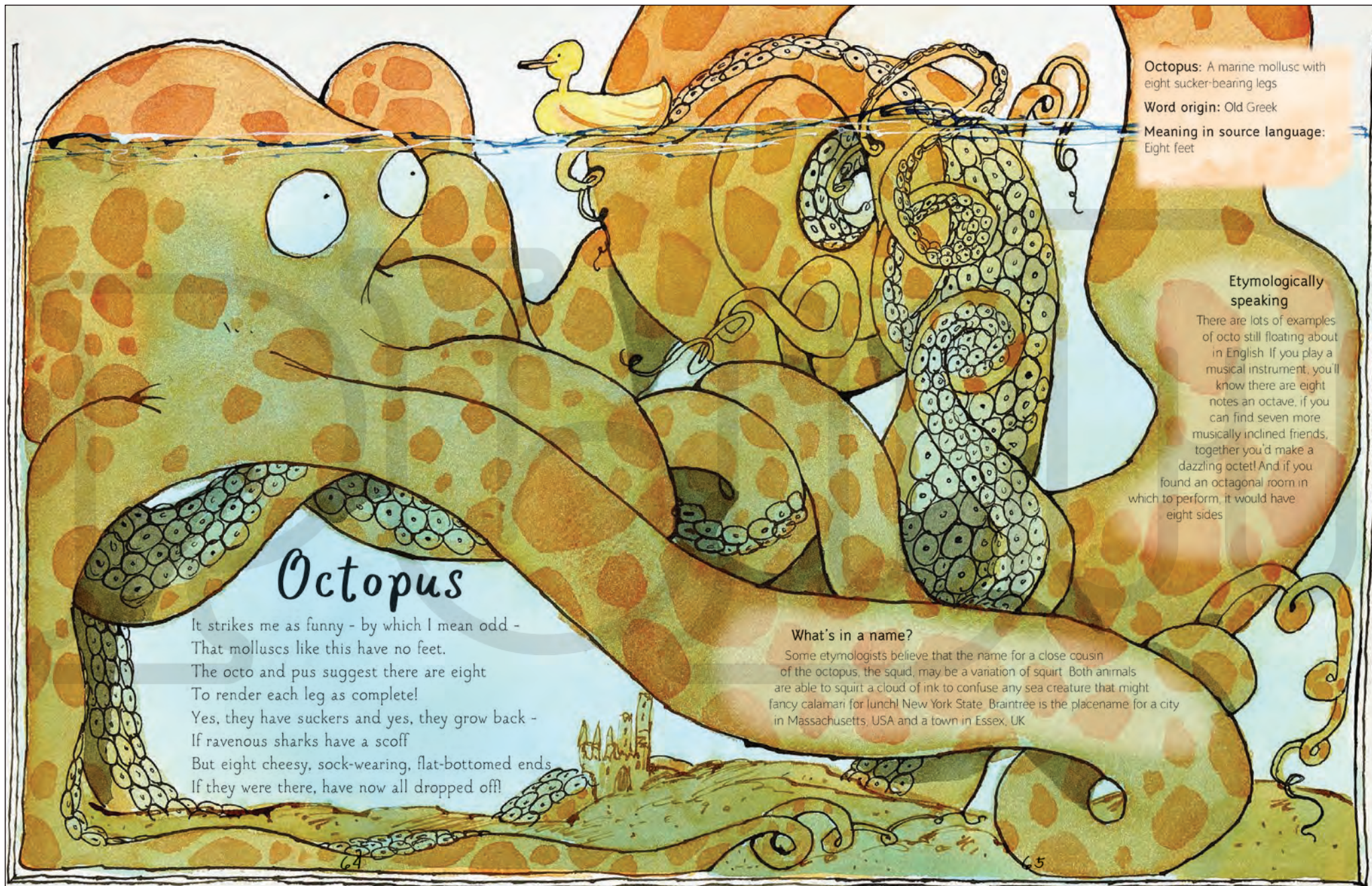
Etymologically speaking

I bet **astro** and **nautes** are familiar to you, not just from astronaut, but all their wordy cousins. The **astral plane** is the starry sky and anything **nautical** is connected to sailing. Perhaps more surprisingly, **nausea** (these days, a general feeling of sickness) also came from sailing, originally thought of as "ship-sickness" or queasiness like that experienced on a ship.

Did you know?

Astronauts wear nappies (or diapers). They have to! During take-off and spacewalks especially, it would be impossible to pop to the loo, so MAGs (Maximum Absorbency Garments) or giant nappies, provide the answer . . . at least until regular bathroom breaks can be resumed.





Octopus: A marine mollusc with eight sucker-bearing legs

Word origin: Old Greek

Meaning in source language: Eight feet

Etymologically speaking

There are lots of examples of octo still floating about in English. If you play a musical instrument, you'll know there are eight notes an octave, if you can find seven more musically inclined friends, together you'd make a dazzling octet! And if you found an octagonal room in which to perform, it would have eight sides.

Octopus

It strikes me as funny - by which I mean odd -
That molluscs like this have no feet.
The octo and pus suggest there are eight
To render each leg as complete!
Yes, they have suckers and yes, they grow back -
If ravenous sharks have a scoff
But eight cheesy, sock-wearing, flat-bottomed ends
If they were there, have now all dropped off!

What's in a name?

Some etymologists believe that the name for a close cousin of the octopus, the squid, may be a variation of squirt. Both animals are able to squirt a cloud of ink to confuse any sea creature that might fancy calamari for lunch! New York State - Braintree is the placename for a city in Massachusetts, USA and a town in Essex, UK



Penguin

World Seabird Day is celebrated on the 3rd of July every year. The date was chosen to highlight the vulnerability of seabirds as it is the anniversary of the last ever sighting of a great auk in 1844. This flightless bird was particularly vulnerable to poachers. Before it became extinct, the great auk was found in the waters off Wales and its name in Welsh was **pen gwyn**, paying tribute to its **white head**. When explorers started to document their Antarctic travels, **penguin** seemed the right name for the monochrome flightless birds they found there.

Peninsula

Do you live on a **peninsula**? They are wonderful places to live because you get the panoramic views of an island without having to sail to the mainland. This is because a **paene insula** in Latin means an **almost island**. As narrow projections of land peninsulas are accessible by bicycle, car or even the train, such as beautiful Arisaig in Scotland.

Portfolio

The Latin **folium** means **leaf**. This gives us lots of logical leafy words like **foliage** (leaves) and **bifoliate** (two-leaved). But what has the **portfolio** - an artist's slender carry case with wallets for their work - to do with leafiness? If you replace the idea of sheets of art with leaves of art, and add the Latin **portare** for **to carry**, you have arrived at the idea behind the word. Think of it as a way of transporting fine art foliage!