

How Earth became habitable- A journey through the Precambrian. A children's book

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The Precambrian accounts for 80% of the total geological record, yet material for children on this era in Earth history is few and far between. The children's book: *How Earth became habitable* is laid out to give children and their parents an understanding of this crucial part in our planets past. From the accretion of Earth to the accumulation of oxygen in the atmosphere, the book covers the most important steps in creating an environment not only suitable for bacteria or other simple life forms but also for mankind. The children will travel back in time with the futuristic time machine "Minnie" and will discover a world so outlandish that they will think we landed on a different planet. They will meet the first water on Earth riding down piggyback on a shooting star as well as Photosynthesis, the first cyanobacterium. The time travel ends at the dawn of the Cambrian explosion, rich by many new and exciting impressions.

The educational mission of the book is to convey geological and paleontological contexts but also sets out to explain that while we already know a lot about the deep past there are still many uncertainties. Scientific findings, and that might even be the most important message from this book, are not set in stone. It is the obligation of scientists to challenge old theories and find new and better explanations for the processes that lead to the formation of a habitable Earth.

