

# The GATEWAYS BRAINWAVES Club

**Term 3 2021: DinoMites – Years 1 and 2**

**Venue: Bondi Public School**

**Term Fee: \$285.00**

The world is a vast land with many unexplored worlds. DinoMites will discover life on Earth now and billions of years ago as they travel through the deserts of Australia, the lost world of Atlantis and one of the most uninhabited places on the planet, the volcanic island Surtsey. You will assist geologists, scientists and volcanologists throughout your discovery and aid them on their quests. Your journey awaits DinoMites!

**31 July**

**Meeting 1: Walter the Water Expert and the Water Thief**

**Focus: Literacy**

Drinking water is scarce in the vast desert regions of Australia, so it needs to be strictly rationed. Alas, the supply is dwindling faster than it should and Walter the Water Expert suspects foul-play. Gasp! Who could do such a dastardly deed? Walter has narrowed down the list of suspects that he believes may be stealing the water, but now he needs your help! Through role-play, character analysis, profiling, and using our inferential comprehension skills to draw all the clues together, it's up to us to catch the thief and preserve this precious supply... before time (and the water) runs out!

**14 August**

**Meeting 2: Sarah the Scientist and Survival of the Fittest**

**Focus: Science/adaptation**

Sarah the Scientist is keen to discover unexplored habitats on Earth. There's the southern Namib Desert in Africa, Surtsey, a volcanic island located off the southern coast of Iceland, and the polar desert of Devon Island, located off Canada. She's taken her band of native Australian animal helpers with her, but they're struggling in these harsh environments – it seems these wild creatures don't have the right survival features! Can we identify structural and behavioural adaptations that help them not only survive, but thrive? Fortunately, we've been granted access to a time-machine to wind back the clock and explore animal adaptations from years gone by – Lucky us! We're travelling back 3.7 billion years ago to visit stromatolites, home to some of the earliest forms of life on Earth. But how did we get from these microorganisms to the living breathing humans we are today? DinoMites, we're on a journey, exploring adaptations over millions of years to help us find ways of assisting Sarah's animals to survive and thrive!

**28 August**

**Meeting 3: Barry the Builder and his Grand Plan**

**Focus: Science/geology/critical thinking/math**

Barry the Builder is on a mission to build an amusement park. He's identified possible sites located on one of the most unexplored places on the planet – Surtsey, a volcanic island off of Iceland. But Vasey the Volcanologist is nervous, claiming that if the wrong choice is made the amusement park could be at risk of ending up the same way as the lost city of Pompeii – destroyed by a volcanic eruption! Barry is keen to learn more, but the deadline for deciding is looming. He's asked us to help by becoming assistant volcanologists and taking a scientific approach to surveying the land that avoids fault lines and geological hazards. To do this, we'll investigate what volcanos are, why they occur, and where are they most likely to erupt, before planning the rides he can include in his design. Join Barry on this journey to an unexplored volcanic island and help him build the safest and most amazing amusement park the world has ever seen, but remember, no one wants a Ferris wheel constructed on a fault line!

**11 September**

**Meeting 4: Gina the Geologist and the Lost City**

**Focus: Critical thinking/geography/literacy**

Most of us are familiar with the stories about Atlantis, a lost city under the ocean. But is there any truth to these stories and are there really lost worlds hidden below the seafloor? Gina the Geologist believes there are and is keen to explore one of the largest of these lost continents, Greater Adria, that she believes is hidden below the ocean. Vida the Videographer is keen to shoot a movie to rival the stories of Atlantis in one of these worlds if Gina can find one. Gina knows she has her work cut out for her and has asked us to help. But what methods can we use for searching for this lost world, and is there any evidence that can be garnered from stories about Atlantis? We'll examine evidence and join Gina on the search. And if we find Greater Adria, we'll be identifying the sights, sounds and smells of this unexplored place before assisting Vida to create a storyboard for the best movie about unexplored worlds ever created.

**What to Bring:**

Each week please bring an A4 notebook and a well-stocked pencil case. Please also bring a hat, drink and snack for the break (no nuts please).

**About the Club Leader:**

*Michelle Emsley has presented a variety of programs for G.A.T.E.WAYS. She is passionate about gifted education and has over eleven years-experience as a primary school teacher. With a background as a reporter and radio producer, she's had the opportunity for plenty of adventures in unexplored worlds. Michelle loves nothing more than inspiring the explorers of the future.*