



*Journey*  
to the *Centre* of the  
*Earth*

Jules Verne

retold by Elizabeth Gray



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# A Terrible Storm

Now our journey felt even more dangerous. The Professor was frightened, but nothing could stop him from going to the centre of the Earth. Hans continued to sail the boat, but we did not see land. We travelled for hours, but we did not hear or see anything. Then, there was a sound like fast running water. We couldn't see it, but we could hear it.

It got louder. Then we saw it.

“Look, it's water shooting up into the air!”

“And it's coming from the body of a huge sea creature.”

We tried to turn the boat, but the waves pulled us near the creature. For a moment, I thought that this was the end of our journey. The water went up 500 feet high into the air. An animal that could do this, could kill us easily. Then, we saw that the long black body we thought was an animal, was an island. It was like a small volcano, shooting up water, instead of lava.

“That's where all this water is coming from.”

“Axel, check the temperature of the water here.”

I took a thermometer out of my inside jacket pocket and I put it in the water for a few seconds.

“163 degrees Fahrenheit.”

“We're close to the centre.”

“We can't go on, Uncle. It's too hot.”

“We must.”

The electric light coming from the rocks over our heads began to make explosions. The clouds were now near the water. Small lines of light that looked like snakes exploded all around us. The waves were bigger now and pushed us away. I was very scared.

“What’s happening?”

The explosions were too loud for us to hear each other.

“It’s an electrical storm! Hans!”

Hans tried to keep the boat from sinking. The wind pushed us through the water like a race car. Suddenly, a large ball of white electric light fell on the boat. None of us could move. It held our feet with its electric power. We shouted to each other, but none of us could hear anything. The boat moved by itself, and there was nothing we could do.

Suddenly, the ball of electricity exploded. We all fell down and a huge wave threw us into the water.

Hans had the Professor in one arm and me in the other. I don’t know how he did it, but he got us to land safely. I began to think that all the energy he saved by not talking, made him the strongest man on Earth.

The storm stopped and we saw the boat, still on the water, a hundred feet away. Hans swam out to save our food and equipment. The Professor and I tried to understand where we were.

“I think that sea is 800 miles wide.”

“That means we went under Europe. The Mediterranean sea is now over our heads!”

“Let’s wait for Hans to bring back the compass.”









# Journey to the **Centre** of the **Earth**

*We saw things that scientists still do not know about. There is life in the heart of this planet. There is water and beaches and trees. Arne Saknussemm, a famous scientist from the sixteenth century, was the first to travel under the earth. We are the second. I do not know if others will try this dangerous adventure in the future. If they do, they need someone to guide them, or I'm afraid they will not survive...*

## COMPONENTS:

◆ Reader

◆ Activity Book

◆ Teacher's Book

◆ Multi-ROM (Audio CD & DVD Video)



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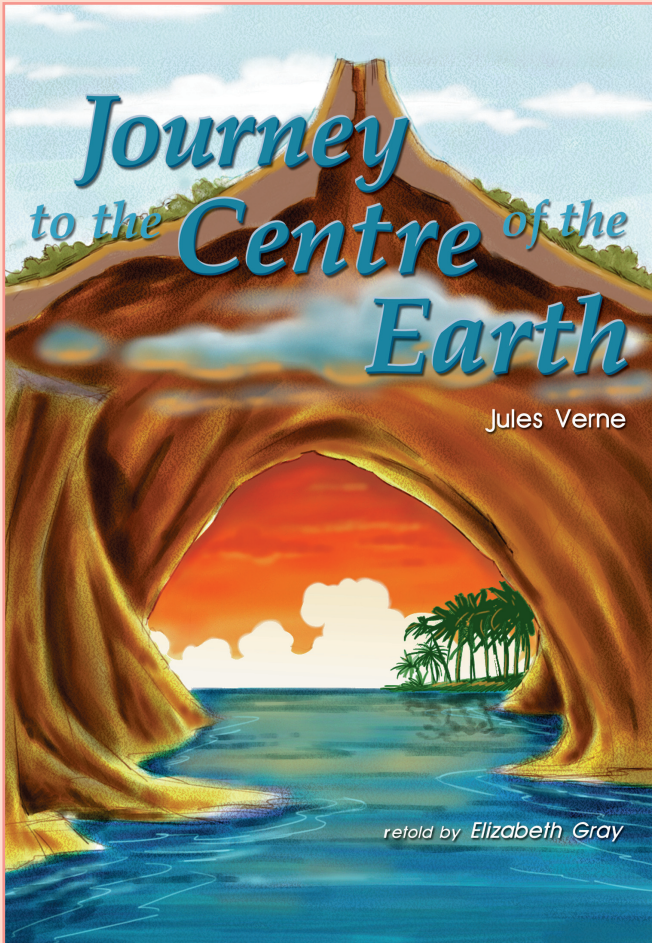


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# Activity Book



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## Iceland

### I. Listening



*Listen to the recordings and underline the correct word.*

- 1 The volcano looked like an angry **monster/man**.
- 2 Reykjavic is a small **river/town**.
- 3 Mr Fridriksson is a **professor/scientist**.
- 4 Hans is our **friend/guide**.
- 5 He didn't **speak/eat** a lot.
- 6 The professor and I each **took/rode** one horse.
- 7 We took enough food for six **days/months**.
- 8 We left Reykjavik on the 15th of **June/August**.
- 9 We travelled along the **river/sea**, and it was a wonderful journey.

### II. Comprehension questions

- 1 What was near the top of Sneffells Yokul?
- 2 Who came to meet the professor and Axel at the boat?
- 3 What things did they take with them for their journey?
- 4 When did they leave Reykjavik?
- 5 What were the villages like?
- 6 When was the last explosion of the volcano?
- 7 What did Axel dream about?

## Chapter 3

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### III. Topics for discussion

- 1 What's the strangest dream you've ever had? Tell the class.
- 2 Describe a village you've been to.
- 3 What do you need to take with you if you go climbing?

### IV. Activities

**A** *Choose from the words and phrases below to write a short description about Hans.*

short   noisy   tall   weak   very strong   red hair  
black hair   big grey eyes   small blue eyes   quiet

Hans is .....

.....

.....

**B** *Complete Professor Lidenbrock's letter to Mr Fridriksson.*

Dear 1) ..... Fridriksson,

My nephew 2) ..... and I are arriving in  
3) ..... on 4) ..... 8th. We will need many  
things for our journey. We need 5) ..... horses and  
enough 6) ..... for six months. We also need a  
7) ..... to show us around the area. I'm looking forward  
to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Lidenbrock



## Vocabulary Exercises

### I. Underline the correct words.

- 1 Peter's got a **guide** / **job** as a waiter in a café.
- 2 The doctor gave me some **medicine** / **adventure** for my cold.
- 3 We are going to **try** / **travel** to Spain in August.
- 4 Our teacher was **scared** / **angry** because we were noisy in class.
- 5 We tied a **tool** / **rope** to the branch and climbed up the tree.

### II. Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the words in capitals.

- 1 I only got ten in my test; I can do  
..... than that! **BEST**
- 2 There was a huge ..... when the **EXPLODE**  
bomb went off.
- 3 The ..... of the cave was behind **OPEN**  
some trees on the mountain.
- 4 I like this restaurant because the waiters here  
are very ..... **FRIEND**
- 5 They sent some men to rescue a  
..... who was lost on the mountain. **CLIMB**



### III. Fill in the gaps with the correct preposition.

up along for to

- 1 What time do you get ..... school in the morning?
- 2 I can't come to the cinema tonight. Ask David to go ..... with you.
- 3 He was late because he had to wait ..... the bus.
- 4 This path goes ..... to the top of the hill.

### IV. Read the passage below and guess the meaning of the words in bold.

One day, when Ann Walker was walking down the street, she saw a big **1) hole** in the road. She was **2) curious** to see what was **3) inside** it. She looked down and saw something **4) shining** at the **5) bottom of** the hole. She decided to **6) climb down** and didn't think about the **7) danger** of it. When she **8) reached** the bottom, she saw a bright, gold lamp. Then she heard a small voice **9) call out**.  
“Please, **10) help** me. I'm here, in the lamp!”





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