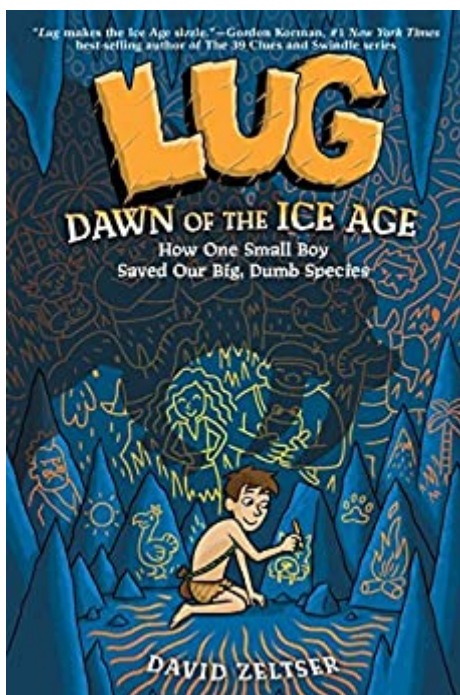


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# Lug: Dawn Of The Ice Age



## Synopsis

A hilarious middle-grade novel about a misunderstood caveboy perfect for fans of Ice Age and Happy Feet. Lug is a caveboy who would rather paint than club other caveboys. The clan even mocks him, calling him "Little Slug." Like all the other caveboys, Lug must enter the contest to become the clan's next Big Man and attempt to catch the Biggest Beast— even though he would much rather spend his days painting in his secret art cave. When Lug is banished for failing to catch a jungle llama, he thinks he is alone in the world but finds others who believe in him: his clanmate Stony, and a new friend, Echo, a girl from a rival clan who can talk to animals and just may be prehistory's first vegetarian/animal rights activist. Together they face even bigger challenges— Lug discovers the Ice Age is coming and he has to bring the warring clans together to save them not only from the freeze but also from a particularly unpleasant migrating pride of saber-toothed tigers. It's no help that the elders are cavemen who can't seem to get the concept of climate change through their thick skulls. With funny, anachronistic humor and charming characters, Lug, Dawn of the Ice Age is sure to be a hit with many readers.

## Book Information

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Historical

## Customer Reviews

My 8 year old son loved it. It was very funny and entertaining. This was the longest chapter book he had read on his own and it kept his interest. He said he would recommend it to his friends. I'm looking forward to reading it myself.

Lug is skinniest superhero in eons, but also most big-hearted and farsighted. This prehistoric cautionary tale is laced with humor and lessons I hope it is not too late to learn.

Bad book

When we were asked to review the middle reader, LUG: Dawn of the Ice Age, my daughter Emma (age 10) and I jumped at the chance. Emma loves 39 Clues and two of the writers gave LUG glowing endorsements. She also loves any adventure series that features some humor, which we figured this one might have as well. As a mom, I liked how the author, David Zeltser, also worked in the issue of climate control and animal rights. For me as a parent, this book is a total win for kids. It has it all that any 4th or 5th grader would love, boy or girl, as well bringing issues such as humanity and activism into their thinking, without being preachy. It's humorous and light, even while taking on big themes. I highly recommend this book myself for parents, teachers, and especially libraries. It's one that doesn't need to be used just in language arts, but can be used in the study of science pertaining to the environment. This isn't one in which to delay purchase, it's too good for the deep freeze! Without further ado, I'll pass this review on to EMMA (5th grade): In LUG: Dawn of the Ice Age, I liked how in some ways I can relate to the boy because we are similar (and sometimes people don't get me either), but just from different times, and have some common interests, like art. Although, I can't really think about having to live as a cave girl!! His experiences are not something I want to experience. I like my bedroom. But if I lived in a cave, I would definitely do cave wall art. I think it would be fun to be allowed to carve things into the wall. I thought I would like this book because I like to read and learn about different time periods. I wasn't disappointed. It was so funny and cute, just like why I liked the movie "The Croods." My favorite part I liked was how the main character had to try to catch a jungle llama. I love llamas. I didn't like what happened when he didn't catch it. I felt bad for him. I recommend you read this book if you like adventure or are interested in the environment or animals. Also, artists like me can like Lug because he likes to paint. If you are

interested in learning about cave people, you could like this book. Or if you like funny books, you might also like it. I almost read the book in one sitting and enjoyed the story. --EMMA Thanks to the publisher for sending to us in exchange for honest review.

A mix of How to Train Your Dragon and Ice Age, Lug: Dawn of the Ice Age introduces readers to Lug, a young caveboy who's the outcast of his tribe. His fellow tribe-mates are big brutes who face off against their rival tribe in a rough sport called Headstone; Lug would rather be painting in his art cave. He and his tribe-mate, Stony, are banished after they fail to secure macrauchenia mounts for Headstone, and wander the woods, eventually meeting Echo, a young cavegirl from the rival tribe with a secret she can talk to animals and has a pet woolly mammoth, Woolly, that she needs to find a home for. Echo and her younger brother, Hamhock, join Lug and Stony on a journey that will introduce them to new animals and great changes headed their way namely, the onset of the Ice Age. This is a great book for middle graders. Not only is it a fun, accessible story with parallels to two books and movie series they grew up with How to Train Your Dragon and Ice Age they will pick up some knowledge on the way. The themes of two factions at war without really knowing one another, being the odd kid out, and bullying are all themes that will speak to readers' day-to-day experiences, but they'll also learn about prehistoric animals like the macrauchenia a kind of giant llama (I looked it up!), the woolly mammoth, and the Dodo bird, all of which give readers who are willing to dig deeper the chance to pinpoint where Lug and his people are from (look it up!). There's even a brief description on how Lug creates his cave paint. The blending of nonfiction with fiction is seamless and would enhance a class unit on prehistory. There is black and white line art throughout the book, which are, presumably, Lug's cave drawings. These little "easter eggs" within the story add a fun new dimension to reading.

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