

CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

For ages 5-14



"in the summer of 1822, (fossilised teeth) were discovered ... indicating something novel and interesting" **Gideon Mantell**

Word count: up to 150 words

DEADLINEMarch 27th 2025

PRIZES FOR THE MOST CREATIVE WRITING

atownexploresabook.com/2025-competition













Gideon Mantell wrote a scientific paper naming the Iguanodon species of dinosaur. He presented it to the Royal Society in 1825.

His discovery was inspired by fossilised teeth that his wife Mary Ann found. Mary Ann and Gideon discovered many fossils in the earth in Sussex on the south coast of England. They were already familiar with fossils of "turtles, birds, fishes, shells and vegetables". Finding fossilised teeth that looked different was very exciting.

The judging panel are looking forward to reading your stories about discovering something in the earth.

Share your personal creative approach: write in prose, poetry, with pictures. It's your choice.

Word count: up to 150 words Prizes for the most creative writing.

Submit your entry by Thursday 27 March 2025 by giving your entry to your teacher to pass on or emailing explorers@atownexploresabook.com

#ATownExploresABook25 is a reader-led festival in St Leonards-on-Sea of creative responses to a heritage book.

The book choice for 2025 is Gideon Mantell's scientific paper naming the Iguanodon species.

The festival runs from 3rd - 21st April 2025.

