

London

Image © Fotodanmark.dk/Mikkel Grønlund

London is turning safari park as a host of animals take pride of place at the Natural History Museum, writes **Kate Craig**

Safari

Hippos, elephants, a polar bear and a red deer stag have taken over the Natural History Museum's west lawn.

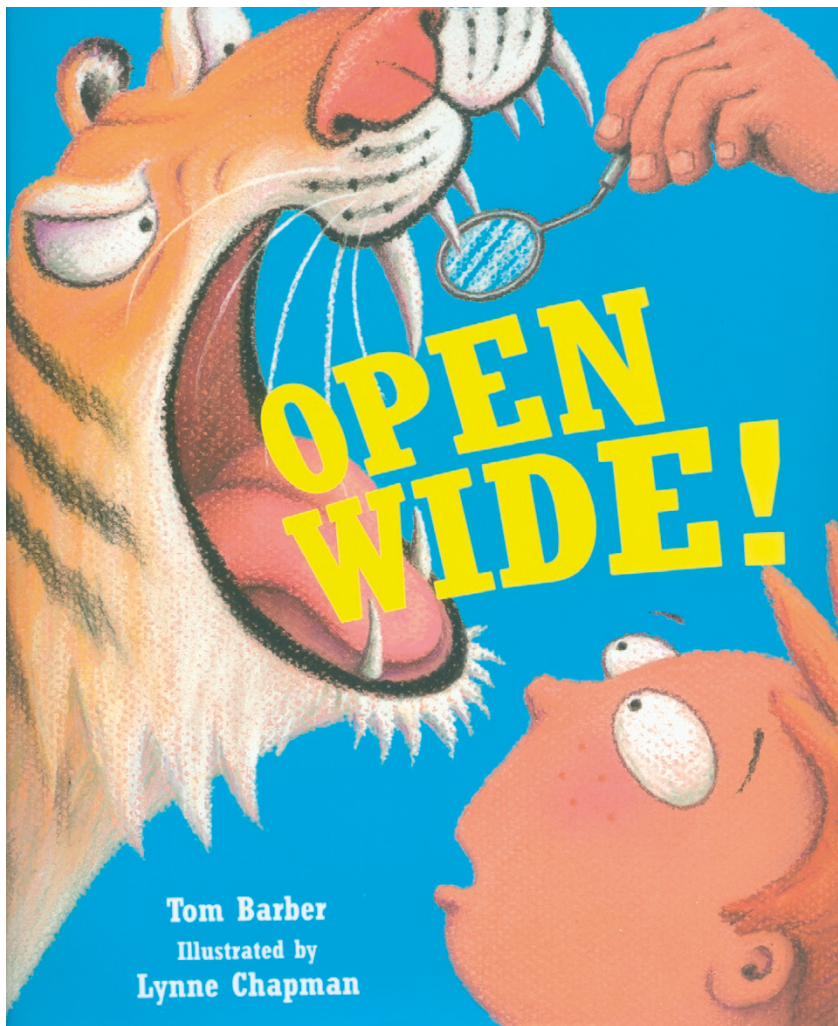
The impressive large-scale bronze sculptures are the work of Tessa Campbell Fraser, one of the UK's leading figurative sculptors. Tessa is particularly excited the sculptures are being exhibited at the same place where their life began - as she spent many hours in the museum's mammals gallery studying the form and character of the animals.

The exhibition is the first time the family of animals has appeared together. A selection of drawings and pastels will also be displayed inside the museum.



Image © Fotodanmark.dk/Mikkel Grønlund

What: Tessa Campbell Fraser Sculpture and Works on Paper
When: Until 10 October 2004
Where: Natural History Museum west lawn, Corner Cromwell Road and Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London.
Web: www.nhm.ac.uk
How much: Free to all.



Tom Barber
Illustrated by
Lynne Chapman

Book review

Open Wide, Tom Barber, Chrysalis, 2004, price £9.99, ISBN 1 85602 505 5

Open Wide is a wonderfully entertaining story for children about a little boy who doesn't like going to the dentist. Sam arrives in Mr Murgatroyd's surgery and immediately takes refuge under the dentist's chair. Mr Murgatroyd has dealt with much more difficult patients than Sam and coaxes him out of his hiding place with hilarious stories of his other very strange patients: an old nanny goat who wears out her false teeth; a grumpy hippo with toothache; and a toucan with a crumpled beak! Sam is so excited by the animal tales that he completely forgets his fears and sits in the dentist's chair.

Beautifully illustrated, this book would appeal to children of all ages, although some of the language would be more suited to older children (7-9-year-olds). Very amusing in places, it is a thoroughly enjoyable story for both parents and children.

However, if one of the purposes of the book is to encourage children not to be scared of the dentist, then I think the author has missed the point. Mr Murgatroyd carries out various treatments on his animal patients from taking teeth out to using tooth files. I think some of these scary tales will make some children more worried about visiting the dentist, especially as at no point in the story does the author explain what Sam's visit involves.

Although I think this book is unsuitable as an aid to help children overcome their fears, as a children's storybook it is a delightful read.

Lyndsey Jeminson, RDN.

Spotlight on dental therapists

Below is a listing of courses and events for dental therapists supplied by the British Association of Dental Therapists (BADT). Although this is not fully comprehensive it does include useful ideas and leads.

British Association of Dental Therapists London Regional Study Day

Date: 02.10.04

Venue: The Royal London Hospital

Contact: Kira Stearns at
London@badt.org.uk

Restorative Materials

BADT North West Regional Meeting

Date: 08.10.04

Contact: Dave Martin at
north_west@badt.org.uk

Extended Duties for Dental Hygienists/Dental Therapists

Course covers: Inferior dental nerve block, impressions, temporary dressings and crown re-cementation

Date: 05-06.11.04

Price: £300 including materials, refreshments and handouts

Contact: Karen Collins, Course Administrator, Eastman Continuing Professional Development, 123 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8WD

Tel: 0207 905 1244;

E-mail: k.collins@eastman.ucl.ac.uk

British Association of Dental Therapists South West Regional Meeting

Date: 06.11.04

Venue: Salisbury PGC

Contact: Sally Reid at:
south_west@badt.org.uk

Contacts

The British Association of Dental Therapists can be contacted through its Secretary on 0118 947 9399 or email: secretary@badt.org.uk

Book review



The Scientific Basis of Oral Health Education, R.S. Levine and C.R. Stillman-Lowe, BDJ Books, £19.95, ISBN 0 904588 84 X

This long awaited publication has lived up to expectations. It has reviewed the evidence for the scientific basis of oral health education messages, and has attempted a simple scheme of grading the evidence, giving the nearest equivalent CEM levels alongside. It is an approach that will enable the reader to disseminate oral health messages with a clearer understanding of the level of evidence supporting them than has been possible in previous editions.

The content is comprehensive and there are good supporting appendices. The layout is clear and although chapters are contained, links between sections are inevitable. It is essential reading for oral health promoters and the whole dental team, including undergraduate and postgraduate dental students. It is straightforward to read and would be useful to a wide range of non-dental readers including those engaged in providing general healthcare, such as general medical practi-

tioners, health visitors, school nurses, nursery nurses, midwives, dieticians, pharmacists.

However, as the authors point out, although giving information and advice can help develop personal skills, other strategic aims of the Ottawa Charter are vital if health education is to be effective. Oral health education is part of the process of promoting oral health, and this publication will ensure that the messages we give are evidence-based; but building healthy public policies, reorienting health services, creating supportive environments and strengthening community action will provide the opportunities for messages to be put into practice.

This document has come a long way since the first edition in 1976 and will be welcomed by all those who continue to promote oral health in the twenty-first century.

Polly Munday, Consultant Oral Health Promotion Adviser



Diary Autumn

British Association of Dental Therapists Leadership Today - Women in Practice

Date: 13.10.04

Venue: Royal College of Physicians, London

Contact: 0800 371 652 or email: seminars@fmc.co.uk

London Dental Showcase

Date: 14-16.10.04

Venue: ExCel London

Website: www.dentalshowcase.com

South Wales BADT Regional Group

Date: 15.10.2004

Venue: Village Hotel, Cardiff

Website: www.badt.org.uk

Bradford Dental Study Day

Date: 23.10.04

Venue: Carlisle Business Centre, 60 Carlisle Rd, Bradford

Contact: Linda Bussey 01274 322735.

BDHA Annual Scientific Conference & AGM

Date: 12.11.04-13.11.04

Venue: Edinburgh International Conference Centre

Website:

www.bdha.org.uk/meetings/national_meetings

GDC PCD Roadshows

General Dental Council, Central London

- 20.10.04

Tillington Hall, Stafford

- 02.11.04

Bart's & Royal London Hospital, Central London

- 10.11.04

Mayday University Hospital, Croydon

- 16.02.05

www.gdc-uk.org/pcds.html#road