



# FRIENDS, FOES AND FOSSILS

## SCENE 1: LYME REGIS BEACH

The FOSSILS come on stage to introduce the show – AMMONITE is composed and competent, but keeps getting interrupted and thrown off course by the other two. She tries to hold things together, with mixed results!

**Ammonite** Hello, good evening and welcome. My name is Ammonite.

**Ichthyosaur** (with a fancy bow) My name is Ichthyosaur.

**Coprolite** And I'm Coprolite.

**Ammonite** We are fossils.

[Presumably, the audience doesn't cheer.] AMMONITE, ICHTHYOSAUR and COPROLITE look at each other, eyebrows raised in slight disappointment.

**Ichthyosaur** (To AMMONITE) Let me try!

(To audience) OK, here's something you need to know right at the beginning of this show.

When we say the word 'fossils,' you need to get excited.

Let's try again. We are . . . FOSSILS!

[audience hopefully applaud/cheer]

And this show is all about how brilliant fossils are!

[audience hopefully applaud/cheer again]

Thank you. (To AMMONITE) — there you go!

**Ammonite** Thank you, Ichthyosaur. Now, this show is partly about how brilliant fossils are . . . [audience may cheer again]

**Ichthyosaur** (Preening) Brilliant and handsome . . .

**Ammonite** (Rolling her eyes) Yes, yes, brilliant and handsome. But it's also about Mary Anning, obviously.

**Ichthyosaur** Well, obviously, but I'm just saying that the audience needs to know that we expect them to be excited about fossils!

(Invites another cheer)

**Ammonite** Honestly, Ichthyosaur, we've barely even started and you're