



# 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