



**WAS  
IST  
WAS**

*Because Knowledge Empowers.*



## *Dear colleagues,*

We want to make children curious about the world they live in. With our new concept of the WAS IST WAS Book Series, we invite them to take a closer look at things, to see them in context, to search for answers, and to ask new questions. Reading comprehension and a thirst for knowledge are essential skills in a world full of information – and with the new WAS IST WAS, every child will find something that makes them want to keep reading.

As a children's book publisher, we feel a strong responsibility to care for the world we will leave to future generations. That's why we've set ourselves ambitious sustainability targets in line with the Paris Climate Agreement. We're not there yet, but we're constantly learning and making progress. And of course, our focus on sustainability is also reflected in the new WAS IST WAS books!

On the following pages we invite you to take a closer look at our concept, layout and titles – and to immerse yourself in our topics.

Have fun discovering the WAS IST WAS world!

## *Your TESSLOFF Foreign Rights Team*



**Helga**



**Claudia**

# Because Knowledge Empowers!

**WAS IST WAS has been a constant in children's non-fiction for decades. Over the years we've continued to write our successful brand story, and in 2024 we're adding a new chapter – with an all-new WAS IST WAS!**

**Our vision: To inspire a love of knowledge in every child.**

**Our ambition: No subject is too difficult to make it simple and understandable for kids.**

## *Shaping the future*

With the new WAS IST WAS, we encourage children to become lifelong explorers and scientists – and to use their knowledge to shape our future. Expertise at the highest level, explained in simple terms and always at eye level – that is, and will remain, our brand promise. The new books have been developed on a solid foundation of market research, which confirms that we've never been closer to our target audience – kids and parents love the new WAS IST WAS!

## *The new WAS IST WAS stands for:*

- *Complex topics made simple and fun*
- *The very latest knowledge from renowned experts*
- *An immersive approach to fascinating topics*

For the new WAS IST WAS, we look into tomorrow's innovations, talk to today's experts, and bring ancient ruins back to life – so that we can find the very best topics for our current and future readers, all the while building on our experience as one of Germany's leading publishers of children's non-fiction.

**»We invite children to look to the future with curiosity and confidence. The new WAS IST WAS supports them with that! «**

**Katja Meinecke-Meurer**  
TESSLOFF CEO

# A closer look

**We have reinvented WAS IST WAS! We wanted to make sure that our new concept was really in line with what kids aged 8 and up want to read.**

Pictures and text support each other and help the reader to understand the topics easily. Speaking of pictures, we've tried to find the best and most striking photos and graphics for each topic - for a real WOW effect on every page that makes you want to know more! The clear layout helps young readers find their way around the book. Elements such as timelines, infographics or extra facts and tips keep things interesting and fun.

Do you prefer to read from start to finish, or skip around and find the most exciting parts first? Whichever way you choose to read the new WAS IST WAS, each double-page spread stands on its own and offers a variety of entry points into the respective topic.

Our amazing authors are true experts in their fields! They offer insights and first-hand knowledge that you won't find anywhere else. They all share a passion for passing on their expertise in a way that excites young readers.

**Without further ado, here's what the new WAS IST WAS looks like:**

**Clear, reader-friendly layout for easy orientation**

22

## Orangen im All

Fliegendes Essen und Weltraum-Toiletten

Der Alltag auf einer Raumstation ist ziemlich seltsam: Pizza schwebt manchmal zur Decke. Schmutzige Wäsche wird nicht gewaschen, sondern sie verglüht. Und wenn man mal muss? Auch das funktioniert etwas anders als auf der Erde ...

**Wohin mit der Wäsche?**  
Weil es auf der ISS keine Waschmaschine gibt, werden die Klamotten ziemlich lange getragen. Dann werden sie in eine Transportkapsel gepackt, die an die Station angedockt ist. Später wird sie in Richtung Erde geschickt - dort kommt sie aber nie an, sondern verglüht in der Atmosphäre. Was von der Erde aus wie eine Sternschnuppe aussieht, könnte also auch schmutzige Wäsche sein!

**Wo ist denn hier die Toilette?**  
Natürlich müssen Astronautinnen und Astronauten auch mal aufs Klo. Die Toilette funktioniert fast wie auf der Erde - allerdings mit einigen Unterschieden. So saugt ein leichter Unterdruck alles ab, was lieber nicht durch die Gegend schweben soll. Pipi kommt über einen Schlauch in einen Extra-Behälter. Dann wird es gefiltert - so gut, dass man daraus wieder Trinkwasser gewinnt. Das klingt zwar erst mal eklig, funktioniert aber super. Und nur deshalb muss nicht ständig frisches Wasser zur Station gebracht werden.

**SCHWERENDE PIZZA**  
Sein Essen sollte man auf der ISS besser gut festhalten!

**JUHUI!**  
Kjell Lindgren freut sich über frisches Obst. Das gibt es selten auf der ISS!

**AHA!**  
Deshalb schmeckt's anders!  
In Schwerelosigkeit schmeckt alles irgendwie schwächer. Normalerweise ist das Blut im Körper gleichmäßig verteilt. Die Schwerkraft zieht es nach unten, das Herz pumpt es nach oben. Das Herz hört damit nicht auf, wenn die Schwerkraft fehlt. Dadurch sammelt sich viel Blut im Kopf und die Schleimhäute in Mund und Nase schwellen an. Durch diesen Weltraumschnupfen hat alles weniger Geschmack.

**Aufsatz für Männer**

**Aufsatz für Frauen**

**WELTRAUM-KLO**  
Pipi verschwindet über einen Schlauch. Für das große Geschäft werden Plastikbeutel ins Klo eingehängt. Klopapier gibt's auch. Und was ist mit Händewascher? Dafür benutzt man Feuchttücher.

**Hatgriffe und Fußschlaufen**  
Sie helfen dabei, nicht wegzuschweben.

**Schlauch**  
Was hier exakt kommt, wird gefiltert.

**Stunning infographics that put information into context**

**Multiple entry points into the topic**

High-contrast text for easy reading

20



**BLUTBIENE**  
Im Sommer klingt gefährlich. Tatsächlich heißt die Wildbiene aber nur wegen ihres dunklen Hinterleibs so.

# Wilde Verwandte

- **Wie sehen Wildbienen aus?**  
Ganz verschieden! Es gibt sie in allen Größen und Farben: von der winzigen rötlichen Zwerg-Blutbiene bis zur 3 Zentimeter langen Blauen Holzbiene. Die meisten sind pelzig; einige jedoch fast kahl.
- **Sind Wildbienen wichtig?**  
Und wie! Manche Wildbienen bestäuben bis zu 8.800 Blüten am Tag. Honigbienen fliegen gerade mal die Hälfte an.
- **Wie viele Wildbienen-Arten gibt es?**  
Enorm viele! Weltweit sind es zwischen 29.999 und 39.999. Allein in Deutschland schwirren fast 600 Arten herum. Dagegen gibt es auf der ganzen Welt nur sieben Honigbienen-Arten.
- **Machen alle Bienen Honig?**  
Das können nur die Honigbienen, die Honig als Vorrat für den Winter benutzen. Wildbienen sterben im Winter oder halten Winterruhe. Sie verbrauchen ihren gesammelten Nektar sofort.

21

Sag mal ...  
Lina, 9 Jahre  
»Sind Hummeln auch Bienen?«

»Ja! Die pummeligen Brummer gehören auch zu den Wildbienen. Hummel ist aber nicht gleich Hummel! In Deutschland leben 41 Arten – etwa Erdhummeln, Stein- und Gartenhummeln.«

## So leben Wildbienen

Bei Bienen denkst du sicher erst mal an Honigbienen. Es gibt aber jede Menge Wildbienen! Bei den meisten schlägt sich jedes Tier allein durch. Es gibt weder Königinnen noch Arbeiterinnen mit Spezialaufgaben. Eierlegen, Futtersuche – jede Biene kümmert sich um alles selbst.

**Wo nisten Wildbienen?**  
Die meisten wilden Arten bauen unterirdische Bruthöhlen: Sie graben Röhren in den Boden, legen Eier und einige Pollen als Proviant hinein – und machen sich dann davon. Der Nachwuchs muss gleich nach dem Schlüpfen allein klar kommen. Erdhummeln dagegen bilden richtige Wohngemeinschaften: In ihren Höhlen wohnen bis zu 600 Tiere zusammen. Sie buddeln sie nicht selber, sondern benutzen verlassene Mäusenester. Wieder andere Wildbienen nisten überirdisch, etwa in Pflanzentrieben oder löcherigem Holz.

**Was ist der Trick der Kuckucksbienen?**  
Ein Viertel aller Wildbienen in Deutschland sind sogenannte Kuckucksbienen. Die machen sich das Leben besonders leicht: Genau wie der Vogel Kuckuck legen sie ihre Eier in fremde Nester. Wenn die Larven schlüpfen, fressen sie den Vorrat weg, den die anderen Bienen für ihren eigenen Nachwuchs angelegt haben. Für die erwachsenen Kuckucksbienen ist das praktisch: So müssen sie nicht selbst Pollen sammeln.

**SuperFakten**

- 1 **Aus dem Häuschen**  
Einige Wildbienen-Arten wie zum Beispiel die Mauerbiene brüten am liebsten in leeren Schneckenhäusern. Sie tarnen sie mit Klebermaseln und Gras.
- 2 **Keine Pikser**  
Nur wenige Wildbienen können dich stechen. Ihr Stachel ist zu hart, um Menschenhaut zu durchdringen.



Combination of pictures and text supports intuitive understanding

Exciting SuperFacts

Powerful, engaging images that spark children's curiosity

6



# Was schwimmt denn da?

## Hä?! Ein Spiegelei im Meer? Quallen gibt es in den verrücktesten Größen, Farben und Formen.

**SPIEGELEI UND DISCOKUGEL**  
Im Ozean treiben winzig kleine Galleen-zweige und mächtige Glibberriesen. Manche Quallen sehen aus wie Gespenster mit langen Nachhemden. Andere leuchten wie Diskokugeln oder erinnern an leckeren rosa Nüssespagetti. Woher die Spiegeleiqualle ihren Namen hat, sieht man auf den ersten Blick! Sie lebt im Mittelmeer. Ihr Gift ist für uns Menschen harmlos.

7

Expert knowledge on children's eye level

# Airplanes – Up through the Clouds!



The hum of the engines can be heard, the plane races down the runway, and suddenly it takes off. It never ceases to amaze how planes seem to fly effortlessly through the clouds. We take off in an Airbus A380 and learn what happens in the cockpit and at the airport. Is flying safe at all? And does it even have a future in light of climate change?

## FRANK LITTEK

He has been writing about aircraft as a journalist and author for around 40 years, accompanying crews in the cockpit and cabin around the world. His favorite aircraft are the Boeing 787 and the Airbus A350.



# Astronauts – Let's fly to Space!



What does it feel like to be in space? What does it mean to live in weightlessness for months on end? Far away from Earth and surrounded by stars? A book that not only provides exciting insights into space travel, but also shows how much perseverance, team spirit and courage the dream job as an astronaut requires. Ready for a galactic adventure?

## DR. VOLKER KRATZENBERG-ANNIES

For many years, he was responsible for public relations at the German Centre for Aerospace (DLR) and the European Space Agency (ESA). Today he works in the DLR's programme for young scientists.



## Bats – Swiftly Through the Night



Screaming and roaring, bats fly through the night. But we still can't hear them—their ultrasonic waves are imperceptible to us. If we could, they would be as loud as a jackhammer or a jet plane. With their ears, they locate the smallest prey and map out their flight plan. We follow them and discover their amazing coexistence.

### DANIELA HERZBERG

She frequently works for radio, writing and producing features and radio plays. It's no wonder she is interested in bats, because they have super hearing and use the echoes of their own calls to form a picture of their surroundings.



## Bees – Buzzing Geniuses



Around 200 bees have to work their whole lives to make a single jar of honey. But these hardworking insects are being threatened by shrinking habitats and the use of pesticides. With stunning macro photography and surprising facts, this volume shows what bees can do – and why they're so important for the ecosystem.

### NICOLE RÖNDIGS

In this book she shows just how interesting, amazing and important these tiny creatures are.



## Below Ground – Hidden Worlds



A handful of soil contains more than 1.5 billion living organisms – from bacteria to earthworms. So there's quite a lot going on beneath our feet. We abseil down into caves, explore mines, subway tunnels, and sewers. What do we discover? A mysterious world that reveals a lot about the past.

### FLORIAN STURM

As a freelance science journalist for numerous magazines and newspapers he writes extensively about what happens beneath the surface of the water. For this book, he has delved even deeper: beneath the earth.



## Your Body – Everything you're made of



Stomach acid can dissolve metal, saliva contains a painkiller, and if you lined up all the blood vessels in your body end-to-end, they would stretch around the entire world. The human body is a miracle. The only way to keep it healthy is to understand it – therefore in this volume we travel to the inside of an eye along a ray of light, and swim with blood cells along vessels.

### DR. JOHANNA KLEMENT

As a scientist and doctor, Dr. Johanna Klement loves the challenge of writing about medical topics while including lots of humour for kids.



## Cars – How will We Drive in the Future?



A car contains around 10,000 parts and up to eight kilometers of cable. We take a closer look at some of them and follow the process of building a car. But we don't just look under the hood, we also look beyond it: What kinds of jobs are there in the automotive industry? What might cars look like in the future?

### THOMAS PERBANDT

He has been fascinated by cars since childhood. He has been working in the automotive industry for over 20 years, primarily on drive system development. He is particularly interested in batteries and efficient energy use in cars.



## Cats – Strong-Willed Felines



From a standing position, they jump five times as high as they are tall and if they sneak up on their prey, it doesn't stand a chance. Cats are wild, skilful and have real personalities. And yes, of course they are also really cute. But where does cat behaviour come from? How do you interpret their body language? A book to help you understand these beloved pets even better.

### JUDITH WEBER

She writes books for children, young people and adults. Her wish is that people will understand cats better after reading this book.



# Coral Reefs – Right at the Heart of it all!



Coral reefs are the largest structures ever built by a living creature, and among the most species-rich places in the world! They are home to tiny slugs, well-camouflaged seahorses, brightly coloured starfish, and giant turtles. We dive in to find out how reefs are formed, and why they are now under threat.

## DR. STEPHANIE HELBER

The marine biologist shares her fascination with the underwater world with kids in this book..



# Deep Sea – Survival in the Dark



Only five per cent of the Deep Sea has been explored. The authors take us into this dark, cold world full of fascinating creatures. We accompany frogfish and sperm whales as they hunt, explore cold-water corals and dive to the wreck of the Titanic. With impressive underwater footage and ideas for protecting this unique world.

## ULI KUNZ / DR. FLORIAN HUBER

For the two research divers and science TV presenters, the deep sea is the most important habitat on our planet!



## Democracy – Your Vote Counts



It's one of the most important topics of our time. People protest to make their voices heard, they vote to participate, and we are all invited to express our opinions and discuss issues with each other. We want to share the values of democracy with all children – and encourage them to take an active part in shaping their world.

**ANDREA WELLER-ESSERS**  
Passing on the values of our democracy to kids is close to Andrea Weller-Essers' heart.



## Dinosaurs – Super Lizards from Prehistoric Times



Kids love dinosaurs! **WAS IST WAS Dinosaurs** is the most successful title in the series and has sold more than a million copies since its first edition. We're continuing the success story with our brand-new concept. With cool facts and pictures, kids find themselves immersed in the life of these superlizards.

**DR. MANFRED BAUR**  
Dr. Manfred Baur has been fascinated by prehistoric animals since childhood. Nobody knows dinosaurs better than him.



Each title: 48 pp, 22.9 x 29.6, HC, 8+

## Dogs – On your Paws, get set, go!



They can smell through thick layers of ice and sniff out explosives with their super noses. They have excellent hearing and dream just like us. Dogs are man's best friend. But where does this friendship come from? What is a day in the life of a dog like? We accompany these fascinating animals as they play and work.

### CHRISTINE PAXMANN

She writes non-fiction books and novels and publishes a specialist journal for children's and young adult literature. Reading, swimming, and hiking are her favorite activities—and she enjoys them even more when accompanied by dogs.



## Dolphins – Always in a team



They are smart, agile and have some amazing tricks up their sleeves: Dolphins can talk to each other, organise themselves into groups and even use tools. We go hunting with these marvellous animals, surf the waves with them and experience the upbringing of their young. With lots of specialised knowledge for future marine researchers.

### BÄRBEL OFTRING

Even as a child, she was fascinated by nature. The biologist loves watching dolphins and dreams of traveling the seas with these wonderful animals.



# The Earth – Our Unique Planet



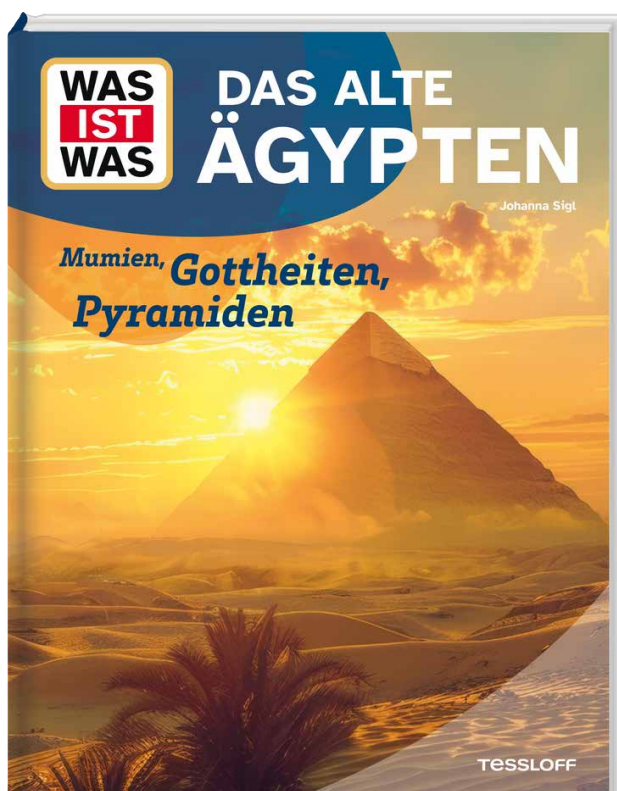
The Earth is our home and the only known planet that can support life. Throughout its history, continents have formed, mountains have risen, deep ocean trenches have opened up, and volcanoes have erupted. What else makes it special? And how is it being changed by us? An exciting book about our planet and the urgent need to protect it.

## KAROLIN KÜNTZEL

She wants to share her fascination for animals, plants and nature with curious children and motivate them to protect the Earth.



# Ancient Egypt – Gods, Mummies, Pyramids



Let's go to Ancient Egypt! How did this fascinating civilisation develop? What was the significance of the Nile? And how were pyramids built? We go in search of clues with our author, attend a mummification and explore everyday life in ancient Egypt.

## DR. JOHANNA SIGL

She works at the German Archaeological Institute in Bonn and frequently visits Egypt for excavations. Her favourite research topic is daily life in Ancient Egypt.



Each title: 48 pp, 22.9 x 29.6, HC, 8+

# Europe – Together Into the Future



In Scotland, people throw tree trunks for fun, and in Bulgaria, schoolchildren are happy to get a 6. Europe has glaciers and a desert, very rare cave salamanders, super-fast peregrine falcons, and over 220 different languages. We have fun discovering the countries of Europe, learning about fascinating animals, and take a look at the EU. Together we are strong!

## ANDREA WELLER-ESSERS

She lives in Berlin, but grew up near the Dutch border, loves French quiche, Spanish paella, and Danish buttered bread. She also enjoys hiking in the Alps and is thrilled when she encounters marmots there.



# Firefighters – Full Commitment



To save lives, you have to work as a team. Our author is a passionate firefighter and tells us all about his work at the fire station, exciting operations and how even kids can get involved. Featuring lots of insider know-how and state-of-the-art technology.

## JÖRG NIESSEN

He has been a fireman for 25 years and has never regretted a single day of it!



# The Forest – Between Leaves and Cones



The forest makes its own music: there is chirping, rustling, and humming everywhere. Delicate new trees peek through the dry leaves on the ground, moss grows everywhere, and there is a smell of mushrooms in the air. If you walk through your local forests with your eyes and ears open, there is so much to discover.

## FLORIAN KINAST

As a freelance journalist and author, he publishes features, profiles, interviews, background reports, and travel reports from all five continents. He enjoys exploring new areas on foot.



# Germany – Where and How We Live



Germany is more than the sum of its federal states. There is much to discover here: animals, plants and the traces of an eventful history. We paint a lively, diverse picture of Germany that invites children to join in. In sport, climate protection or democracy.

## ANDREA WELLER-ESSERS

For her, the best thing about Germany is the many dialects and that the German language sounds completely different depending on the region.



# Ancient Greece – A Time of Myths and Ideas



Who hasn't heard of Zeus, the father of the gods, the city of Troy, or Pegasus, the winged magical horse? The history of ancient Greece is full of magic, adventure, and discovery. Democracy, theater, and the Olympic Games were invented here. Philosophers expanded human thinking, and works of art were created that we still admire today.

#### DR. ANDREA SCHALLER

She has worked in museums, publishing, and as a German teacher in Italy. With passion and a twinkle in her eye, she writes about the history of people who lived in earlier times.



# Green Energy – Power for the Future



Generating energy without harming the Earth and its climate? It's a monumental task, with huge social implications. This book helps children understand what green energy is, and how it can be produced using the power of the sun, wind and water. It is full of amazing infographics and helpful tips on how to protect the environment.

#### DR. FRANK FRICK

He has been a scientific author and expert on new energy technologies for many years.



# Horses – Friends, Freedom, Adventure



They used to be just livestock, now they are many children's favourite animal. We discover horses' habitats and take the children along to see a wild Konik herd, a farrier's glowing forge, and the stables where it smells like hay and horses. How do horses perceive the world? What do they like to eat? And why does every horse need a herd?

#### DELA KIENLE

Journalist Dela Kienle writes articles and non-fiction books for children and of course she has a special bond with horses.



# The Human – From the Stone Age till Today



How did humans evolve? Why are we the way we are today? We discover how our large brains and social structures ensured our survival and laid the foundation for today's cultures. Why laughter and lying played important roles in our evolution. And our story is far from over.

#### DR. MANFRED BAUR

His passion for nature and science led him to embark on voyages of discovery around the globe as a science journalist and filmmaker. He is particularly fascinated by the origins of humankind in Africa.



Each title: 48 pp, 22.9 × 29.6, HC, 8+

# Inventions – How Ideas Change the World



How will we communicate in the future? How will we protect our environment? Brilliant inventions and creative minds are more in demand than ever before. We showcase groundbreaking (and sometimes completely accidental!) discoveries – and encourage children to come up with their own ideas.

## ANDREA WELLER-ESSERS

She loves getting kids excited about knowledge, because knowledge empowers.



# Jellyfish – Is It All Just Goo?



They live without blood, brains or hearts. They even survived the dinosaurs, and some can kill up to 250 people with their venom. Jellyfish are breaking records everywhere, and they are a trend-animal through and through. In this unrivalled volume, we provide insights into the secret life of these gelatinous creatures.

## ULI KUNZ / DR. FLORIAN HUBER

Research divers Uli Kunz and Dr. Florian Huber are eager to finally show jellyfish in the right light.



# Knights and Castles – Let's Go To The Middle Ages!



Were knights really so immobile in their armour? How did tournaments work? And how were huge castles built without machines? We dive into the world of the Middle Ages and dispel some misconceptions. For example, the knights often didn't live in the castle at all. And between all their adventures, they certainly had moments of boredom.



## DR. ANDREA SCHALLER

Castles have fascinated her from an early age. During her studies, she specialised in medieval themes.

# Lizards – Little Dragons Up Close



Seemingly effortlessly, they can walk on water, change colour or hang upside down from the ceiling: Lizards are true super animals. Time to dedicate a separate volume to their amazing abilities. Here, our readers can discover the whole variety of lizards - from the native sand lizard to the chameleon and the giant Komodo dragon.



## DR. MARIO LUDWIG

He is one of Germany's best-known animal book authors. The biologist has also become well-known through his numerous appearances on television and radio.

# Minerals and Rocks – Treasures of Nature



Rocks and minerals reveal a great deal about the formation of the Earth, as well as about the universe. Some minerals are true treasures, glistening, glowing, and sparkling. Others are needed for toothpaste, bicycles, or smartphones. However, resources are limited, and some of them can only be mined under difficult conditions.

## DR. STEFAN PETERS

As director of the Museum of Natural History Hamburg – Mineralogy and lecturer at the University of Hamburg, he oversees a collection of over 90,000 stones, minerals, and meteorites.



# Control Centre – Contact to Space



The Space Operations Centre is the control centre of space travel: From here, the team controls weather and navigation satellites, space probes and space telescopes, and plans and carries out manned and unmanned missions. For the first time, WAS IST WAS is devoting a volume to this exciting topic - with unique and never-before-read insights!

## DR. THOMAS UHLIG

The physicist works at the German Space Operations Centre. He is the project manager for the LUNA facility and part of the team responsible for the future Human Exploration Control Centre.



# Mummies and Bog Bodies – What They Tell Us



Who better to tell history than someone who lived it? Mummies and bog bodies are our most eerily beautiful connection to the past. They can be found all over the world. They will reveal a great deal about themselves, their living conditions, and the era from which they originate. Ready to meet them?

## JAKOB WETZEL

As a science journalist, he particularly enjoys looking over the shoulders of archaeologists and reporting for the Süddeutsche Zeitung on how humans and prehistoric humans once lived.



# Octopuses – Eight Arms and Three Hearts



Octopuses cloud their attacker's senses with ink and then quickly hide. Thanks to their boneless bodies, they can squeeze into almost anywhere. And they can adapt their color to their surroundings, making them almost invisible to enemies.

## DR. STEPHANIE HELBER

She worked as a marine biologist in England, where she researched sea grass beds. She shares her fascination for the underwater world with children through exciting stories.



Each title: 48 pp, 22.9 × 29.6, HC, 8+

## Owls – Hunters with Super Senses



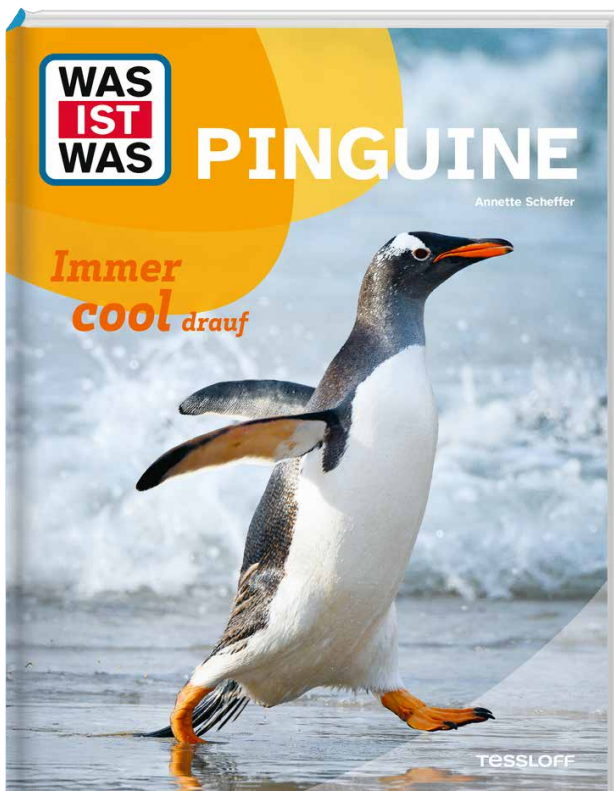
We can't hear them. We rarely see them. But they see us – with their big, glowing eyes. Only a few small clues let us know that they might be nearby. Our author knows these clues – she has lived among owls for years, even raising them. Together with her, we reveal their most exciting secrets.

### TANJA BRANDT

Tanja Brandt is a falconer and an award-winning photographer. She has cared for and bred owls for many years now, and is involved in owl protection programmes.



## Penguins – Always Cool



They make us smile when they waddle across the ice, and they amaze us when they break diving records and fly through the water as fast as an arrow: penguins are not only cool, but also sociable and loyal. They live in large colonies from the tropics to the South Pole. We accompany them as they hunt, search for mates, and raise their young.

### ANNETTE SCHEFFER

She is a marine biologist, polar researcher, expedition leader, and photographer. Her heart beats especially for whales and penguins. Since 2009, her research and expedition work has regularly taken her to the Southern Ocean.



# Planets – Our Distant Neighbours



The vastness of the universe, the Milky Way and the planets have always fascinated us humans.

In this book we immerse ourselves in this mysterious world and travel to the edge of our solar system.

We see stars being born, explore giant volcanoes, and visit strange moons. Let's go!

## DR. MANFRED BAUR

Already as a teenager, Dr. Manfred Baur looked through a telescope and saw the rings of Saturn, the storms on Jupiter, and the ice caps on Mars.



# Police – On Duty For You



They are on duty for us around the clock – in the control center, on the streets, at major events. The police solves criminal cases and tries to prevent them. But behind every blue uniform there is always a person.

We accompany police officers, take a look behind the scenes and learn about the many different professions within the police force.

## ANDY NEUMANN

He is a full-time federal police officer and a bestselling author. He wants to get children interested in the subject and show them how important and varied it is.



# Prehistoric Mammals. From Flying Squirrels to Mammoths



Everyone knows about dinosaurs, but they disappeared 66 million years ago. And then? We travel back in time and encounter mammoths, saber-toothed tigers, and giant sloths. When and how did humans evolve? We follow the traces of evolution which holds many surprises.

## BIRK GRÜLING

As a child, he wanted to become a researcher. His passion for extinct animals, lost cultures, and crazy inventions remained. Fortunately, as a science journalist and children's book author, he can fully indulge in it.



# Protecting the Environment – Making a Difference Together



The environment is everything that surrounds us: the air, the animals, the plants, the water, and the ground we stand on. It is like a huge, colorful puzzle made up of many pieces that are all interconnected. And everything we do affects it! We learn why moors are climate heroes and why the forest needs protection itself.

## ALEXANDRA WERDES

She is a freelance author and works full-time in nature conservation. She has travelled to several rainforests around the world and found them all extremely fascinating.



Each title: 48 pp, 22.9 x 29.6, HC, 8+

## Rainforest – Wild Green World



Rainforests are among the most fascinating habitats on earth: from sloths and howler monkeys to leaf-cutter ants - nowhere else are there so many different species. Animals and plants have developed amazing strategies to protect themselves from their enemies. But only we humans can do something about their greatest threat - the destruction of the rainforest.

### ALEXANDRA WERDES

She is a freelance author and works full-time in nature conservation. She has travelled to several rainforests around the world and found them all extremely fascinating.



## Robots – Helpers with Superpowers



Robots explore the deep sea and Mars, milk cows and build cars. But what exactly is a robot? In which areas are they already being used and how can they help to make our lives easier in the future?

### DR. BERND FLESSNER

He is an enthusiastic futurologist who is interested in everything to do with technology and space travel. His favourite robot is Ameca, because you can talk to it thanks to AI.



# Ancient Rome – A City that Changed the World



Life in Ancient Rome was much more than wars, numbers and vocabulary lists – it was every bit as exciting as a good movie. All you have to do is ask the right questions! In this volume we follow children's curiosity and show unique images that bring Ancient Rome back to life. Topics relevant to our everyday life are explained at children's eye level.

## DR. ANDREA SCHALLER

The author has been writing for WAS IST WAS for many years: She knows what kids want to know about history, and how to make it come alive.



# Slime – Gross? No, Genius!



Sometimes it's green, often slippery, but always brilliant! Slime is almost everywhere in nature. Without slime, there would be no life. Animals in the oceans use it, it can be found in the desert, on our doorstep, in the garden and in rivers. It is one of nature's best inventions! In this book you can discover why it is so useful and irreplaceable.

## DR. MANFRED BAUR

The successful WAS IST WAS author is always curious about everything that surrounds him – including slime!



# Snakes – Scaly Skin and Super Senses



They are shy, alert, and lightning fast. Their prey is stunned or strangled and usually eaten whole. They have a sixth sense, smell with their tongues, and some fart to scare off their enemies. We set out on a search – on the ground, in trees, in deserts, and in water. Snakes are almost everywhere.

## DR. JOHANNA PRINZ

She used to be a primatologist at the zoo, headed the education department of a natural history museum, and ran a national park visitor center. When she's not writing, she picks up earthworms from the street. They may not be snakes, but at least they have the right shape.



# Spiders – Eight-Legged Acrobats



Watch out! Robber spiders, pelican spiders and vampire spiders are just a few of the estimated 50 000 species in the world. Spiders can be found (almost) everywhere – except in Antarctica. They frighten and fascinate us, but they're also vital to the ecosystem. With their superpowers, they keep everything in balance!

## INGA MARIE RAMCKE

Her favourite neighbours are house spiders. In the bedroom, they keep mosquitoes away with their sticky webs.



# The Sun – Mega Hot and Super Bright!



For an alien, the sun is a star like any other. It is not particularly large or hot, nor is it particularly bright or explosive. But it is the only star that provides our Earth with light and warmth. Without the sun, there would be no energy, no sugar, no colors, no butterflies, no seasons, and of course no sunsets.

## DR. SABINE ENGEL

She studied astrophysics and researched exploding stars to get answers to all her questions. But behind them, she only discovered new ones. The mysteries of the universe are simply infinite.



# Trains – All Aboard!



Get in, close the doors ... off you go on a spectacular journey from the beginnings of the steam locomotive to the ultra-modern high-speed train. What does the world look like from the driver's cabin? How are railway tunnels built? And how will we travel in the future? With fascinating technical details - and guaranteed on time.

## CHRISTIAN HOLST

He is a freelance journalist and author. His topics range from black holes to the T-Rex and from great white sharks to trains.



# The Universe – Galaxies, Stars, Black Holes



It all began with a huge bang. Black holes turn everything that comes too close to them into spaghetti. White dwarfs and red giants float through space. It's not easy to imagine all of this. We explore distant worlds far beyond our solar system. Based on the latest research, but still accessible to children.

## DR. VOLKER KRATZENBERG-ANNIES

He headed public relations at the German Aerospace Center (DLR) and the European Space Agency (ESA) for many years and, as a press officer, looked after numerous astronauts. Today, he works in the DLR's youth development program.



# Volcanoes – Pretty Hot!



They can be threatening and dangerous, but without volcanoes there would be no life on earth. How do mountains of fire form? Where does their enormous energy come from? And how can an impending eruption be recognised at an early stage? In impressive pictures and graphics, we explain what it means for us humans to be at home on a volcanic planet.

## DR. MANFRED BAUR

The documentary filmmaker and natural scientist is fascinated by the power of volcanoes and is glad that they exist: Because without them, humans would almost certainly never have come to exist.



# Weather – From Sunshine to Wild Storms



**Light as a cloud? Don't be fooled! Clouds can weigh as much as a herd of elephants. Rainbows are actually circles, and rain has its own smell. The weather is with us every day and often has surprises in store. Lightning, hail, sunshine: we pack our umbrellas and swimsuits and discover the small and large wonders of the weather together.**

#### **SILKE HANSEN**

She is an absolute weather expert: for many years, she has been explaining what you need to know it on radio and television, and she heads the ARD Weather Competence Center.



# WAS IST WAS List of Titles



**Airplanes.**  
Up through the Clouds!



**Astronauts.**  
Fly into Space with Us!



**Bats.**  
Swiftly Through the Night



**Bees.**  
Buzzing Geniuses



**Below Ground.**  
Hidden Worlds



**Your Body.**  
Everything You're Made of



**Cars.**  
How will We Drive in the Future?



**Cats.**  
Strong-Willed Felines



**Codes and Secret Writing.\***  
Top Secret?!



**Coral Reef.**  
Right at the Heart of it all



**Deep Sea.**  
Survival in Darkness



**Democracy.**  
Your Vote Counts



**Dinosaurs.**  
Super Lizards of Prehistoric Times



**Dogs.**  
On your Paws, get set, go!



**Dolphins.**  
Always in a Team



**The Earth.**  
Our Unique Planet

# WAS IST WAS List of Titles



**Economy.** ★  
What moves the World



**Ancient Egypt.**  
Gods, Mummies, Pyramids



**Europe.**  
Together Into the Future



**Firefighters.**  
Full Commitment



**The Forest.**  
Between Leaves and Cones



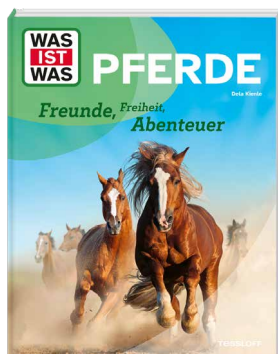
**Germany.**  
Where and How We Live



**Ancient Greece.**  
A Time of Myths and Ideas



**Green Energy.**  
Power for the Future



**Horses.**  
Friends, Freedom, Adventure



**The Human.**  
From the Stone Age till Today



**Inventions.**  
How Ideas Change the World



**Jellyfish.**  
Is It All Just Goo?



**Knights and Castles.**  
Let's go to the Middle Ages!



**Lizards.**  
Little Dragons up Close



**Minerals and Rocks.**  
Treasures of Nature



**Mission Control Centre.**  
Contact to Space

# WAS IST WAS List of Titles



**Money.\***  
From the money box to the future



**Monkeys.\***  
Will you come climbing?



**Mummies and Bog Bodies.**  
What They Tell Us



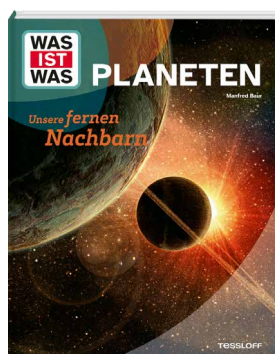
**Octopuses.**  
Eight Arms and Three Hearts



**Owls.**  
Hunters with Super Senses



**Penguins.**  
Always Cool



**Planets.**  
Our Distant Neighbours



**Police.**  
On Duty for You



**Prehistoric Mammals.**  
From Flying Squirrels to Mammoths



**Protecting the Environment.**  
Making a Difference Together



**Rainforest.**  
Wild Green World



**Robots.**  
Helpers with Superpowers



**Ancient Rome.**  
A City That Changed The World



**Slime. Gross?**  
No, genius!



**Smartphones – What's great about them? What's dangerous?\***



**Snakes.**  
Scaly Skin and Super Senses

# WAS IST WAS List of Titles



**Spiders.**  
Eight-Legged Acrobats



**The Sun.**  
Mega Hot and Super Bright!



**Trains.**  
All Aboard!



**The Universe.**  
Galaxies, Stars, Black Holes



**Volcanoes.**  
Pretty Hot!



**Weather.**  
From Sunshine to Wild Storms

To be  
continued ...



*Stay up to date on **WAS IST WAS** –  
the leading international knowledge  
brand for kids and young people – and  
our large variety of children's books.*



### **Curious?**

Download our **latest catalogues**  
and sign up for our foreign rights  
**newsletter** here!



## **CONTACT**

### **TESSLOFF VERLAG**

Ragnar Tessloff GmbH & Co. KG  
Burgschmietstraße 2-4  
90419 Nürnberg, Germany

Tel. +49 (0)911 39906-0  
www.tessloff.com

### **Helga Uhlemann**

Licensing & International  
Business Director

uhlemann@tessloff.com

### **Claudia Hartwig**

Licensing & Foreign Rights  
Manager

hartwig@tessloff.com