



# POOP Power



by Ellen Lawrence

**[Intentionally Left Blank]**





# POOP Power

by Ellen Lawrence

**Consultant:**

**Garret Suen, Assistant Professor**  
Department of Bacteriology  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin

**BEARPORT**  
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

## Credits

Cover, © John Bracegirdle/Alamy, © Anubhab Roy/Shutterstock, and © OlegD/Shutterstock; 4T, © AuntSpray/Shutterstock; 4B, © Nigel Bean/Nature Picture Library; 5, © Christian Jegou Publiphoto Diffusion/Science Photo Library; 6, © Fotosearch/Getty Images; 7TL, © Greentellect Studio/Shutterstock; 7, © Mauro Toccaceli/Alamy; 8L, © Ruth Owen; 8R, © Ghislain Cottat/Creative Commons; 9, © M. Burgess/Classic Stock/Alamy; 10, © Aleksander Hunta/Shutterstock; 11, © Bjorn Svensson/Alamy; 12, © Ashley Cooper Pics/Alamy; 13, © Design Pics Inc/Alamy and © smereka/Shutterstock; 14, © Vladimir Wrangel/Shutterstock; 15, © Ruby Tuesday Books; 16, © Loowatt Ltd.; 17, © Loowatt Ltd.; 18T, © Milkovasa/Shutterstock; 18B, © Tian Gan/Shutterstock; 19, © Shotshop GmbH/Alamy; 20T, © Evan Lorne/Shutterstock; 20B, © Justin Kase ztwoz/Alamy; 21, © Sikarin Supphatada/Shutterstock; 22, © Tapilipa/Shutterstock; 23TL, © Evan Lorne/Shutterstock; 23TC, © Ashley Cooper Pics/Alamy; 23TR, © Sciencepics/Shutterstock; 23BL, © viki2win/Shutterstock; 23BC, © Christian Jegou Publiphoto Diffusion/Science Photo Library; 23BR, © pingphuket/Shutterstock.

Publisher: Kenn Goin

Editor: Jessica Rudolph

Creative Director: Spencer Brinker

Photo Researcher: Ruth Owen Books

## *Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data*

Names: Lawrence, Ellen, 1967– author.

Title: Poop power / by Ellen Lawrence.

Description: New York, New York : Bearport Publishing, [2018] | Series: The scoop on poop | Audience: Ages 5–8. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2017016596 (print) | LCCN 2017025658 (ebook) |

ISBN 9781684023004 (Ebook) | ISBN 9781684022465 (library)

Subjects: LCSH: Renewable energy sources—Juvenile literature. | Animal droppings—Juvenile literature. | Feces—Juvenile literature. | Power resources—Juvenile literature.

Classification: LCC TJ808.2 (ebook) | LCC TJ808.2 .L39 2018 (print) | DDC 333.79/4—dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2017016596>

Copyright © 2018 Bearport Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 45 West 21st Street, Suite 3B, New York, New York 10010. Printed in the United States of America.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



# Contents

Prehistoric Poop Power .....	4
Fuel From Buffaloes .....	6
Burning Beans.....	8
Why Burn Dung? .....	10
Rotting Poop.....	12
Gas and Electricity.....	14
Special Toilets.....	16
Flushed Away .....	18
The Future Is Poo!.....	20
Science Lab .....	22
Science Words .....	23
Index .....	24
Read More .....	24
Learn More Online .....	24
About the Author .....	24



# Prehistoric Poop Power

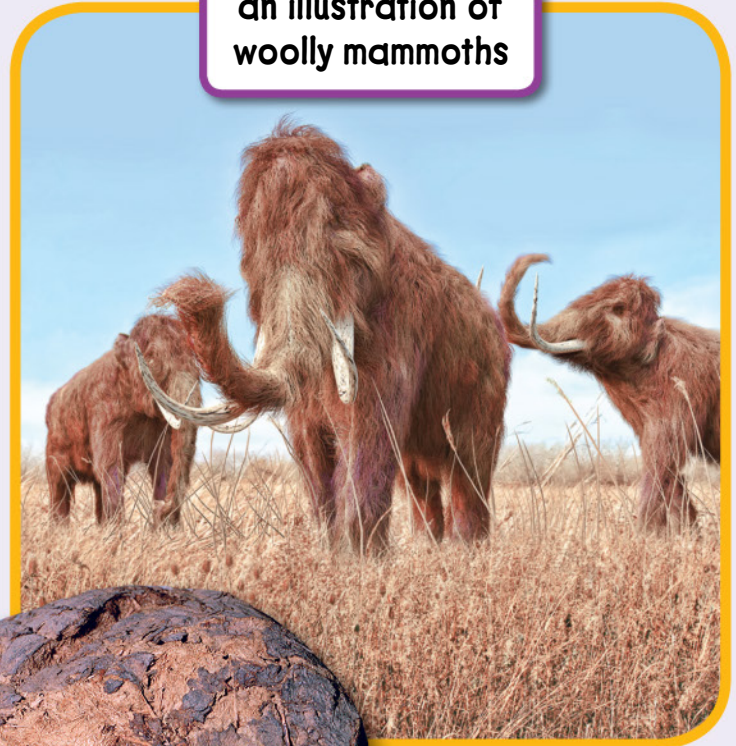
A pile of stinky poop might seem useless and yucky.

However, poop can actually be very useful—as **fuel**!

For thousands of years, **prehistoric** people used wood, dead leaves, and animal bones to build fires.

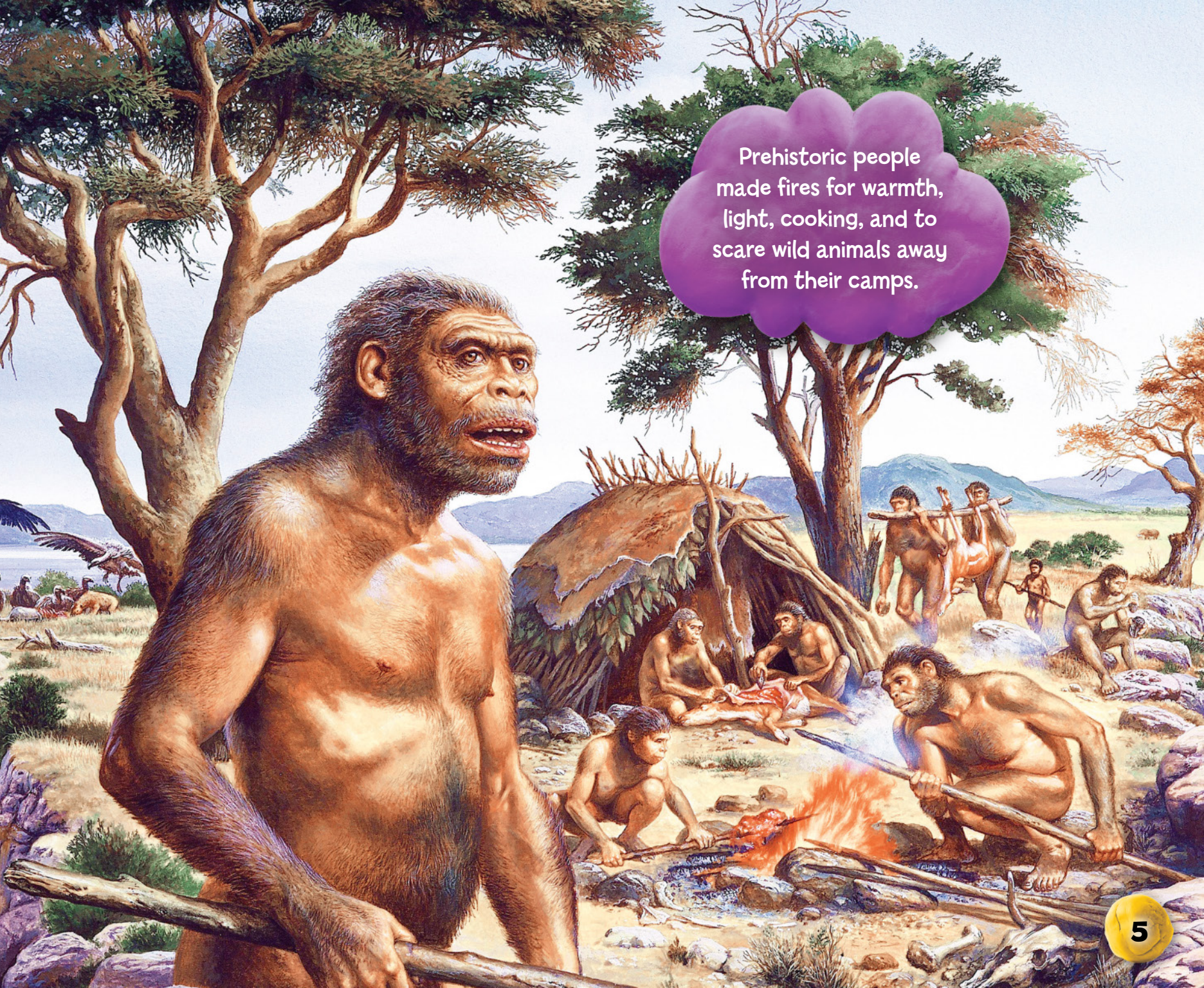
Yet they also collected lumps of dried dung from animals, such as woolly mammoths, to burn as fuel.

an illustration of woolly mammoths



mammoth dung





Prehistoric people  
made fires for warmth,  
light, cooking, and to  
scare wild animals away  
from their camps.



# Fuel From Buffaloes

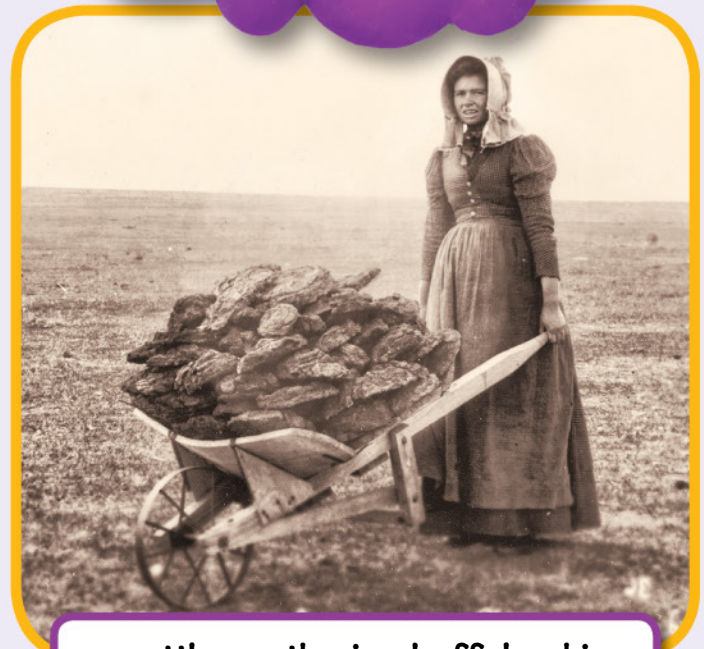
Animal dung was especially useful to people who lived in places where there were few trees.

The Great Plains is an area of flat, grassy land in North America.

Native Americans who lived there long ago burned dried buffalo dung.

They also hunted buffaloes for their meat, and used their skins to make tents and clothes.

When European settlers came to the Great Plains in the 1800s, they used buffalo dung as fuel, too. They called the round, flat lumps of dry poop “buffalo chips.”



a settler gathering buffalo chips



a buffalo hunt from the 1800s

buffalo dung

buffalo

Native American  
hunter



Why do you think  
buffalo dung burns well?  
(The answer is on page 24.)