

## **Dippy and the Whale**

On the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015 the Natural History Museum announced that it would be replacing its iconic Diplodocus dinosaur Dippy with a skeleton of a blue whale as part of a large and ambitious project to transform the central Hintze Hall space. In addition hundreds of new specimens would be installed to represent and celebrate the wonder and diversity of the natural world both past and present.

The move to replace the dinosaur was considered controversial at the time and caught the attention of the media. On the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017 the newly transformed Hintze Hall was reopened by HRH The Duchess of Cambridge with Sir David Attenborough and 100s of other guests in attendance. The blue whale had now taken centre stage.

This illustrated talk tells the story of both Dippy and Hope the blue whale and the challenges of working on some of nature's giants.