Figure 1: A juvenile seahorse *Hippocampus sarmaticus* with preserved head and spine, 4 cm. First, this and other similar remains have not been recognized as seahorses by us but some problematic fossils.

Figure 2: Another juvenile seahorse *Hippocampus sarmaticus*, 1.5 cm. Based on this specimen it has become clear to us that these remains belong to seahorses.

Figures 3 and 4: Authors of this book (Tomaž Hitij – left; Jure Žalohar – right) excavating fossils in the beds of the Coprolitic Horizon in the year, 2009. Photo by Maja Hitij.

Figure 5: Reconstruction of *Hippocampus sarmaticus*, female (After Žalohar et al., 2009; reconstruction by Tomaž Hitij, computer finalization by Jure Žalohar).

Figure 6: Reconstruction of *Hippocampus slovenicus*, female (After Žalohar et al., 2009; reconstruction by Tomaž Hitij, computer finalization by Jure Žalohar).

Figure 7: The Tunjice seahorse - the most famous fossil found in the Tunjice Hills to this date. This is the first and the best preserved adult seahorse *Hippocampus sarmaticus*. The complete specimen was approximately 9 cm long when alive. Now, part of the tail is missing, therefore, the specimen is only approximately 5 cm long. Nevertheless, the specimen is excellently preserved, with all major morphological characteristics well visible, which allowed a detailed study of this seahorse species.

Figure 8: A head of a juvenile seahorse *Hippocampus sarmaticus*, 1.5 cm.

Figures 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13: Baby seahorses *Hippocampus sarmaticus*. These fossils attain up to 4 cm in length. The length of their head is approximately 5 mm. By most fossils only the head and the spine are preserved. Bony plates that cover the body were dissolved in the sediment before fossilization.

Figure 14: A baby seahorse *Hippocampus slovenicus* and reconstruction of the specimen. As juveniles, this seahorse species had caudal fin and very short tail. The specimen is approximately 1.5 cm in length.

Figure 15: Head of a baby seahorse *Hippocampus slovenicus*, 3 mm.

Figure 16: Another baby of the seahorse *Hippocampus slovenicus*, 1.5 cm.

Figures 17, 18 and 19: Accumulations of the baby seahorses on a single bedding planes indicate that as juveniles these seahorses lived together in groups.

Figure 21: The smallest found specimen of *Hippocampus sarmaticus* and the tip of a pencil for comparison.

Figures 22, 23 and 24: Photorealistic reconstructions of *Hippocampus sarmaticus* in its natural environment (3D models by Miha Kač; reconstructions of the colors by Tomaž Hitij; photography and computer finalization by Jure Žalohar).

Figures 25 and 26: Photorealistic reconstructions of *Hippocampus slovenicus* in its natural environment (3D models by Miha Kač; reconstructions of the colors by Tomaž Hitij; photography and computer finalization by Jure Žalohar).

Figure 27: Seahorses had great dispersion abilities by means of rafting. They could easily spread over the entire Pannonian basin in one month.