



Title: Mary had a Monstersaur

Author: Mike Dumbleton

Illustrator: Peter Bath

Publisher: Larrikin House

Target Age Group: 3-8 years

Key Curriculum Areas: English, The Arts, Science, Technologies and Social & Emotional Learning (SEL).

SYNOPSIS

Mary had a dinosaur
called Monstersaurus Rex.
Not the cuddly little lamb
that everyone expects!

What happens when everyone in town meets Mary's huge new friend?
Will he fit in? Or was he born to stand out?

THEMES

Fitting in, friendship, resilience, overcoming challenges, dinosaurs!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mike Dumbleton is a successful author with nine 'Notable Book' awards from the Children's Book Council of Australia. Other awards include: Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year for Muddled-up Farm, and CBCA Honour Book, Cat. His books have been published in Australia and overseas. Mike loves reading, laughter, sunny weather, watching sport and meeting his readers in school visits.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Peter lives in London but grew up in a tiny village in Northamptonshire where he obsessed over his favourite films and bands. These obsessions hold firm into Peter's adult life.

Peter loves making people laugh and humour is essential in his illustrations. Everything starts with a drawing and he is often found obsessing over textures, much like his record collection.

Stories with Humour & Heart

Copyright © Larrikin House.

These notes may be reproduced free of charge for use and study within schools but they may not be reproduced (either in whole or in part) and offered for commercial sale.



ACTIVITIES

BEFORE READING

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think this story might be about?
2. Can you point out the following features of the book?
(Spine, title, illustration, front page, back page, blurb, end papers).

DURING READING

Recognising rhyming words - Ask students to put up their hand when they notice the rhyming words on a selected page. (ACELA1439) (ACELT1585)

Recognising alliteration - Ask students to put up their hand when they notice any alliteration used in the story. (ACELA1439) (ACELT1585)

Clap the rhythm - On a selected page, students clap their hands along to the beat of the words. (ACELT1585)

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think will happen next?
2. How do you think Mary will solve her Monstersaur problems?
3. Have you ever worried about not fitting in?
4. Have you ever seen a dinosaur in real life?
5. What do you know about dinosaurs?
6. Can you make any connections to the story so far?
(ACELT1575) (ACELY1646) (ACELT1582) (ACPPS020) (ACPPS004)

AFTER READING

Questions to ask:

1. What did you enjoy most about the story?
2. What was your favourite illustration? Why?
(ACELY1646) (ACELT1581)



SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

- 1. Cloze passages:** Choose a section of text and omit words. Students to fill in the blanks.
Curriculum Links: (ACELA1435) (ACELA1434) (ACELA1786) (ACELY1650) (ACELA1447) (ACELA1448)
- 2. Character Profile:** Students draw the characters in the story and write their name underneath each picture.
Curriculum Links: (ACELT1783) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACAVAM108) (ACTDEP007) (ACELA1586)
- 3. Word Search:** Create a word search using words from the text.
Curriculum links: (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACELY1663) (ACELA1586) (ACTDEP007) (ACELY1653)
- 4. Retell Activities:**
 - a. Create a table with the following headings: Setting (Where?) - Characters (Who?) - Problem (What?) - 1. In the beginning - 2. Next - 3. Then - 4. Finally - 5. Solution - 6. Lastly. Ask students to write or draw the order of events in the story.
 - b. Write short sentences which retell the story and jumble them up. Ask students to put them in the correct order.
Curriculum Links: (ACELT1578) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACELY1663) (ACELA1586) (ACTDEP007)
- 5. Acrostic Poem:** Students choose a character from the story and write an acrostic poem.
Curriculum Links: (ACELY1651) (ACAMAM056)
- 6. Write a blurb:** Explore the existing blurb on the back cover. Explain the purpose of the blurb to the students and ask them to create their own blurb.
Curriculum Links: (ACELY1651) (ACELA1586)
- 7. Design your own Monstersaur:** If you had a Monstersaur, what would it look like? What would you do together?
Curriculum Links: (ACELT1783) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACAVAM108) (ACTDEP007) (ACELA1586)
- 8. Dinosaurs - Information Poster:** Create a class poster about dinosaurs. Include some of the different types of dinosaurs.
Curriculum Links: (ACAMAM054) (ACELT1581) (ACELT1582) (ACHASSI001) (ACHASSI002) (ACHASSI003)
- 9. Mary had a... :** Students create alternative endings to the popular nursery rhyme, Mary Had a Little Lamb.
Curriculum Links: (ACAMAM054) (ACELT1581) (ACELT1582) (ACHASSI001) (ACHASSI002)
- 10. Dino chalk walk:** Explore the Jurassic periods and produce a visual timeline in chalk on a section of footpath.
Curriculum Links: (AC SIS012) (ACSHE013) (AC SIS027)



FURTHER INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

Mike Dumbleton: <http://mikedumbleton.com.au/>

Peter Bath: <https://www.peterbath.me/>

How Dinosaurs Took Over The World: <https://youtu.be/6lgCU6vyGR0>



To order copies of this title visit: www.larrikinhouse.com

Dino Chalk Walk

Draw a timeline on a footpath which shows the different eras that dinosaurs existed. For example:

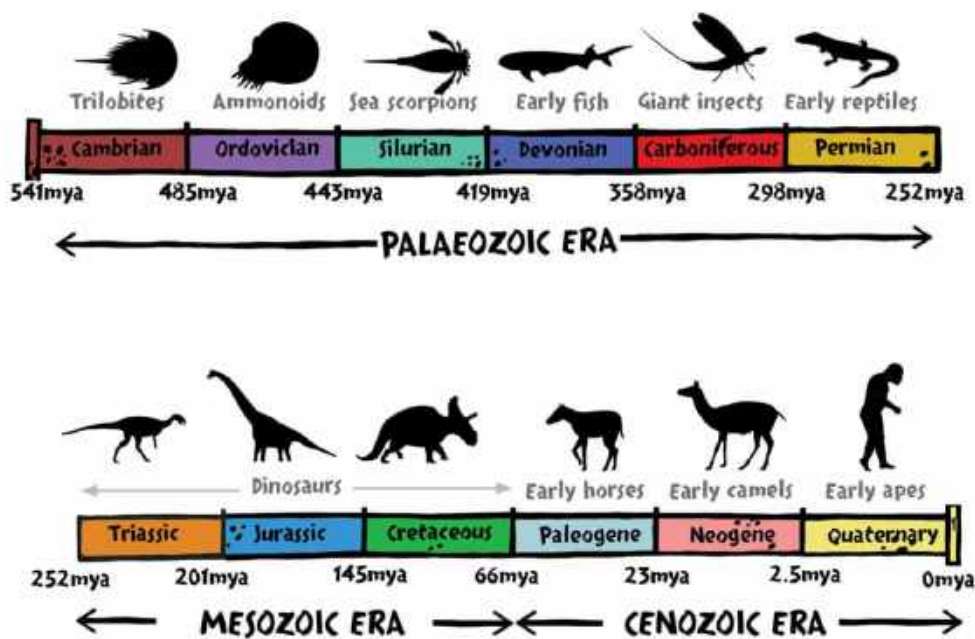


Image source: The Guardian

Extension activity: Using chalk, draw life-sized dinosaurs with real measurements and a tape measure. Have the students choose one large dinosaur and one smaller dinosaur. Measure out the length and width of each dinosaur on a large concreted or asphalt area and mark each measurement point, using a picture for reference. The students can draw the remaining details and colour in the dinosaurs.



1.2m views



MARY HAD A MONSTERSAUR
 ISBN: 9781922503329
 PUBLISHER: Larrikin House
 ORDER FROM: larrikinhouse.com

WRITTEN BY: Mike Dumbleton
 Follow on: <http://mikedumbleton.com.au/>
ILLUSTRATED BY: Peter Bath
 Follow on: <https://www.peterbath.me/>

Design your own Monstersaur

What would your pet dinosaur look like? Draw it below.



What would you do together? Write a sentence below about the things you and your Monstersaur would do together.

.....



.....



MARY HAD A MONSTERSAUR
ISBN: 9781922503329
PUBLISHER: Larrikin House
ORDER FROM: larrikinhouse.com

WRITTEN BY: Mike Dumbleton
Follow on: <http://mikedumbleton.com.au/>
ILLUSTRATED BY: Peter Bath
Follow on: <https://www.peterbath.me/>