



National Young Readers Week

An Annual Celebration of Reading Created by Pizza Hut® and The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

If the Dinosaurs Came Back

by Bernard Most

What would the world be like if the dinosaurs came back? Well, just think of all the useful things they could do! Bold lines accentuate imaginative, humorous ideas.

Read

Before:

Before you read:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *how could dinosaurs help us with everyday tasks?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

- *I wonder if the dinosaurs are nice or mean?*

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out “rare words” (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *If the Dinosaurs Came Back*:

- plow: to turn up soil for planting crops or clear the land
- lumberjacks: a person whose work involves cutting down trees and transporting the timber
- skyscrapers: a tall building of many stories
- circus: a traveling company of entertainers such as acrobats, clowns, and trained animals

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- How many red dinosaurs are there in the little boy’s dream?
- Where could dinosaurs carry people to and from?
- Why wouldn’t we need lawn mowers if dinosaurs came back?
- How would dinosaurs be helpful to house painters?
- Looking at the diagram in the back of the book, what type of dinosaur helps farmers plow their fields?
- How do dinosaurs help lumberjacks chop down trees?
- What color of dinosaur helps firefighters put out fires?
- How many people are building the skyscraper?
- Describe the differences between the dinosaurs that rescue kites and the ones who help at the circus.
- Where is the dentist laying?



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Do

Dinosaur Scene Building

You will need: blank white paper, black crayons, water colors, hole punch, brads or yarn

Create your own scenes for the book by imagining ways in which you would insert dinosaurs into today's landscapes. How could having a dinosaur help make your life easier or more fun? Draw the image in black and white, except for the dinosaurs. Use your favorite water colors to color them in. Combine the drawings into your own book and secure them with brads or yarn.



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