

Picture Book Extender

Share these extender activities as a follow up to reading the book aloud.

No T. Rex in the Library

By Toni Buzzeo

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Grades PreK -- 1

Summary:

When Tess misbehaves in the public library and is sent to the time-out chair, she can't resist bringing an enormous T. Rex to life from the pages of his book. However, as the two rampage through various sections of the library, Tess is torn between her enjoyment of the adventure and the clear danger their romp poses to the books. When T. Rex crosses the line and rips a library book, Tess has no choice but to put him in time-out.

Discussion Questions:

Why does Mommy put Tess in the time-out chair? Can you think of the library rules she might be breaking by looking closely at the illustrations at the beginning of the story?

Tess and T. Rex visit many different sections of the library. Who do they meet there? Can you think of any books you know, that these characters might have come from?

Do you think that T. Rex is a real dinosaur that Tess brought to life? What makes you think he is or is not? If he's not, what do you think T. Rex is?

Activities:

The book that falls open when Tess knocks over the book cart, has a T. Rex on the cover. Perhaps it was a nonfiction book all about T. Rexes. If your library has a series of books with each volume dedicated to a different dinosaur or dinosaur family, share the series with your students for this activity. Otherwise, simply share a variety of dinosaur books with them. Give children time to browse through the books and choose another favorite dinosaur. Invite each student to create a picture of himself or herself astride the dinosaur of his or her choice. From these pictures, create a wall-size mural of all of the dinosaurs stampeding through the library with children riding on them.

At the end of the story, Tess is sitting in the time-out chair holding her T. Rex book; T. Rex is inside in his own time-out. Tess whispers, "Just ten quiet minutes, Little Beastie, and then I'll be back for you." Ask students to imagine that the ten minutes are up, Tess is in a new location, and she pulls T. Rex back out of his book. As a group, in pairs, or individually, depending on the developmental level of your students, ask them to write or draw what happens next.

Related Titles:

The Big Book of Dinosaurs: A First book for Young Children by Angela Wilkes

Chalk by Bill Thomson

Delilah D. at the Library by Jeanne Willis
Library Lion by Michelle Knudsen
The Pencil by Allan Ahlberg

Related Curriculum: Science: Dinosaurs; Language Arts: Writing

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Ms. Toni Buzzeo, a certified school librarian, is the author of eleven picture books for children and eleven professional books for librarians and educators.