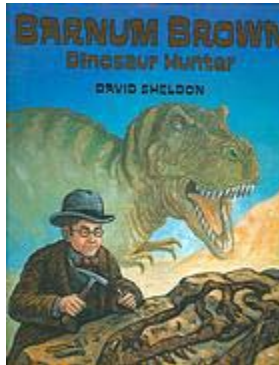


Barnum Brown Dinosaur Hunter!

Written and Illustrated by David Shelton

Walker & Company

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Themes: Dinosaurs, Paleontologist

Overall Theme: This book is about Barnum Brown's life and how he became a dinosaur hunter.

Genre: Juvenile Literature, Biography

Point of View: Omniscient 3rd Person

Interest Level: Grades K-4

Reading Level: 4th grade

Conflict: Barnum Brown wanted to learn more about dinosaurs and help the American Museum of Natural History have a dinosaur exhibit. He was on a mission to become the greatest dinosaur hunter ever.

Resolution: Barnum Brown worked long days and extra hours. He created one of the "world's richest collections of dinosaurs."

Characters:

Name of Character	Relationship(s)	Personal and Physical Traits
William Brown	Barnum Brown's father	Clean, liked the circus and named his son after it
Clara Brown	Barnum Brown's mother	Beautiful and proud

Barnum Brown	Main character	Adventurous, hard-working, determined, competitive, dinosaur hunter
Henry F. Osborn	Director of the American Museum of Natural History and also known as Barnum Brown's boss	Determined, competitive, supportive, smart
Charles H. Sternberg	Barnum Brown's dinosaur hunt competitor	Determined, adventurous, hard-working, dinosaur hunter

Setting: This story starts in 1873 and finishes in 1917. The characters travel the U.S. looking for dinosaur fossils. The American Museum of Natural History is located in New York.

Book Talk:

What did dinosaurs look like? What did they eat? How big were their teeth? Barnum Brown helped answer all these questions. 100 years ago, we did not know much about dinosaurs. Barnum Brown grew up wanting to be a dinosaur hunter. The idea of searching for fossils was so interesting that he decided to become a paleontologist and work for the American Museum of Natural History. They hired him to search for dinosaur fossils. When Canada found this out, they hired their own team of paleontologists. They competed against one another to see who could find out the most about these strange creatures. Who will win and what will they discover?



About the Author & Illustrator:

Dave Shelton is an author and an illustrator. He attended Cambridge, Brighton, and Loughborough as a student. He now lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. He has a wife and three children. Dave Shelton enjoys collecting pens and has been drawing professionally since 1990. Barnum Brown Dinosaur Hunter is the first book that Dave has written and illustrated. He loved the Tyrannosaurus Rex so much as a child and then he began wondering who discovered it. This led him to the idea of writing this particular book.

Official Webpage of the Author & Illustrator: <http://www.daveshelton.com>

Other Books written and illustrated by David Shelton:

		The Great King by David Shelton
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Annotation:

David Shelton is an author and an illustrator. Barnum Brown Dinosaur Hunter is the first book that he has written and illustrated. As a young boy, he dinosaurs intrigued him. He began to wonder about the discoveries and started researching the practice of Barnum Brown. The story begins with the birth of Barnum Brown and details why his parents named him Barnum, after the circus. It goes on to described his life and how he built the greatest dinosaur collection for the American Museum of Natural History. The best part about this book is that the illustrations capture a detailed description of each dinosaur and the year they were discovered. This book is a perfect read aloud for children in kindergarten to fourth grade. David Shelton does an excellent job taking the reader through Barnum Brown's life. At the end of the book, you not only know more about Barnum Brown, but you also have more dinosaur knowledge as well.

Anticipation Guide:

Before		Barnum Brown Dinosaur Hunter By David Shelton	After	
Agree	Disagree		Agree	Disagree
		A biography is a story about a person's life.		
		A dinosaur is a make-believe creature.		
		There is only one kind of dinosaur.		
		Looking for dinosaur fossils is boring for everyone.		

Language/Vocabulary/Spelling for Barnum Brown Dinosaur Hunter

Rivalry (page 3)- the condition or fact of competing with somebody or something

Fossils (page 5) - the remains of an animal or plant preserved from an earlier era inside a rock or other geologic deposit, often as an impression or in a petrified state

Ancient (page 6) – very old

Specimen (page 13) - something that is representative because it is characteristic of its kind or of a whole, especially something that serves as an example

Discussion Questions:

(pg. 1 & 2)

Pre-reading – “What do you see in the background of this picture?”

During reading – “Does anyone know how long ago this was?”

Post-reading – “Why do you think he likes to explore?”

(pg. 3 & 4)

Pre-reading – “What are they reading about?”

During reading – “Can you name some of the dinosaurs on these pages?”

Post-reading – “Do you think he was right?”

(pg. 5 & 6)

Pre-reading – “Who are the characters on this page?”

During reading – “How old do you think Barnum is now?”

Post-reading – “Where do you think he will go to search for dinosaur fossils?”

(pg.7& 8)

Pre-reading – “Where is the setting of these pages?”

During reading – “What does it mean when it says, “in those days, before the automobile...?”

Post-reading – “Do you think he will find something that no one has ever seen before?”

(pg. 9 & 10)

Pre-reading – “What do you think are in the boxes?”

During reading – “Do you think it would be hard to put together dinosaur fossils?”

Post-reading – “How many people have been to the Children’s Museum and searched for fossils?”

(pg. 11 & 12)

Pre-reading – “Why do you think they put numbers on the fossils?”

During reading – “What does the word *imagine* mean?”

Post-reading – “What do you think will happen next?”

(pg. 13 & 14)

Pre-reading – “What is on this page?”

During reading – “What dinosaur is this?”

Post-reading – “Who is standing there beside the dinosaur?”

(pg. 15 & 16)

Pre-reading – “How do you think Barnum Brown is feeling?”

During reading – “Why did the illustrator make the dinosaur look like a ghost?”

Post-reading – “If you saw this dinosaur, what would you do?”

(pg. 17 & 18)

Pre-reading – “Where is Barnum Brown on this page?”

During reading – “What did he find and why was it so important?”

Post-reading – “Does anyone know how many days are in two years?”

(pg. 19 & 20)

Pre-reading – “Where is the setting of this page?”

During reading – “Why do the people have their mouths open?”

Post-reading – “What would you say to Barnum Brown if you saw him today?”

(pg. 21 & 22)

Pre-reading – “Why is there a tent on the boat?”

During reading – “Who do you think will win this competitive dinosaur search?”

Post-reading – “Why does it say ...and a new Dinosaur Rush was on...why did the author say the word new?”

(pg. 23 & 24)

Pre-reading – “Can you tell what dinosaur fossils they are uncovering?”

During reading – “Why does the dinosaur look like a ghost?”

Post-reading – “Do you think Barnum Brown and his team are excited?”

(pg. 25 & 26)

Pre-reading – “How many dinosaurs are on this page?”

During reading – “What do you know about these dinosaurs?”

Post-reading – “Do you think there are more dinosaurs to discover?”

(pg. 27 & 28)

Pre-reading – “Where is the setting on this page?”

During reading – “How do the people feel?”

Post-reading – “Would you like to visit the American Museum of Natural History?”

Standards:

Kindergarten – K.2.1, K.2.2, K.2.3, K.2.5, K.3.2, K.3.3, K.3.5

First Grade – 1.1.2, 1.1.7, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.7, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.3.5

Second Grade – 2.1.1, 2.2.4, 2.2.10, 2.3.5

Third Grade – 3.2.6, 3.3.3, 3.3.8

Read Alike:

If you loved this book, then you might want to try...

1. [Time Traveler: In Search of Dinosaurs and Other Fossils from Montana to Mongolia](#) by [Michael Novacek](#)
2. [The Gilded Dinosaur: The Fossil War Between E.D. Cope and O.C. Marsh and the Rise of American Science](#) by [Mark Jaffe](#)
3. [Digging into the past : an autobiography](#) by [Edwin Harris Colbert](#)
4. [Letters from a Traveller](#) by [Pierre Teilhard de Chardin](#)
5. [The Bonehunters' Revenge: Dinosaurs and Fate in the Gilded Age](#) by [David Rains Wallace](#)
6. [Dinosaur Hunters: Eccentric Amateurs and Obsessed Professionals](#) by [David A. E Spalding](#)
7. [Jack Horner: Living With Dinosaurs \(Science Superstars\)](#) by [Don Lessem](#)
8. [Letters from Egypt, 1905-1908](#) by [Pierre Teilhard de Chardin](#)
9. [Teilhard de Chardin: scientist and seer](#) by [Charles E Raven](#)
10. [Dialogue with Teilhard de Chardin...](#) by [Olivier A. Rabut](#)

Across the Curriculum Connections

Writing Activity: Create a new dinosaur and write about it

Materials: paper, pencil, crayons

Working independently, students will create their own dinosaur. They will draw a picture of what they think an “undiscovered” dinosaur looks like. Below their dinosaur, they will write a description telling the name, what it likes to eat, and what it looks like. The following checklist will be used to grade their final dinosaur description.

Task	Checklist
Creative illustration	
Name of dinosaur	
What it likes to eat	
What it looks like	
Capital letters at beginning of sentences	
Punctuation at the end of sentences	

IN Standards

Writing: K.4.5, K.4.8, K.6.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.4, 2.6.1, 2.6.8, 3.5.2

Math Activity: Digging for Dinosaur Bones

Materials for each group: Dog bones to act as dinosaur bones, bag, pair of dice, and piece of paper.

Students will work in small groups to play a Digging for Dinosaur game. They will place 20 dog bones into a bag and roll the dice. If they roll a six and a three, they would pull those out of the bag and add them together to get the final sum. They would record $6 + 3 = 9$ on their pieces of paper.

IN Standards

Math – K.2.1, K.2.3, 1.2.2, 1.2.5, 2.2.1, 3.2.1

Book Activities

Activity #1 Character Interview

Purpose: Students will think of 3 interview questions that they would ask Barnum Brown.

Indiana Standards:

K.3.3, K.4.8, 1.4.6, 2.5.2, 3.3.3

Activity:

Students will work independently think of 3 interview questions they would ask Barnum Brown.

Teacher will dress-up as Barnum Brown and the students will have a chance to do a press conference. They will set their seats around the teacher's podium and raise their hands to ask their questions.

Activity # 2 Letter to the Author

Purpose: Students will identify the parts of a letter and write to the author of this book.

Indiana Standards: K.6.1, 1.5.5, 2.6.1, 3.5.3

Activity:

Students will work independently to write a letter to the author describing their favorite part of the book. A brief mini-lesson will be taught detailing the date, greeting, body, closing, and signature.

Bibliography:

Indiana Academic Standards, <http://www.doe.state.in.us/standards/welcome2.html>

Follett Book Company, <http://www.titlewave.com/login>

Dave Shelton, www.daveshelton.com

Amazon, www.amazon.com

JacketFlap, <http://www.jacketflap.com/persondetail.asp?person=76392>

Library Thing, <http://www.librarything.com/work/2642325>