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Laurene Krasny Brown , Marc Brown

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For over 25 years, changing families have been using Dinosaurs Divorce to learn to talk to each other about one of life's most difficult moments, from the creators of the beloved, bestselling Dino Life Guides--over half a million copies of the series sold.

Dinosaurs Divorce Will Help you Understand: * Divorce Words and What They Mean * Why Parents Divorce * What About You? * After the Divorce * Living with One Parent * Visiting Your Parent * Having Two Homes * Celebrating Holidays and Special Occasions * Telling Your Friends * Meeting Parents' New Friends * Living with Stepparents * Having Stepsisters and Stepbrothers

Dinosaurs Divorce Details

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Author : Laurene Krasny Brown , Marc Brown

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From Reader Review Dinosaurs Divorce for online ebook

Jordan Smith says

Summary: On the very first page of this book is a kid friendly glossary of terms related to divorce including things like judge, lawyer, child support, and several others. The book then proceeds to explore, in a comic book illustrated type of format, the various trials and struggles of dinosaur children dealing with their dinosaur parents' divorce. The book is divided into many sections regarding divorce and each section presents various struggles that a child faces along with advice on how to deal with those struggles.

Activity: This is another book that will help students understand diverse family relationships and real life situations. I would like to have a book such as this one on my classroom bookshelf because it is very possible that some of my students may have parents that are divorced. If they ever feel different, sad, or alone, this book would be great for them to read because it is something that they can relate to and it could greatly help them learn how to cope with it a little better.

Scott Houston says

When I finished reading this book, I was surprised that despite having no human characters, the story still made more connections and offered more practical advice than many the more nonfictional story books I have collected. For example, I liked that the author made it a point that stepparents aren't as scary as one can think for the simple fact that they too love your parent. For classroom instruction I would use this book to try and get students to feel somewhat better about their situation, along with trying to impart some of the advice the text touches on. This is a good book for educators because it tries to answer some of the problems young people face, and it tries to show that with initiative things can get better.

Jessica says

This informative children's text shares all there is to know about divorce and what comes after in a kid-friendly, but realistic tone (ex. "divorce is final. Most parents don't get back together"). The book not only shares what kinds of feelings one might experience if their parents got divorced, but how to deal with those emotions (ex. "tell your parents how you feel and ask questions"). Laurene Krasny Brown and Marc Brown's text teaches that although a divorce in the family changes some things, one of those things is not how much the parents love their child. As a teacher, I would use this text to teach students how to deal with their feelings (ex. "acting babyish to get attention...try instead to ask for some love and affection"). I might even use the text to teach symbolism (ex. the dinosaurs represent human characters). Brown and Brown are both members of blended families; therefore, they offer an authentic perspective to this topic. I also appreciate that there is a page of "divorce words" and their definitions, along with a little challenge for the reader to try to find those words in the text.

Laura Eager says

I facilitate a workshop for kids whose parents are going through divorce. I read this book to my kids today and it really spoke to them about the changes that they face or will face. I like that it touches both on feelings and specific changes.

Elaine Pelton says

I think Dinosaur's Divorce provides an authentic, simple to digest and genuinely sympathetic introduction to what children should expect when dealing with a divorce. But mostly I just love the part when Mama dinosaur starts throwing back martinis like there's no tomorrow.

Christian Padgett says

This is not the average children's story. There is no major plot so no solution is involved. This book should not be used if you are at the point of trying to get students/children to learn about parts of a story. Rather, Dinosaurs Divorce: A Guide for Changning Families, is a book that serves more so as, like the title explains, a guide for children whose parents are going through a divorce. This book explains in great detail why parents get divorced as well as life after the divorce is over in a language that is appropriate for a child. It further provides information as to how to children might feel and how they should learn to make the best out of the situation. While this is a great story and every child whose parents go through a divorce should read this book, adults might want to go through with them to further explain what the author is writing. This book also includes an index so if children do not understand a certain word, they can use a quick reference to help understand.

Melissa Namba says

Oh boy do I have nieces and nephews who need this book. what a great resource for kids whose patents have gotten divorced. it is pretty up front about facts and let's kids know what to expect and even where to draw boundaries. very good!

Michael Claudius says

The informational book "Dinosaurs Divorce: A Guide for Changing Families" is an amazing book! The author did a great job informing young people about such a sensitive topic. I love the fact that the author decided to use dinosaurs to relay a message. The illustrations in the story will capture the children's interest and the information in the story will enlighten children on the "unspoken" topic of divorce. The book breaks down divorce words in a way that any person could understand. This text gives a broader understanding of what divorce is and how a person can deal with emotions and change. The text is clear and easy to read. I highly recommend this book to any elementary kid who is going through a divorce in their family or just want to read an informational story on the topic of divorce.

Stephanie Delvecchio says

Summary: Children familiar with the Browns' *Dinosaurs Beware* (Atlantic, 1983) and Marc Brown's "Arthur" books (Atlantic) will delight in this new foray into an area of deep concern for the youngest readers. Sympathetic to the full range of feelings that divorce produces, the authors use evocative cartoon dinosaur characters to convey their message. Chapters address such concerns as why parents divorce, what will happen to "me," where will holidays be celebrated, living in two homes, etc. Expressively illustrated with accompanying succinct text, this upbeat, straightforward treatment of a potentially confusing, traumatic childhood experience is comprehensive. Prediction: this will become a real "security blanket" for those young readers in need. Thank you Amazon!

Themes: divorce, family, step-parents, step-siblings, love, hard times

Use: could be used to recommend to a parent, going through a divorce, for his or her child.

Curricular use: independent reading

Controversy: "Sometimes parents who are upset with each other behave in ways that hurt themselves and the rest of the family." Accompanied with a picture of a dinosaur drinking alcohol.

J says

This book is awesome and I recommend it. It covers a lot of the major points, keep things positive. It's a good introduction.

Comfort Olajide says

I read this book and it is designed for parents and young school-aged children to read together. The book is good for children experiencing the divorce of their parents. Issues such as why parents divorce, living with one parent, having two homes, telling friends, parents' new partners, and celebrating special occasions are discussed. Solutions to problems that may come up are seen through the actions of the dinosaur children and their parents. The book is very easy to read and follow and the artwork is very appealing to children. I will put this book on my shelf to help children social emotion support in divorce situation.

Learning experience:

Read aloud: Reading books can give children a way to express their emotions and discuss issues that they may not otherwise be comfortable talking about. Parents also may benefit from these books by learning common things that children of divorce experience.

Haley says

"Dinosaurs Divorce" tells a story about a young dinosaur and his parents are divorcing. The story goes through different elements you experience when your parents divorce such as why parents divorce, what emotions you go through, what happens after the divorce, living with one parent, visiting your parent, having two homes, telling friends about the divorce, meeting new parents and new friends, and living with step parents. This book would be great for children who are going through this situation of parents divorcing. This book would also be good for parents to read to young children. The illustrations in this book are very colorful and have a lot of detail. The illustrations are in an almost comic form with many borders showing each day or situation. The beginning of the book starts out with a page that shows all words that are used when dealing with divorce and also the definition of the word. Words such as child custody, judge, and alimony. I would highly recommend this book for any child going through or soon to be going through this situation.

Hannah Banowsky says

This book helps break down the many ways a divorce can go. It helps the child understand what is going on, what may happen, and to remember that no matter what, mom and dad love them. This book goes into detail about how parents sometimes don't work well together and need to be separated. It explains that it has nothing to do with them. Then it talks about what happens after the divorce. Parents dating again, living in between two homes, or maybe just seeing one sometimes. It allows children to learn what to expect and how they can cope with it.

I would have this in my classroom but I don't think I would put it on my shelf for all to read. I think I would use it when I know a child is going through a hard time and allow them to read it on their own. I would then make sure the child knows this is a safe place for them. The book may be a very serious one but it is well done in explaining things that are hard for parents to talk about sometimes. This is a great book with a kind of an old-time feel in the illustrations and colors.

Kelsey says

Age: K-3rd grade

Still present on several booklists for children of divorced parents, *Dinosaurs Divorce* is a classic didactic walk-through of the many stages of divorce including why parents divorce, having two homes, and stepparents (the latter is not often discussed in children's books about divorce). This book is best at providing a positive outlook on an otherwise gloomy situation, and discussing several potential situations with levity and hope. Evaluating it purely as nonfiction, the authors both experienced divorce in their lives and interviewed children across the country on the matter. This provides a real perspective that tends to tip away from scientific observation.

While this book is a classic, several newly published books overcome the main shortcoming of this trailblazing work. Every situation presents an immediate reaction then tells children what is proper behavior.

This didactic telling may not be a very effective way to connect to the audience.

Remi says

I loved the breakdown of common divorce terms in the beginning of the book for children of divorce to understand. The book was well illustrated and comical, the dinosaurs with hair and eating peanut butter with pickles was uplifting considering the nature of the book. I would have liked to have seen the message on the final page "one thing that never changes is your parents' love for you" either earlier or repeated throughout the book because it is the most important message for making children of divorce to know.

I noticed that the mother dinosaur at the beginning of the book was the one displaying destructive behavior that "hurt the rest of the family" with little balance from the father parent. As a child of divorce I remember not being able to process that although my mother was making difficult decisions and attempting to shield me from my fathers cheating, she was often portrayed as the "bad parent." Children are sensitive to such subliminal messaging, from what I gleaned from the pictures it appears that the mother was alcoholic and abusive and made the father leave.

I also took issue with the need to be kind to step parents and to show respect. I would have re-worded the message to be one of trust your feelings and encourage the child to give them a chance but not ever to feel obligated to show feelings that are not genuine to a step parent.
