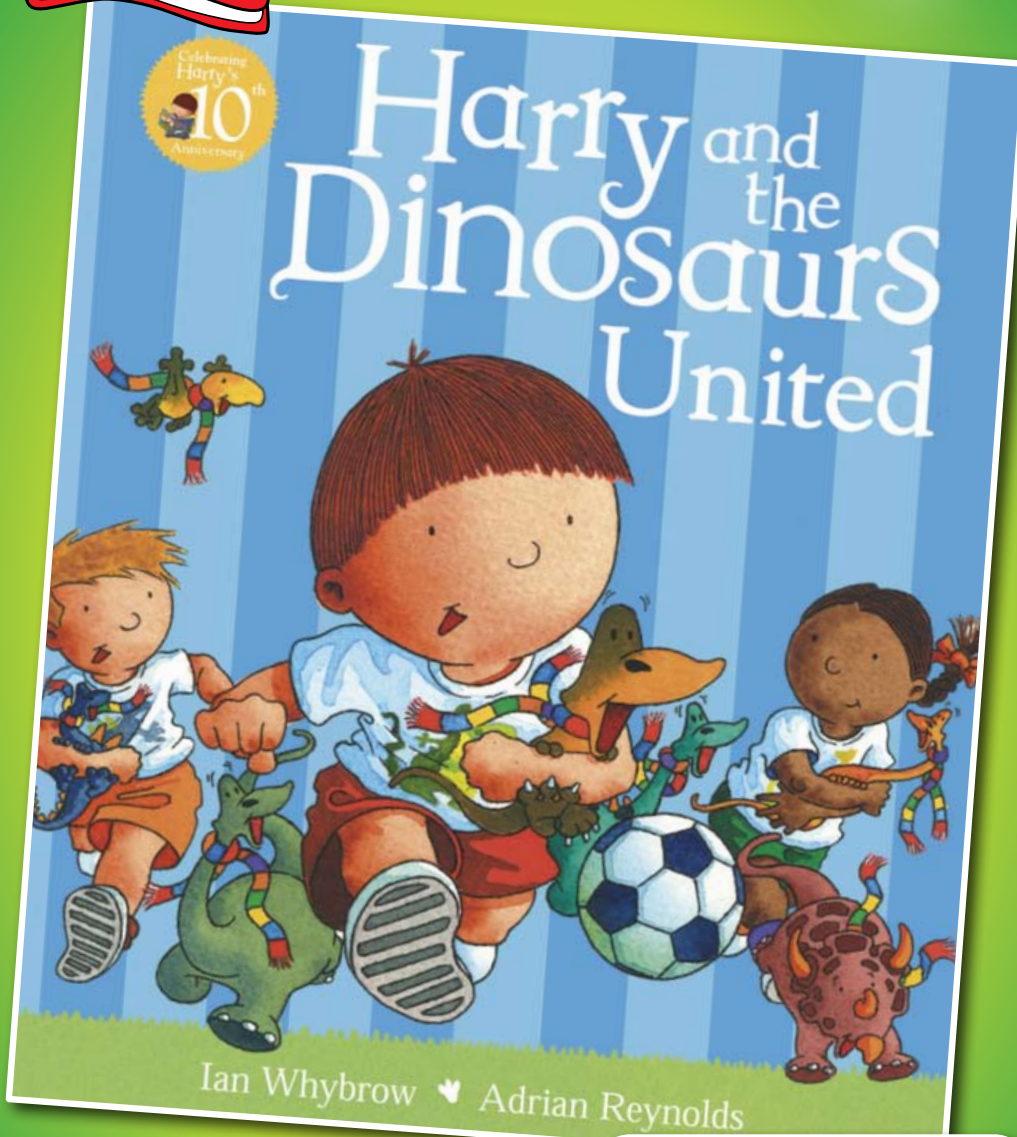


SCHOLASTIC

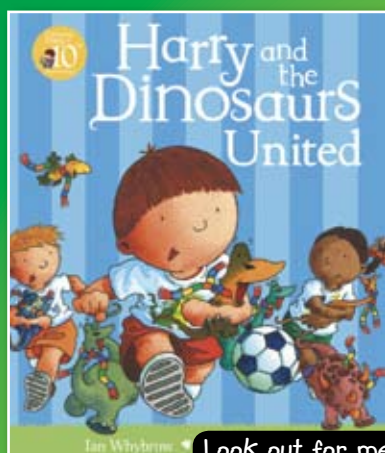
Book Talk



AGES 2+

**Engage and inspire your
pupils with a Book Talk!**

Illustrations © 2009 Adrian Reynolds from *Harry and the Dinosaurs United* by Ian Whybrow and Adrian Reynolds, published by Puffin Books.



Look out for me at
your Book Fair!

AGES 2+

Price	£5.99 / €7.20
Case	Welcome to Reading
Author	Ian Whybrow
Illustrator	Adrian Reynolds
Publisher	Puffin Books

Using this book in your classroom

Themes

This story is about **football**, and has a strong message about **working as a team** and the importance of **not giving up** even if things look difficult.

Summary

Harry has been chosen as captain of his class football team. His dinosaurs all want to play too – but unfortunately, football is not what they do best. Harry decides that they can be mascotaurus instead!

He gets some good advice from Nan and Mr Oakley, and, after a bit of practice, Harry and his team (Dinosaurs United) are ready to take on Scarlett's team. But on the day of the match, they all feel nervous – Scarlett's team are all bigger than them, and they can do keepie-uppies. Do Dinosaurs United stand a chance? Of course they do! They keep their heads and stick to their tactics, and Scarlett's team quickly discover that you just can't beat those old dinos – especially when they play as a team!

Did you know?

- Ian Whybrow got the idea for Harry and his dinosaurs when he met a small boy at a garden centre in London. The boy had a lot of plastic dinosaurs in a seaside bucket. The boy's mum said that they couldn't take the bucket off him – he just refused to be parted from his dinosaurs!
- The website for Harry and the Dinosaurs, www.harryandthedinosaurs.co.uk, has lots of facts about the author and illustrator, as well as fun activities and downloadables



The Story Session

1. Introducing the story

Start by asking the children if they have read any other stories about Harry and his dinosaurs, or seen any of the TV shows about them. (It doesn't matter if they haven't.) Look together at the front cover and read the blurb. Ask: "What do you think might happen when Harry and his dinosaurs have to play in an important football match?" Keep a note of the children's predictions and return to them later.

2. Reading the story

- Read the whole story to the children. Pause after Harry and his team discover that Scarlett's team are all really BIG. Ask: "How do you think Harry and his team would be feeling? Do you think there's anything they can do that will help them to win against a team that's bigger than them?"

- At the end of the story, look back at the predictions that the children made earlier. Were they right about the story? Ask: "Do you think Harry and his team deserved to win? Do you think having the dinosaurs as mascotaurus helped them?"

3. Follow-up

- Say: "Have you ever been on a team? What did you have to do? How do you have to behave when you are on a team?" You could write some rules for good teamwork together, and ask the children to draw pictures to illustrate them.

- The children could write a story or draw a picture about a time when Dinosaurs United played in another match, or worked together in a different way. It could be a football match, or children could focus on another sport or team activity if they prefer.

**YOU TELL US**

- Did you use these notes to have a Book Talk in class?
- Were they helpful?
- Are there any changes you'd like to see to make them more useful?

We're always happy to hear your comments, so please email us!

For the UK, email: bookfairs@scholastic.co.uk

For Ireland, please email: bookfairs@scholastic.ie