

# Read, Play, Imagine!

## Max and his Big Imagination: The Safari

By Chrissy Metge

Published by Duckling Publishing

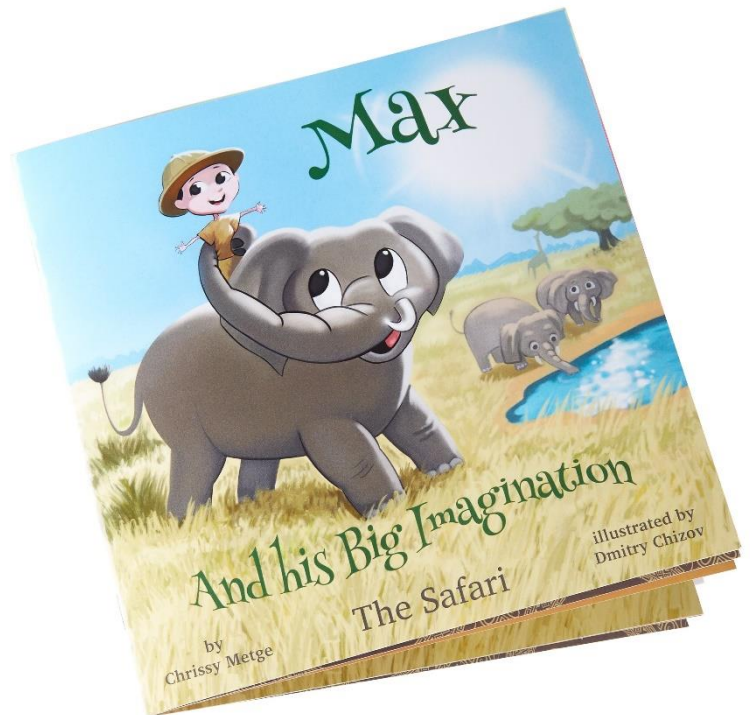
### About the Book

*Max and his Big Imagination* – a new series for children, encouraging them to use their imagination in everyday situations!

Today Max has a cold. He plays in his bedroom with his animal toys. WOOSH! Suddenly Max finds himself in Africa on a real safari!

Made from durable pages, they are great for little fingers as they explore books.

The *Max and His Big Imagination* series is loved by many, with Max's adventures true to the real world of kids as they discover it.



### About the Author

Chrissy Metge is author of the *Max and His Big Imagination* books and also the *Amy's Dreaming Adventures* books. Chrissy also works in the animation film and TV industry and has just completed her 14<sup>th</sup> movie, a feature film for Disney.

*Max and his Big Imagination* was inspired by Chrissy's love for her nephew and the way kids see the world. As a new mother, one of her most favourite things is getting to see all the little things in life, all over again. Chrissy currently lives in London.



### Illustrations

The illustrations are by Dmitry Chizhov, who lives in Russia. The illustrations are colourful and fun, allowing children to use their imagination while reading the book.

## Writing Style

The story is written in third-person point of view prose in a 12-page picture book. Max has a cold, so he decides to play with his safari toy animals in his room. When he sneezes, he sounds just like an elephant! Suddenly, Max is in Africa on a real safari! He rides on an elephant and sees many animals until a herd of elephants makes him sneeze again, and he is back in his room.

This is a book that encourages children to use their imagination in everyday settings – this time, toy safari animals take Max on a safari adventure in Africa. The language used is vivid and immediate, with lots of excitement. *Aaachoo!...Max pulls out his explorer's hat and puts it on his head...All of a sudden, Max hears a thunderous sound. The ground begins to shake...*

The book is suitable for children 2 to 5 years, but older and younger children may also enjoy the story.

## Shared Learning and Discussion Points

### ASK YOUR STUDENTS:

- Look at the cover. What do you think the tone of the story might be?
- How has the author set the scene at the start of the story?
- Imagine you are playing with safari toy animals in your bedroom when suddenly you are transported to being on safari in Africa. Describe how this would feel.
- What is a safari? What are some animals you would see on a safari?
- What is your favourite safari animal, and why?
- Africa is a large continent – do you know what a continent is?
- Find out what countries in Africa have safaris.
- What do you think of the characters of Mother and Max in this story?

## Activities



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### ACTIVITY 1: SAFARI IMAGINATION

Make a list of all the animals you would want to see on a safari. Pick two of these animals and draw them, and then create a story using the two animals you have chosen.

### ACTIVITY 2: LANDSCAPE IMAGINATION

Draw a picture of an African safari landscape. Include things like trees, water, sky and clouds. Add something unusual into your picture that might surprise people.