

Read, Play, Imagine!

Max and his Big Imagination: The Sandpit

By Chrissy Metge

Published by Duckling Publishing

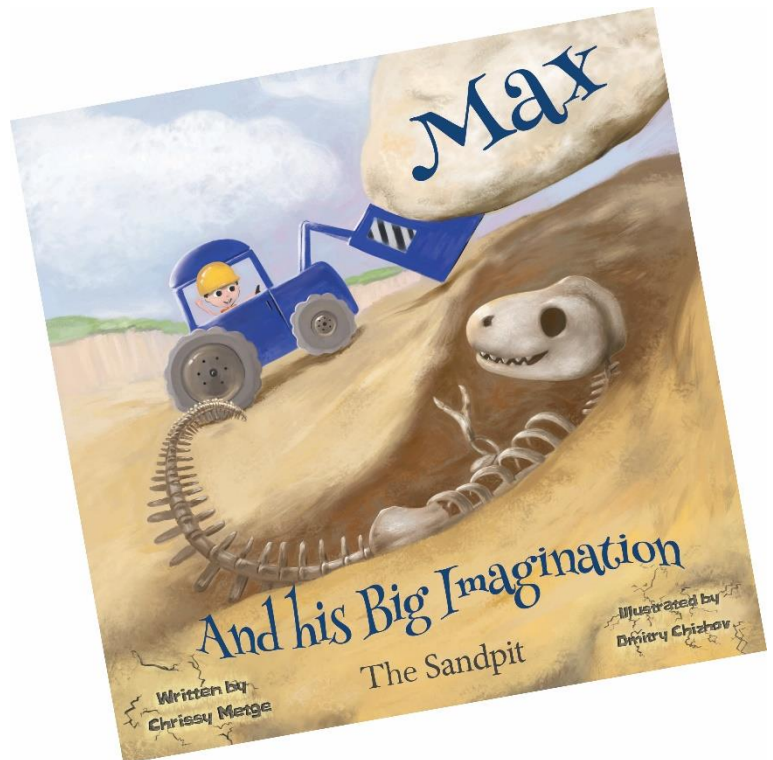
About the Book

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

Today Max is playing in a sandpit with his toy digger when suddenly he is in a huge quarry driving a real digger and making friends with dinosaurs!

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.



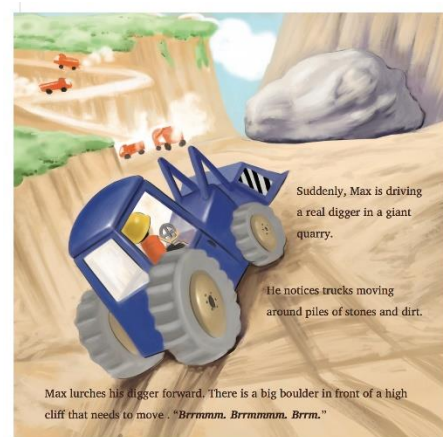
About the Author

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 14th 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 is playing in the sandpit with his digger when suddenly he is driving a real digger in a giant quarry. Moving a boulder, Max discovers a massive skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus Rex. The skeleton comes to life, and soon Max is digging out other dinosaur skeletons. Only when it starts raining does Max find himself back in his sandpit with his toy digger, along with a toy dinosaur who winks at Max.

This is a book that encourages children to use their imagination in everyday settings – this time, a toy digger in a sandpit becomes a real digger in a quarry. The language used is vivid and immediate, with lots of excitement. *Brrmmm. Brrmmmm...Max watches as rocks stream down, and suddenly the dinosaur's head detaches from the cliff...Max zooms his digger around the quarry, helping to release more of the dinosaur skeletons...*

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 a digger in a sandpit when suddenly you are driving a real digger! How would you feel? Is it noisy? How would you keep safe while driving the digger?
- There are some dinosaurs named in this book. Can you find all four names? What can you find about each dinosaur?
- What is your favourite dinosaur, and why?
- What do you think of the characters of Mother and Max in this story?

Activities



ACTIVITY 1: DINOSAUR IMAGINATION

Make a list of all the dinosaurs you can think of, then draw your favourite dinosaur. Give your dinosaur a first name and make up a story about your dinosaur.

ACTIVITY 2: SANDPIT IMAGINATION

What are some different toys that you would like to play with in a sandpit? Draw these toys, being creative with your colour choices. Make up a story, so at least two of the toys play together.

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