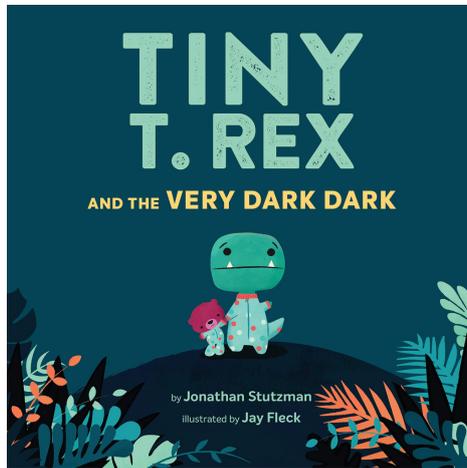


# EARLY LITERACY ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

Recommended Age Group: Preschool



## Book Highlight:

# Tiny T. Rex and the Very Dark Dark

*By Jonathan Stutzman with illustrations by Jay Fleck*

Tiny T. Rex and his friend Pointy are having a campout in the backyard! It is what best friends do. But without their nighty-lights, the dark outside suddenly seems VERY dark . . . and very full of spooky things. Good thing Tiny has a super-secret plan to keep the dark at bay!

## Questions to Ask While Reading

Asking questions while reading is a great way to support your child's learning. Ask questions that draw your child's attention to details in the story, encourage your child to make predictions, help your child understand new words, and support your child in recognizing similarities and differences between the story and their life. Try these out to get started!

### Birth - 3 Years Old

What kind of animals are Tiny and Pointy?

Can you find Tiny's squish? Show me!

What do you like to sleep with?

Do you sleep in the dark or with a night light?

What would you do in a fort?

### 3 - 5 Years Old

What does 'nervous' mean? When have you felt nervous?

What could Tiny and Pointy do to feel safe when it is dark?

When Tiny and Pointy are in the house gathering supplies, they hear noises that they think are the crawly-creeps and the grumbles. Where are those noises coming from?

# Activities to Keep Children Engaged

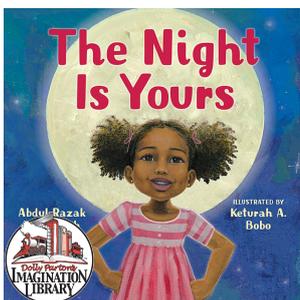


Scan to see a video of  
*Tiny T. Rex and the  
Very Dark Dark* being  
read.

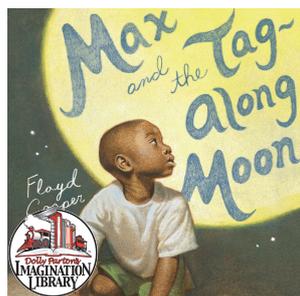
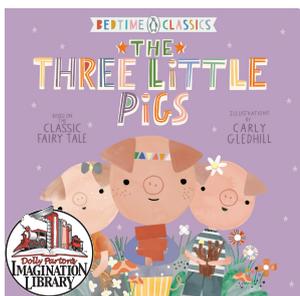
## Foster a love of reading through fun activities!

- After reading the story, talk with your child about times they have felt nervous. Help them think of a plan for how to feel better in those situations. Write the plan down and let your child draw about it.
- Build a fort together like Tiny and Pointy! You can use blankets and pillows to make a cozy fort in your home or outside. You and your child might choose to camp out in your fort like Tiny and Pointy did or use it as a cozy space to read together.
- After Tiny plugs in the lights, it is bright at first, but then it all goes dark. What happened? Brainstorm with your child about what might have happened to make all the lights turn off. Can you and your child come up with a plan to turn the lights back on? If you have some lights available, you could even do an experiment!

If your child likes  
this book, try these next!



*"The seeds of dreams are often found in books and the seeds you help plant in your community can grow across the world."*  
~ Dolly Parton



## Vocabulary from the book:

**Scared:** afraid, to feel fear

**Nervous:** feeling fearful about what will happen

**Brave:** showing strength in the face of fear, danger, or difficulty



Don't receive books from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library? Scan the code to sign up so your child will receive one new book each month!

For additional resources about reading with your child visit [tnccr.org](http://tnccr.org) and click on 'Resources.'