



**Never Let a Diplodocus Draw**  
By Rashmi Sirdeshpande and Diane Ewen

**Before reading the book**

- Show the child the covers and ask what they think might happen in this story.

**As you read the book**

- Ask, why do you think the narrator calls the dinosaur "Dippy"?
- Ask, what is Dippy wearing? Why do you think the illustrator chose those garments?
- Pause at each spread in the book, being sure to read all the text on the page including book titles, etc. Make sure the child understands what a gallery and an auction house are.
- As you look at the artwork in each spread, ask the child how they think each animal and person might be feeling and why.
- Pause at the busier spreads to ask the child to count how many dinosaurs are pictured, how many people. What other animals are shown as well?
- Ask, why do you think the illustrator used the colors she chose for her artwork? How do they make you feel about the story?

**Activities after reading**

- Together with the child, make a list of all the different kinds of art media that are shown in the illustrations. Help the child select one of the art media types (perhaps one they've never tried before) and provide materials for them to try it out.
- Using other resources such as reference books or the internet, help the child research more about the artists and art styles referenced in the story.
- Read *Never Show a T. rex a Book* and *Never Teach a Stegosaurus to Do Sums*. Then ask the child to think of a new subject to show or teach a dinosaur and imagine what might happen. Have the child write and/or draw their own book.

