



Digger Man

Andrea Zimmerman , David Clemesha

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A picture book for the very young that celebrates a child's excitement for construction vehicles

"Honk the horn!

Flash the lights!

Scoop the rocks!

Push the mud!"

A little boy imagines driving a great big digger-scooping and pushing mud to make a playground for his baby brother.

Children are fascinated with bulldozers, backhoes, payloaders-diggers of all shapes and sizes. In this playful picture book, simple alliterative language and bold, colorful images capture a child's love of building and creating.

Digger Man Details

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Author : Andrea Zimmerman , David Clemesha

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Kate says

I think the best thing about this book are the crisp, clear illustrations. My son loved pointing out all the different trucks, which are colorful and well-defined. It is also a good book to talk about all the different things a bulldozer can do. Its short sentences make it easy for a new reader to read, and it is a sweet depiction of brotherly love.

Dana says

My son loves this story. He has me read it over and over and over (he's 2). I only rated it a 4 b/c it's a WHEEL LOADER. Authors need to stop calling every piece of heavy equipment diggers. So, I change the words when I read it to my son. We call the book Loader Man.

Dawn says

The text was brief and the pictures were okay, but the kids at the daycare loved this anyway. There wasn't much opportunity to engage them about what was going on in the book. It would have been nice if the end pages had the names of the various types of vehicles pictured in the book for older kids.

Anastasia Tuckness says

This board book is an adaptation of the picture book of the same name, so it has a real storyline and would be enjoyed by 1-2 year olds who like an actual story.

The boy talks a lot about his younger brother and what he can and can't do, so it would be a good read for young children with even younger siblings.

Ro says

The title makes me smile! A little boy sees himself as a DIGGER MAN! in this board book about hopes and dreams for a little boy and his love for digger machines and his brother. The boy takes us through the impressive work he will do with his digger which includes clearing debris, creating a pond, and even a park where he and his brother will play. Young readers will understand the possibilities this big yellow machine has and conversations about what they would like to do with their favorite object are begging to be had after reading all about Digger Man!

Barbara says

Ideal for very young readers, this board book follows a young boy as he imagines what things will be like when he's older and can operate a huge digging truck. Sweetly, he dreams of one day creating a playground where he and his little brother can play. As the two play with trucks in their house and read a book about big trucks, he anticipates teaching his sibling everything that he knows about them. This is a good depiction of a healthy family relationship built around common interests. The illustrations, created with acrylics, are bright, colorful, and filled with many images of trucks, even in the bathtub. This is a good title for sharing with anyone who loves big vehicles, but be prepared for listeners to provide their own sound effects for the story.

Vivian says

For the backhoe enthusiast.

Erica Sonzogni says

What little boy doesn't fantasize about owning his own digger when he grows up? This board book, which focuses on audiences aged one to four, reads the minds of toddlers by describing what the toddler-aged boy would do if he owned his own digging machine. He describes what projects he would work on with his new toy, such as build his own playground or dig a pond to fish. Throughout the book, the boy constantly mentions his younger brother, an infant, and how he would take his sibling on his digging adventures with him. For example, when the boy mentions the playground that he will build with his digger, he also explains that it will be a place for him and his brother to play. The authors, Zimmerman and Clemesha, create believable characters that any young child could relate to but added the sibling-relationship dynamic as well. The authors also subtly explained how owning a piece of machinery is a large responsibility and requires hard work and effort. The book gives the message to young children that diligence will achieve positive results. While the words and sentences are simple, the meaning behind them is not superficial. While parents would have to read this board book to their children, they too would enjoy the message and storyline.

Jane says

Using a child's imagination *Digger Man* shows children how to use toys in pretend play situations. A big brother describes all the things he want to use what is really a front-loader to dig and make places for him and his little brother to play. This is a great book to introduce children to sharing and playing together on a common project in a sandbox when working with a group of preschool children. The illustrations are bright, clear and appealing to young children.

Kate says

I'm not a huge fan of this book but my son loves it. We usually have to read it at least three times in a row and he'll dig through a pile of books just to find it!

Missy says

On the surface, this doesn't look amazing. But the author must know little boys. She is so into the brain of my preschooler. Reading the text is like reading his mind. I paraphrase: "My brother is too little, so he doesn't know...but soon I'm going to buy a huge digger...I will have a lot of work to do with my digger...Sometimes my mom and dad can bring my brother to watch me work...." My toddler adores the book as well because of the pictures.

Ann Cox says

In Digger Man, a little boy imagines what it would be like to own his own digger truck. The cheerful illustrations and the boy's imaginative vision of his future as a digger man made this picture book a joy to read. I think toddlers and preschoolers (especially those inclined to love planes, trains, and automobiles) will enjoy this story as it introduces them to what diggers actually do as well as to the concept of imagination.

Cara says

Colorful cartoon illustrations focus on the relationship between two brothers and the older sibling's dreams of owning a digger. Large spreads show the bright yellow digger in action, which will draw in young readers who love vehicles. The pictures display the young boy operating the digger, which may seem strange to adult readers but reflects the character's capable imagination. Children from birth through age four will enjoy this simple story that celebrates this favorite construction vehicle.

Doria says

This is a very nice board book, clearly designed to be read to boys. However, the content and general narrative are perfectly acceptable and appealing to girls as well, with the exception of the language, which is pointedly Male Only. For reading aloud to a pre-literate audience, I chose to substitute gender-neutral language, so as to make it more broadly inviting and less exclusionary. Diggers can be fun for everybody!

Alicia says

I know this is pretty picky of me to give this book such a low rating. This book has nice looking illustrations and a good story line that my daughter loves, but there were three pages in this book where a baby is pictured holding a bottle. It just doesn't have any relevance in a book about diggers that the baby should have a bottle so many times in the book. It is just another way that the formula companies hook young children into thinking that bottle feeding is normal. Formula is so commercialized and with young children. I understand that some people truly have difficulty with breastfeeding, but that doesn't mean that we need three bottle pictures in this book. Where are the pictures of babies nursing except for in books about nursing? When my

daughter becomes a mom I want her to feel confident about choosing to nurse her babies like she has been nursed and I don't like that there are so many formula images in our society and so few nursing images.
