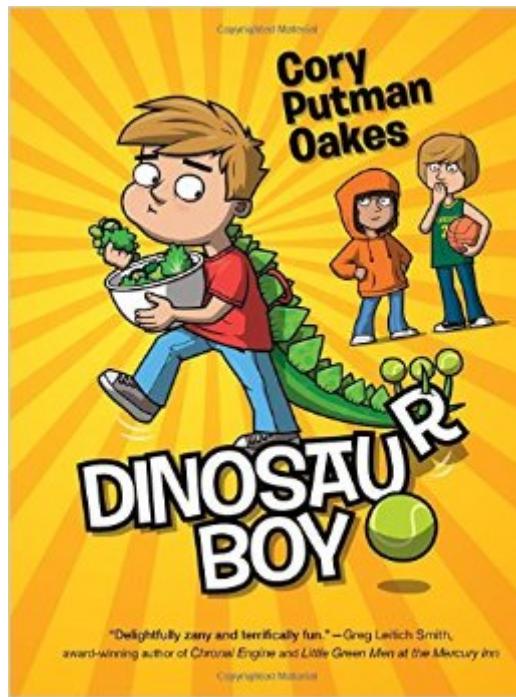


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Dinosaur Boy



Synopsis

Everyone knows the dinosaur gene skips a generation. So it isn't a complete surprise when Sawyer sprouts spikes and a tail before the start of fifth grade. After all, his grandfather was part stegosaurus. Being a dinosaur is pretty cool, despite a sudden craving for vegetables. Except some of the kids at school aren't too thrilled with his spikey tail; even if he covers them with tennis balls. Sawyer is relieved when a couple of the bullies mysteriously stop coming to school, until he discovers a secret more shocking than Dino DNA! The disappearing kids are in for a galactically horrible fate...and only Sawyer, with the help of his friends Elliot and Sylvia, can rescue them. "A hilarious adventure and as sharp as a stegosaurus's tail...fantastic." •Nathan Bransford, author of Jacob Wonderbar and the Cosmic Space Kapow on Dinosaur Boy "Funny, fast-paced, and filled with surprising twists, Dinosaur Boy is a charming story... will have boys and girls roaring for more!" -Nikki Loftin, author of The Sinister Sweetness of Splendid Academy and Nightingale's Nest A Junior Library Guild selection And don't miss the thrilling sequel Dinosaur Boy Saves Mars • coming February 2016.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

We received this book via NetGalley to give an honest review. I started reading this to K before bedtime and we could only read one chapter a night as the chapters were a bit long for us. K listened up to about chapter 16 and then he was losing interest so I ended up finishing the book myself. I think for K the long chapters were just a bit too much for him and I am not sure if he is fully

ready for the chapter books like I hoped. But anywho onto the review. Dinosaur Boy is about a young boy named Sawyer who is human one minute and the next he has become a dinosaur. But he is not a carnivorous dinosaur he is a herbivore eating dinosaur. Now just because Sawyer has been turned into a dinosaur because of his DNA that has been passed to his generation he is the same person he has always been. Now that he is considered different there are people in his school that like to pick on him and have become bullies. It is totally uncalled for as Sawyer stays to himself but that doesn't help matters. They throw things at him, laugh at him, use his plates as a ring toss. As time goes on in school Sawyer and his best friend Elliot meet a new girl who is out of this world. And together they all learn that something suspicious is going on in their school to those that bully people. Sawyer and his friends have to make a decision to either help the guys and girls who bully people out or let them be to their fate. Now at the beginning there seemed to be a huge amount of information on the dinosaur gene and how it became to be which at times it did feel overwhelming. Overall the story was good and I am glad that I gave it a chance to read. I liked the twist on the end and it had me remember that middle school books are always so much fun to read. This book I believe is better for the older kids to read maybe third grade on up. Maybe when K reaches a certain age he will be willing to give this book a try.

Loved it! This books is HILARIOUS. Premise: an ordinary boy inherits his grandfather's part-dinosaur gene during the summer. His family adjusts quickly, since after all, his grandfather was part stegosaurus. He just eats a lot more salad. At first, I thought at first this was just a more original than usual twist on the old puberty-coming-into-strange powers tale, but the world building in Dinosaur Boy is totally refreshing and amusing. Then Dinosaur Boy begins to get teased in school (the other kids use his tail plates for a ring toss game) and I thought this was going to be a really weird take on Wonder. There are even the requisite three characters in the cast, Dinosaur Boy, his good buddy (who was teased all last year for a sudden growth spurt) and a very independent girl character. Halfway through the book takes a sudden and even more bizarre twist. I am eager to recommend this book to all the kids in my library.

Everyone knows that dinosaur DNA skips a generation, or so Sawyer says. Have you ever wondered what it might be like to be a dinosaur? Or part human and part dinosaur? Sawyer finds out what it's like when part of his body changes --- he grows spikes down his spine and sprouts a long tail. He becomes part stegosaurus and part human. That may sound strange, but in Sawyer's world, it's not out of the question. His grandfather works at Amalgam

Labs, where several years ago dinosaur DNA was accidentally mixed with that of humans. Over 100 people working at the lab were infected with the mixed DNA. Some of them developed dinosaur parts; most didn't. Sawyer's grandfather was one of the ones who did. The dinosaur gene skipped Sawyer's dad's generation, but when Sawyer turned 11 and was about to go into fifth grade, he started changing. Fifth grade is hard enough without being the only kid in the whole school who is part dinosaur! Of course, the kids at school, especially the ones in his class, tease and torment him. But the new school principal has a zero tolerance policy for bullying of any kind. When some of the students are caught in the act, they are expelled from the school and not heard from again. Sawyer and his friends Elliott and Sylvie are concerned when they can't find out what happened to the kids that were expelled. But when they discover the truth, what can they do about it? There are a lot of things going on in this book. First, of course, is the issue of bullying. Second is the problem all kids face in one form or another --- that of self-identity. Then, there is a mystery to solve: What is going on at Sawyer's school? Author Cory Putnam Oakes does a great job handling all these issues while making a fun storyline. Her writing is humorous and quirky. Reviewed by Christine M. Irvin

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