

## Teaching Notes: DINO LOVE AT CHRISTMAS

Written by Michelle Worthington  
Illustrated by Veronica Montoya  
Published by Catch A Star



### SYNOPSIS

Treat yourself to this colourful Christmas story, as the adorable dinosaurs come together to celebrate. With festive fun and kindness, Christmas love is all around.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Michelle Worthington is an international award-winning author, screenwriter and business woman. Shortlisted twice for the Children's Book Council of Australia's picture book of the year and Speech Pathology awards, two-time winner of the International Book Award and finalist in the USA Best Book Awards, Michelle also received a Gellett Burgess Award and a Silver Moonbeam Award for her contribution to celebrating diversity in literature.

Michelle is also a real-life book fairy. Her magic powers include turning coffee into award-winning books. With [Anthology Angels](#) and [Authors Online](#), she waves her wand to coach aspiring authors and illustrators all over the world achieve their dreams of publication. Whether she's a fairy, a pirate or an elf, Michelle celebrates empowering readers and storytellers to dream big.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Veronica is a freelance illustrator from Spain. She studied Fine Arts, including Engraving and Drawing at the UPV (Polytechnic University of Valencia). This profession was ingrained in her by her father, who is an amateur painter. Since she graduated, she has built up a career illustrating children's books for publishing houses in different countries. She gathers inspiration from her childhood memories and nature, and she loves drawing every day in her little journal. She also enjoys walking her dog by the beach where she lives and has her little studio.

### HOW THE BOOK ENHANCES LEARNING

*Dino Love at Christmas* is a delightful festive book treating the reader to all the wonderful things that bring people together at Christmas time. Family and friendship are key themes. With lots to spot and discuss on every page, this book enhances language development.



## MAKE GIFT TAGS

Christmas is about ... giving. Make your own gift tags to give to your family and friends. Add some designs and colours to these *Dino Love at Christmas* gift tags and write in the names of the people that you are giving presents to. Cut them out and stick them onto the presents.

Please ask an adult to help you.



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_



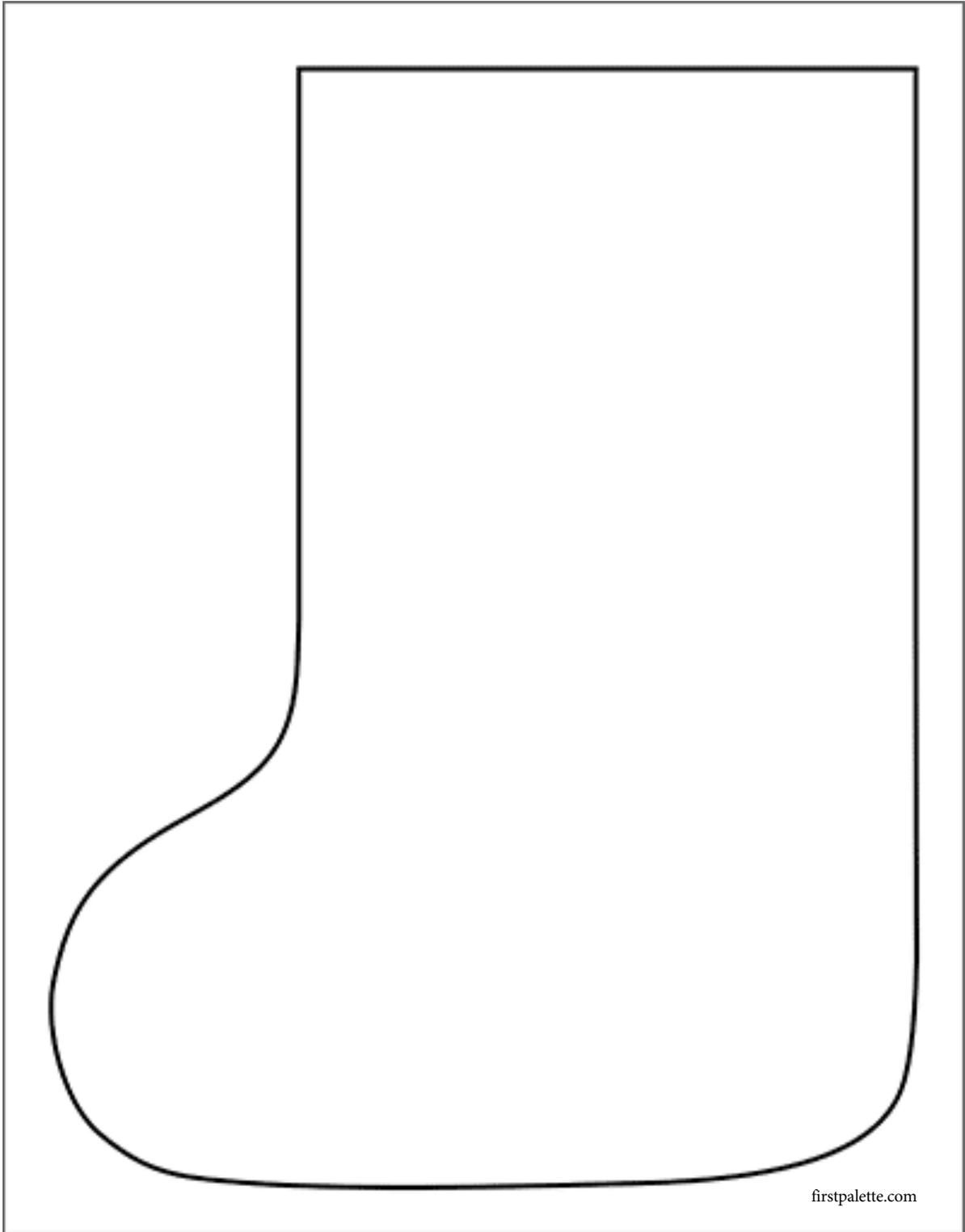
To: \_\_\_\_\_

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## DINO DESIGN

Design your own stocking. Why not use the dinos' stockings for inspiration and remember to use your brightest colours.



firstpalette.com





## CHRISTMAS IN THE KITCHEN

Baking Christmas biscuits is such a fun way to start off the festive season and they make great decorations for the tree, too.

Please ask  
an adult to  
help you.



### Ingredients

- 175g dark muscovado sugar
- 85g golden syrup
- 100g butter
- 3 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 350g plain flour
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 1 egg

### Method

1. Heat the sugar, golden syrup and butter until melted. Mix the spices and flour in a bowl. Dissolve the bicarbonate of soda in 1 tsp cold water. Make a well in the centre of the dry ingredients, add the melted sugar mix, egg and bicarbonate of soda. Mix well.
2. Leave the mixture to cool, then put in the fridge for one hour.
3. Heat oven to 190C/170C fan/gas 5. Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead. Cut the dough in half. Thinly roll out one half on a lightly floured surface. Cut into shapes with cutters, then transfer to baking trays.  
NB. If you plan to hang the biscuits up, make a small hole in the top of each one using a skewer. Repeat with remaining dough.
4. Bake for 12-15 minutes until they darken slightly. Cool for a few minutes on the baking trays, then transfer to a wire rack to cool and harden.
5. Decorate as you wish using icing sugar, melted chocolate, silver balls, etc. Thread ribbon through the holes if you want to hang the biscuits on your tree.

... cooking in the kitchen.

