

MEET THE DREAM TEAM OF POP-UPS!

Robert Sabuda and Matthew Reinhart
talk about *Encyclopedia Prehistorica: Dinosaurs*

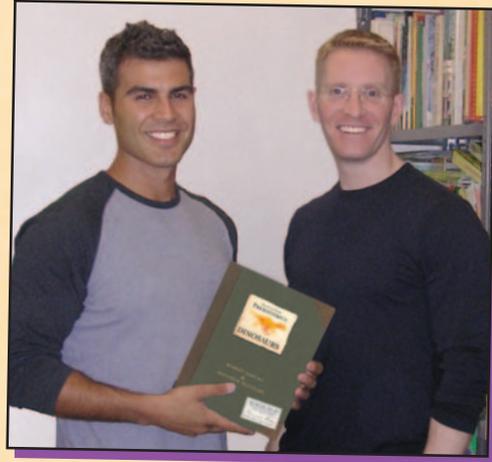


“This is, by far, the biggest pop-up book ever to come out of our studio.” —Robert Sabuda

“And it has the most pop-ups inside!” —Matthew Reinhart

Can you say a few words about your creative collaboration on this book?

Robert Sabuda: Creating a pop-up book takes time, patience, and a lot of hard work (as well as luck)! For *Encyclopedia Prehistorica: Dinosaurs*, Matthew wrote the manuscript and created all the hundreds of pieces of artwork while I made the pop-ups. We’ve worked together before on projects, so for us this process is very natural. Matthew will make a suggestion to me about what he envisions for a particular pop-up, and I’ll do the same for his artwork. Since we both engineer pop-ups and illustrate for different projects, we are able to help each other in both processes.



Matthew Reinhart: I think we’re both equally fit for the roles of paper engineer and illustrator.

Robert has had a little more experience than I do working in pop-up books, but I know a bit more about dinosaurs!

What made you decide to do a pop-up book about dinosaurs? Were you interested in dinosaurs when you were kids?

R.S.: I always loved dinosaurs. I remember at a very young age seeing a movie about dinosaurs, and halfway through the picture, cavemen appear to fight the dinosaurs! I wanted to shout out “STOP! That is completely wrong! Humans didn’t exist when dinosaurs walked the earth.” Ever since I’ve always wanted to make a big, fun book about dinosaurs that was as accurate as possible.

(Cont. next page)



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Meet the Dream Team of Pop-ups! (Cont.)

M.R.: I was an absolute dinosaur freak as a child (and still am as an adult). I think I could rattle off the name of about every known dinosaur at four or five. My dinosaur books were pretty worn out by the time I had gotten through school. The first of my few pop-up books was actually a dinosaur pop-up! The only things I really remember about the book were that the pop-ups weren't



so great, and that soon after I got it, my little sister ripped all the heads off the dinosaurs inside. Nice memory, huh? I wanted to make a huge, beautiful dinosaur book with vibrant colors and elaborate three-dimensional pop-ups, so that my sister would be ashamed to rip off all the dinosaur heads.

What do you hope readers take home from seeing and reading this book?

R.S.: I hope that readers (young and old alike) will realize that even though the dinosaurs of the past are now gone, they were the greatest, most powerful creatures to walk the earth, ever. They're not just a pile of dusty bones displayed in a museum—they were once living, breathing marvels.

M.R.: I hope people who read this book will want to learn even more about dinosaurs. Maybe there are some budding paleontologists out there who are inspired to decipher more facts from the few clues dinosaurs left behind. Dinosaurs sparked my imagination as a kid, since they were completely fantastic real-life monsters whose lives were almost a complete mystery. They made me realize how amazing life is on this planet we live on, and that just about anything is possible.

What projects are you working on next with Candlewick?

M.R.: We have two more *Encyclopedia Prehistorica* books in the works. One volume will detail ancient mammals such as miniature horses, saber-toothed cats, and woolly mammoths, and the other will explore extinct mega-sharks, scorpions, and other underwater creatures.