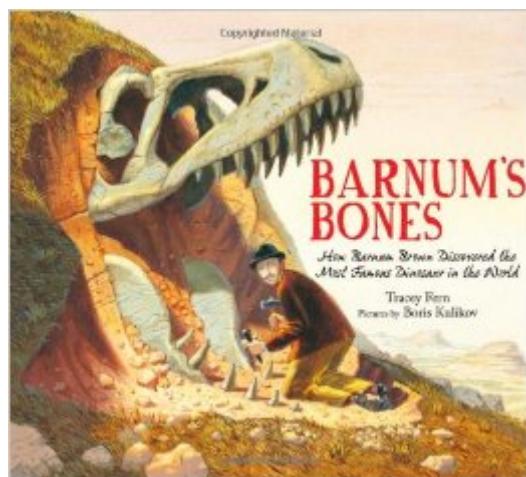


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# Barnum's Bones: How Barnum Brown Discovered The Most Famous Dinosaur In The World



## **Synopsis**

Barnum Brown's (1873-1963) parents named him after the circus icon P.T. Barnum, hoping that he would do something extraordinary--and he did! As a paleontologist for the American Museum of Natural History, he discovered the first documented skeleton of the Tyrannosaurus Rex, as well as most of the other dinosaurs on display there today. An appealing and fun picture book biography, with zany and stunning illustrations by Boris Kulikov, **BARNUM'S BONES** captures the spirit of this remarkable man. *Barnum's Bones* is one *The Washington Post's Best Kids Books of 2012*.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 1010L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 36 pages

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Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #229,524 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Fossils #187 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology #377 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dinosaurs

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

## **Customer Reviews**

The illustrations are beautiful and the text is very readable. I bought this for my very verbal, 3 year old granddaughter who loves dinosaurs and can usually last through a 20 minute read. She hung in through the whole book but it was a bit date-heavy for a three year old. If I were to do it again I'd wait until she was 5. I wish that could display at least one page of text for every book. The amount of text per page is such a good indicator of the appropriateness of a book.

I have to admit I had never heard of Barnum when I picked up this book, but I enjoyed the tale of a man who had a gift for sniffing out dinosaur bones. Although biographies can often be dry reads, this

book moves quickly with Barnum's finds and puts a personal perspective on the fossils that fill our museums. The illustrations convey the excitement Barnum and his colleagues must have felt when they found the bones. This book is on the Texas Bluebonnet List, a list voted on by 3rd-6th graders across the state, and I'm eager to see if they like this tale. Hopefully, it will prompt them to follow their dreams wherever they may take them.

This fine presentation was a star when the kids got to the library this week. The illustrations were winners and the information was so good to know. Kids and dinosaurs seem to get together naturally and this was a fun example that we all enjoyed.

"and six and seven and eight and nine and ten and eleven and twelve!" says my 3 1/2 year old son Lucas when I asked him how many stars we should give this book. He has a better attention span for books than most kids his age, it's probably better for 4-5 year olds but when buying books for people I usually go more advanced so as to not buy "baby" books.

Fascinating story of Barnum Brown. My three year old wanted to hear it over and over, though I would say it's a little wordy for the average three year old. Fern does a great job showing how a fossil is found and ultimately ends up in a museum.

Even though I am an adult I found the story to be very interesting. What I liked most about the story is how it teaches children to follow their passion regardless if it doesn't follow the crowd. For example the author states, "Barnum Brown was an unusual boy He had an unusual name, an unusual way of dressing, and a very unusual hobby-fossil hunting." But that didn't matter to Barnum that people thought he was different, he still did what he loved to do and dressed the way he wanted to dress. The story also teaches how Barnum followed his passion by reading as a child, then he was able to get into the profession he was most passionate about. Barnum just did what he loved to do. I just think these are great lessons to teach, in addition to teaching, children a piece of history. Also, I thought the artist who drew the pictures did a great job. I would highly recommend this book to an older child as there are a lot of words.

What a marvelous cover Boris Kulikov has created for this book! A gaping Tyrannosaurus jaw, with a small, bowler-hatted man inside it, chipping out the gargantuan skull. And Kulikov's page illustrations are no less fascinating. His picture of a completed T. rex skeleton is luminous with the

light shining in the museum windows behind it. The pictures are the true pleasure of the book, and every young dinosaur lover will pore over them. The text, on the other hand, is dry even in the few high points of Barnum's story. I would suggest borrowing the book from the library before purchasing it. If your little dinosaur hound loves the pictures, you won't have to worry about whether he's interested in the text. The pictures will be enjoyed by kids aged 4-10, but the text is closer to 4th or 5th grade level.

Barnumâ™s Bones was an entertaining and educational read about the man who not only discovered the first Tyrannosaurus Rex fossil, he discovered more dinosaur fossils than any other Paleontologist ever. His contribution transformed the American Museum of Natural History, located in New York City, into a prominent home of the largest and most impressive collections of prehistoric life.

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