

Jaws and Claws!



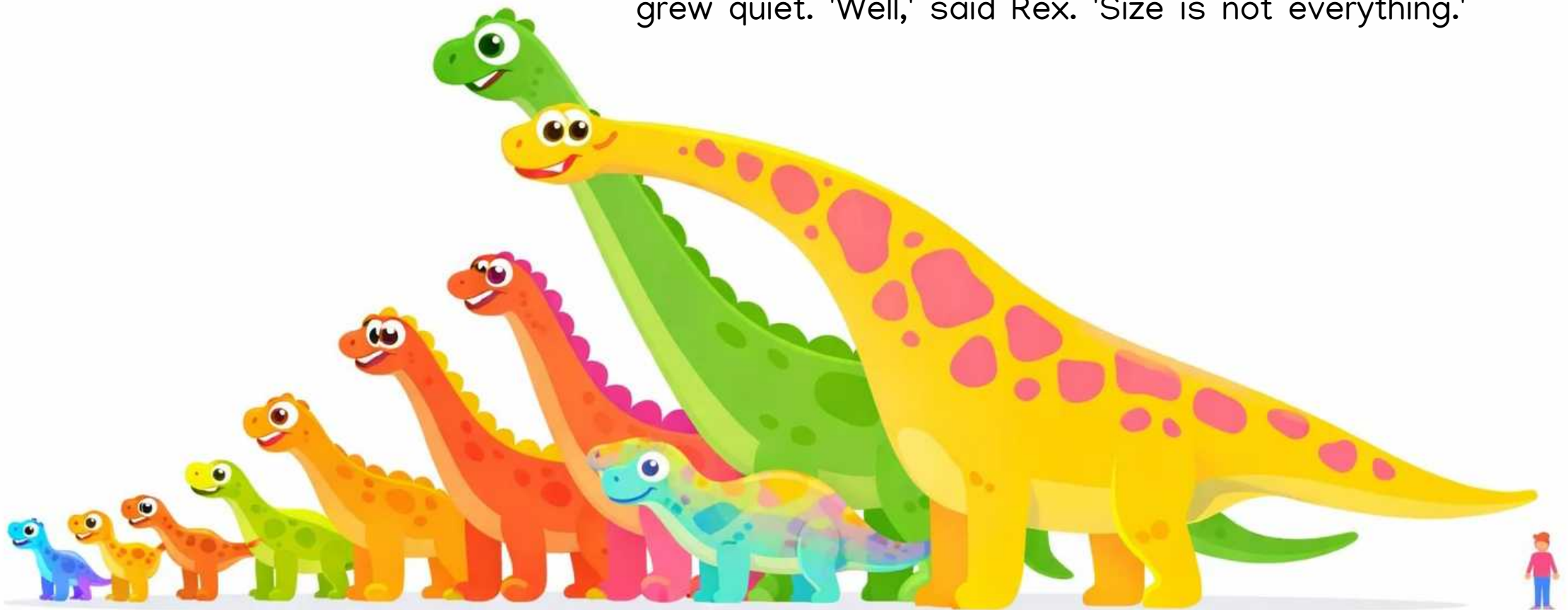
Roar! Rex crashed out of
the jungle, loud and proud.

'I am the best dinosaur
who ever lived,' Rex
growled.

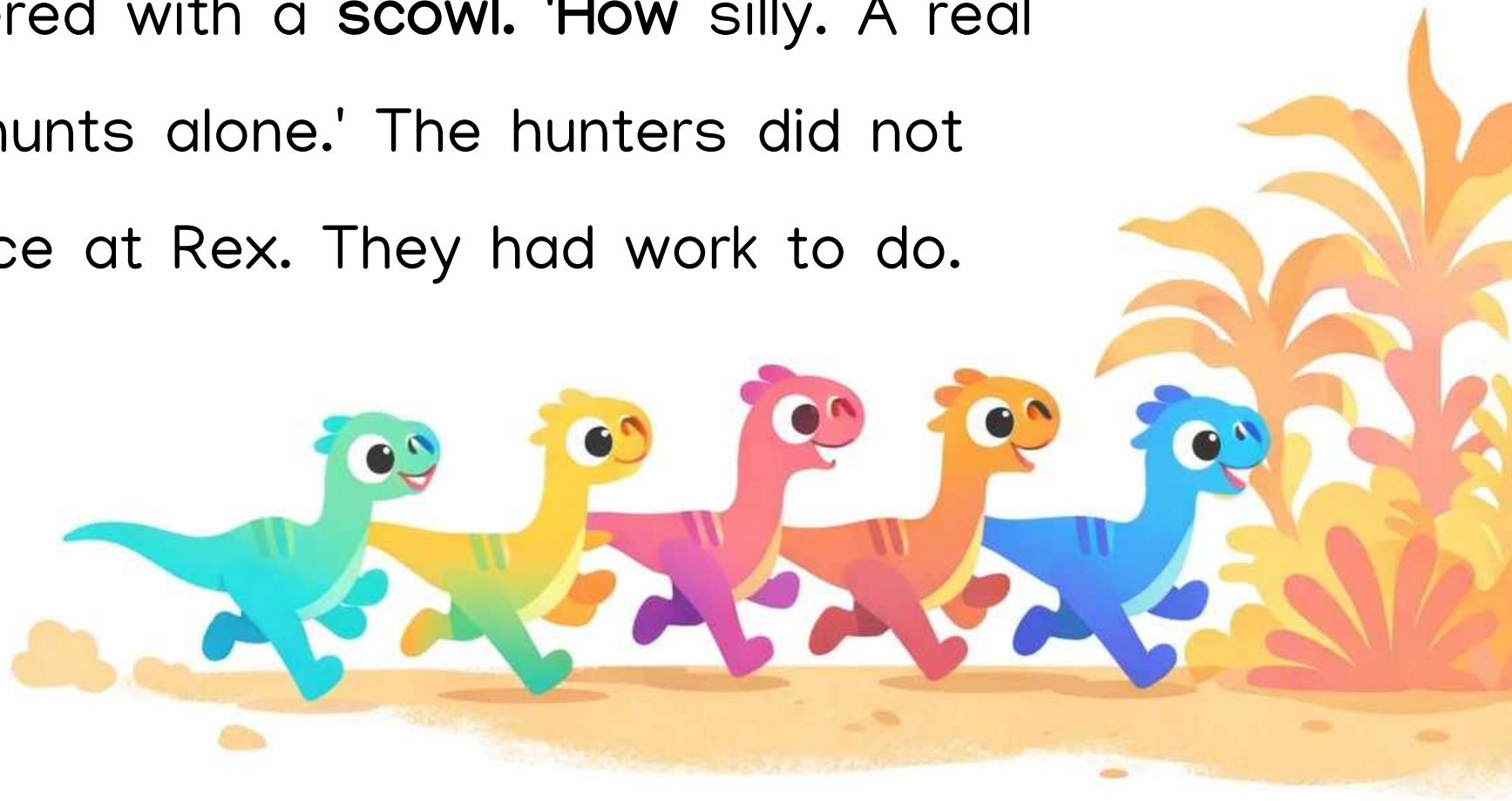
A crowd of other
dinosaurs poked their
heads out from the ferns.
They stared. Their eyes
went wide.



Rex pointed **down** the long line. The **crowd** had lined up, small to tall. 'We came in all sizes,' said Rex. 'Teeny ones no bigger than a cat. Big ones. And then...' Rex looked up, and up, and up at the tall ones **towering** over everything. A tiny human stood at the end of the line, no bigger than an ant. Rex grew quiet. 'Well,' said Rex. 'Size is not everything.'



Five small hunters came **bounding** across the **ground**, fast as arrows. They moved together like one animal. 'Hunting in packs,' Rex muttered with a **scowl**. 'How silly. A real dinosaur hunts alone.' The hunters did not even glance at Rex. They had work to do.





Rex prowled across the hot dust and opened its mouth very wide. 'See these teeth?' said Rex. 'Very sharp. Made to rip. Made to crunch. Made to spoil a nice afternoon.' Rex smirked. 'One look in my mouth tells just what is for dinner.'

Two long-necked dinosaurs crossed the plain.
'What shade were we?' one asked. Rex opened
its **mouth** and then closed it. 'No one can tell,'
Rex said at last. 'Skin rots away before a
fossil forms, and no one has **found** the real
shade of a single dinosaur. But I bet I was
red, very red.'



A scaly dinosaur stood in the bushes close by, looking surprised. Rex pointed at it. 'Classic. Strong. Scaly. **Outstanding.**' But many dinosaurs had feathers, and Rex had them too. Over time, some feathered dinosaurs got smaller and smaller until they could fly. They became birds. Rex **frowned.** 'Wait. Am I kin to a chicken?'





A large dinosaur looked
down at two babies resting
in the plants below. The little
ones peered up with wide
eyes and tiny smiles.

Rex watched from far away
and said nothing for a long
moment.

'Fine,' Rex whispered. 'That is
so cute. Even I can admit
that is cute.'

A small dinosaur came
striding among the ferns
on its back legs, tail out
behind it. 'Every bone is a
clue,' said Rex proudly.
'Every footprint on the
ground tells a story of
how we moved.' Rex
watched the small dinosaur
trot past. 'My footprints
are much bigger.'





A large dinosaur stood up on its hind legs. Its big claws were made to grab. It could reach up and snatch food from high branches with those strong hands. Rex looked **down** at its own tiny arms, then at those big claws. Rex changed the subject. 'Very handy,' Rex said. 'Moving on.'

Rex stood tall and held up a wiggling little beast in those short arms. 'Everybody mocks these arms,' said Rex. 'Tiny, they say. Silly, they say.' Rex growled. 'But these arms are strong. So strong, they grip food. So strong, they push me up off the ground. Small does not mean weak.' Rex flexed. 'Who is mocking now?'





Three long-necked dinosaurs stood on the rocks, smiling as if they held a secret. Rex **frowned** and asked what was funny. 'Every new fossil changes the story,' said the tall one. 'Old ideas get turned upside **down**. There is still so much to find **out**.' Rex opened its **mouth** to snap back, then closed it. That was a very good point.

Rex stood among the old trees, sunlight on its proud back. Rex took a deep breath. 'I did not get it all right,' Rex said. 'There are fossils in the ground, secrets still hidden, and so much still to ask.' Rex looked right at you. 'So keep digging, keep asking, and never, ever stop roaring.' Roar!





Jaws and Claws

A tremendous T-rex crashes out of the jungle, boasting that it's the greatest dinosaur who ever lived, but a crowd of unimpressed dinosaurs has gathered to hear it out. Will Rex's bragging survive the other dinosaurs' surprising talents? Created to align with the UFLI Foundations scope and sequence (Lesson 96: ou, ow /ow/), this book practices words like 'proud', 'growled', 'crowd', 'scowl', 'outstanding'.

Phonics Focus: ou, ow /ow/

bounding, crowd, down, found, frowned, ground, growled, how, loud, mouth, now, out, outstanding, proud, prowled, scowl, towering

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