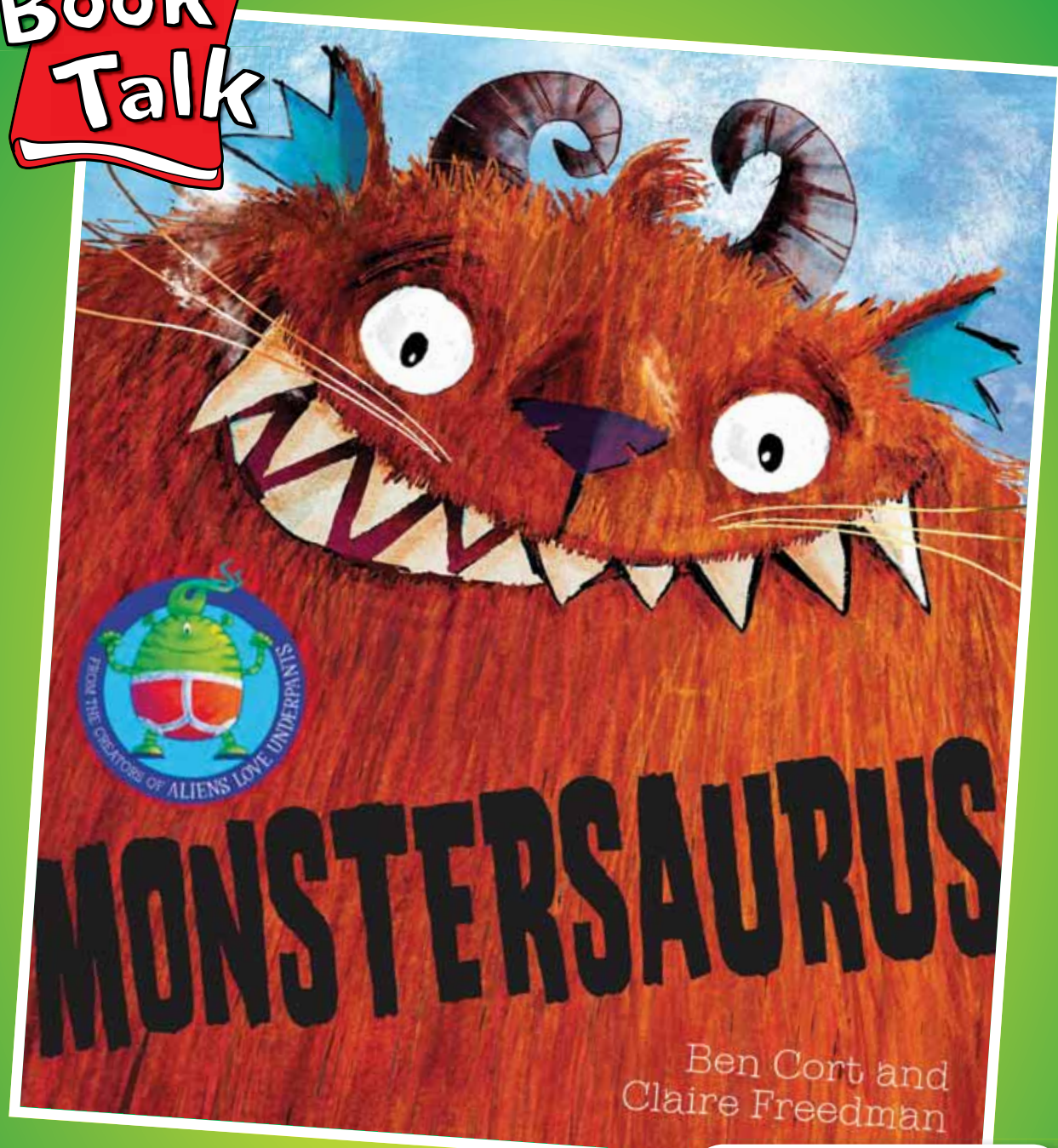


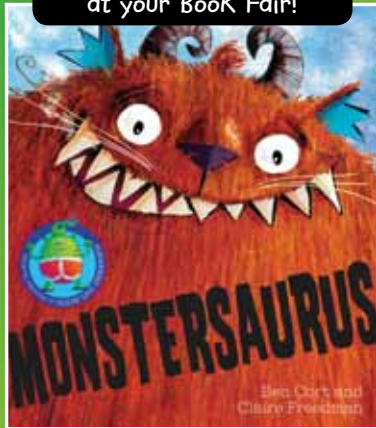
**Book
Talk**



AGES 2+

**Engage and inspire your
pupils with a Book Talk!**

Look out for this book
at your Book Fair!



AGES 2+

Price	£5.99 / €7.00
Case	Welcome to Reading
Author	Claire Freedman
Illustrator	Ben Cort
Publisher	Simon and Schuster

Using this book in your classroom

Themes

The themes in this funny rhyming story include **inventions**, **problem-solving** and **friendship**.

Summary

Monty is an inventor, but sometimes his inventions go a bit wrong... When he follows the very strange instructions in a mysterious book, he ends up with not one but two monster pets. Unfortunately, they are not very well-behaved, and immediately start to fight. Things are going from bad to worse, when yet another monster emerges from Monty's monster-making machine. The mighty Monstersaurus is confident he can sort out the problem – and it turns out that all he has to do is to threaten to give the two fighting monsters a big kiss. That's enough to send them racing out of the house! And meanwhile, Monty and the Monstersaurus begin a friendship that looks set to last for a long, long time.

Did you know?

- Since the success of their number-one bestselling picture book, *Aliens Love Underpants*, Claire Freedman and Ben Cort have collaborated on three more funny pants-themed books: *Aliens in Underpants Save the World*, *Aliens Love Panta Claus* and *Dinosaurs Love Underpants*. *Monstersaurus* is their first non-underwear-themed book!
- Claire Freedman became a writer almost by accident, after trying a number of jobs, including secretary and dental nurse. She has now been a writer for more than fifteen years, with over fifty books published.

The Story Session

1. Introducing the book

- Show the front cover to the children. Do they think that Monstersaurus looks friendly or fierce? What kind of book do they think this will be?
- Read the first page of the story, and then pause to share the children's predictions. What kinds of things might go wrong when Monty is inventing? Can the children guess what will happen to Monty in the story?

2. Reading the story

- Read the rest of the story aloud to the children, emphasising the rhyme and rhythm with lots of expression.
- Pause after Monty puts the ingredients for the first monster into the machine. Can the children guess what kind of 'thing' will come out? What might it look like? Turn the page to see if they were right. Read on, and pause again before the second 'thing' is revealed, to share their predictions.
- Ask the children how they think Monty feels when Monstersaurus appears. Would Monty expect Monstersaurus to be able to sort out the other monsters, or would he think Monstersaurus would just make things worse?
- Pause after "Or you'll get a great big..." Can the children guess what the rhyming word will be? Turn the page to see if they were right!
- At the end of the story, ask: "What kinds of things do you think Monty and the Monstersaurus might do together? Will they ever see the other two monsters again? What might happen if they did?"

3. Follow-up

- Read the story out loud several times and encourage the children to join in as much as they can. With an older or more able group you could encourage them to rehearse a performance of the story, with different children taking different pages or sections. They could then perform the story at assembly or for parents and siblings as part of the Book Fair celebrations.
- Ask the children to imagine that they are inventors like Monty. What special thing would they invent? Encourage them to draw a labelled picture of their invention, and use the pictures to make a wall display.
- Working in pairs or small groups, the children could come up with their own yucky list of ingredients for a magic potion or spell. They could act out putting the ingredients into a cauldron or monster machine. What kind of monster will come out?
- The Aliens Love Underpants website (www.aliensloveunderpants.com) contains information about Claire and Ben and their books, as well as some fun downloads and story-linked games to play.

YOU TELL US

- Did you use these notes to have a Book Talk in class?
- Were they helpful?
- Are there any changes you'd like to see to make them more useful?

We're always happy to hear your comments, so please email us at bookfairs@scholastic.co.uk