

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of I Am Henry Finch by Alexis Deacon and Illustrated by Viviane Schwarz

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

Rachel Zinkin, age 7

We thought the book was very funny, especially when the finches are just chattering. My mummy thought the illustrator's use of fingerprints was really clever.

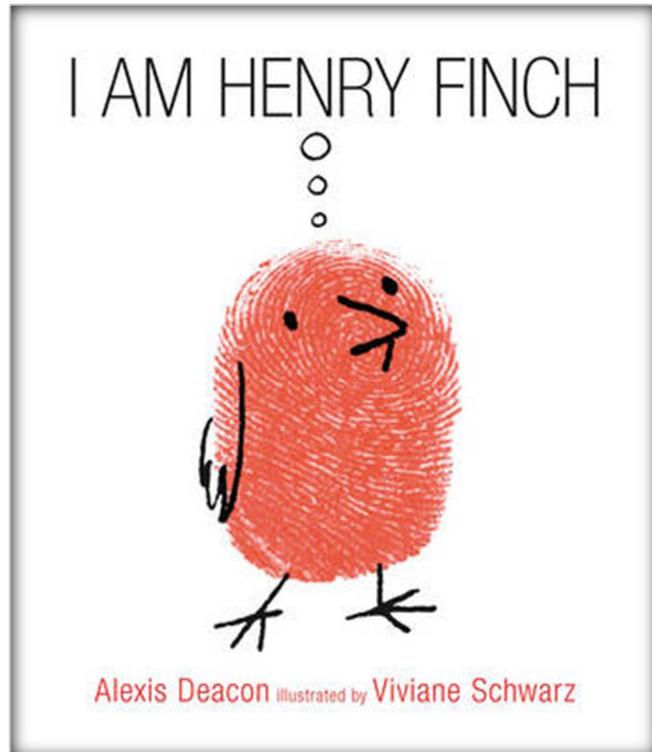
Every morning the Finch family says "Good morning" and in the afternoon "good afternoon" and then "good evening". Then Henry Finch has a though. Could he be great? Or what would happen? I think this book is quite good and very surprising. I like the picture of the monster's inside and all the tubes there. My little sister (age 5) likes the black page with Henry Finch squeezed in the tummy best. We thought the book was funny, especially when the finches are just chattering.

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Emily, age 4

An inspiring story about what it means to be an individual, and how anyone can make a difference, as long as you have a little courage and the confidence to be yourself!

Henry Finch is an endearing little character and my four year old loved him. She liked the part where Henry thinks he has failed, but then, after a little self-



examination, tries a bit harder and wins out in the end. She asked lots of questions about why Henry did what he did, and the story even generated a conversation about life and death and why some animals eat others – quite heavy stuff for a four year old! As a vegetarian myself, I enjoyed the opportunity to discuss a difficult subject in a light hearted way. The story contains some quite complex philosophical concepts, but it is told in such a way that small children can easily understand, and we enjoyed the story on several different levels.

We loved this book so much that the first time we picked it up, we read it together four times in succession - praise indeed for a small child with a short attention span! *This is a sweet, funny, engaging read that inspired lots of questions and conversation. I can see this being a firm favourite for years to come!*

James McNichol, age 4

A unique children's book.

A wonderful children's book about learning to trust your own inner voice and break away from the crowd. Brilliant.

William 5, Alexander 3 and Selina.

Henry was so brave to use his thoughts to save himself. (Alexander)

The drawings were very colourful & I loved the fingerprint finches. (William).

Very imaginative & thought provoking. After reading this book it led into a conversation about being an individual & having your own opinions. A great book for primary school age children.

We enjoyed reading this very much. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to read new books.

Ruby, age 5 and Nicola Laverty

This was a really lovely book. *We have read it several times and enjoyed it more each time. The illustrations are very appealing - from the simple, but very effective thumb print finches, to the very detailed black and white drawings of his thoughts. It prompted lots of conversation about being an individual and not just following the crowd. Ruby was also very interested in the idea of listening*

to your thoughts. She was pleased that Henry managed to change the habits of the beast, causing him to become a vegetarian (loved the picture of him feeding his family with a carrot on the back cover). She was however, a bit put out that the finches didn't follow his example.

This book is perfect to share with young children and prompts more discussion with every reading.

Kian Banks, age 5

Kian really enjoyed this book. The illustrations are beautiful.

Thomas Gray, age 5

I enjoyed it a lot. Henry is very cute and is not afraid to be himself.

Stefanie Tucker, age 15

A wonderful book with terrific illustrations. I read this to 3 children aged 4 to 5 years and they loved the vocabulary and the drawings!

This is a marvellous book for children aged 3 to 5. I read it aloud to 3 children who were captivated by the story, the drawings and some of the vocabulary. The girls laughed and rocked with mirth at some of the snappy little sentences: "I think, he thought", "I could be great" and the the repetition of the best, the beast..

The story line is along the lines of a philosophical tale. The rhythmic repetition of phrases and words and snappy, chatty phrases enable young children to follow it with ease.

The thumb print finches and simple drawings don't over complicate the pages but are sufficient to maintain interest.

Highly recommended read!