

## Teacher Notes

# Fearless Finn

Written by Kristin Martin

Illustrated by Lauren Mullinder

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Recommended reading age: 3+



## About the Book

When a dragon causes havoc with her fiery breath, farm boy Finn sets out to defeat her. He follows her trail of destruction past swarms of hungry bees, up the glacier-covered mountain to the dragon's cave. There, Finn discovers that all is not as it seems.

*Fearless Finn* is a heroic tale about being brave and helping others.

## About the Author



Kristin Martin is an author, poet and primary school teacher with a fondness for writing in rhyme. Her picture books include *Where Shall We Travel Today?* and the *Easter Bilby's Friends* series. Kristin lives near the beach in Adelaide, South Australia with her family, turtles and green tree frogs. Visit her website at [kristinmartin.net](http://kristinmartin.net).

## About the Illustrator



Lauren Mullinder is an illustrator, graphic designer, artist and educator. Based in her home studio in Adelaide, South Australia, Lauren spends her time drawing, exploring the natural world and developing workshops in art, drawing fundamentals and environment design. She has a passion for children's literature and has illustrated seven children's books. She loves visiting schools and running illustration workshops, where children have a hands-on experience creating their own designs and characters. When not working, Lauren loves spending time out in nature working with education groups, scuba diving off the coast or hiking up trails with her dog Charlie. Visit her website at [laurenmullinder.com](http://laurenmullinder.com).

These notes were prepared by Kristin Martin and Lauren Mullinder. They may be downloaded and printed for classroom use.

### **Themes**

- Feelings
- Helping others
- Problem solving

### **Learning Areas**

- English
- Science – living things
- Performing Arts
- Visual Arts

### **Foundation to Year 2**

#### **Before reading the book:**

Look at the front cover. Discuss.

1. What do you think the story is about?
2. What is Finn wearing? What do you think he is dressed as?
3. There are lots of flowers on the front cover. What season do you think it is?

#### **While reading the book:**

1. Identify the alliteration (adjacent words with the same beginning sound) on the first page. What does the author mean by 'scented, sunny day'?
2. Listen for the rhymes. Predict the next rhyming word each time you reach the end of a stanza.
3. Why did Finn tremble when he told Maude, 'I'll help to set things right? I'll find that dreadful dragon and I'll challenge her to fight?' How do you think he was feeling? How was Finn feeling when he challenged the dragon to fight? How did the dragon feel? How can you tell?
4. What do you think Finn is going to make to help the dragon stop sneezing fire? Look at what Finn collects from the herder and beekeeper. Does this give you a clue?

5. Why do you think the dragon changed colour when she ate the ice cream?

**After reading the book:**

1. Make up your alliteration name by adding an adjective in front of your name like Fearless Finn and Mighty Maude. For example, Kind Kristin, Lovely Lauren.

2. Record pairs of rhyming words. Can you think of other words that rhyme with each rhyming pair?

3. Finn used household items to make his armour. What else could you use? Draw a picture of Finn wearing armour and label the items used. Or colour-in the picture of Fearless Finn provided in these notes and label the items he used.

4. The dragon was blue when unhappy, and pink, yellow and green when happy. What other colours do you think of for different moods? Draw a dragon, or print the dragon picture from these notes, and colour it in to represent a mood or feeling. Write what mood the dragon is feeling.

5. Look at the ice cream recipe in the back of the book. Where did Finn get the ingredients to make the ice cream? What flavour ice cream would you make? Draw a picture of your ice cream.

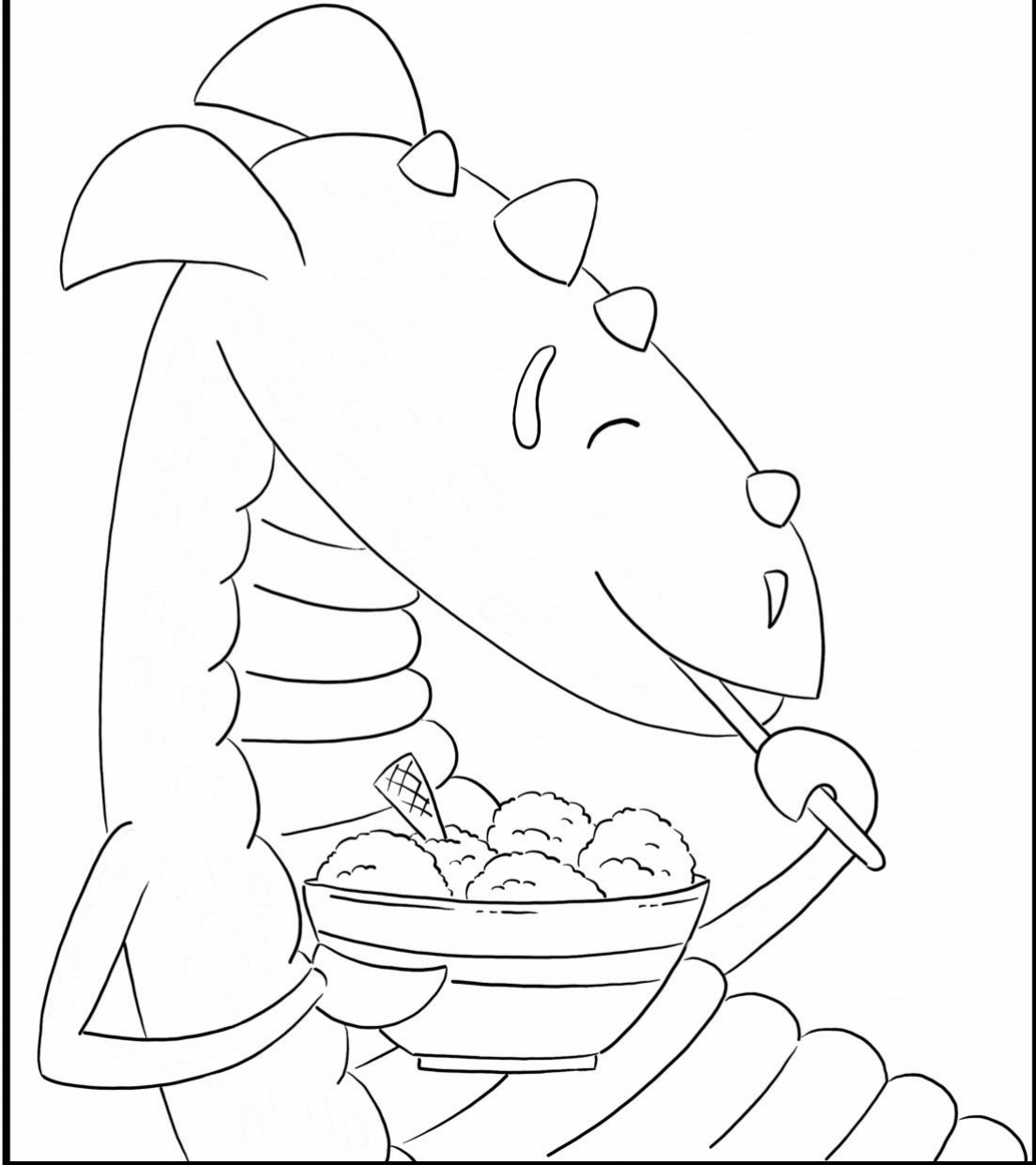
6. Act out a scene from the story. What props can you use? How do you show the character's feelings using your face and body?

7. Make paper flowers out of patty pans, paper circles and green straws. Make a display of flowers in your classroom to represent Spring.



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