

JUNIOR HISTORIANS

Summer Reading Club

The One and Only Ivan

Based on a true story, this book focuses on Ivan, a captive gorilla, who uses his artistic skills to help Ruby, a baby elephant, (and himself) escape the circus-themed mall where they are held captive.

Want To Learn More?

Check out these websites to dig deeper into the story of the real Ivan.

- Watch this [short video](#) or read Ivan's official [Biography](#) from Zoo Atlanta (where he lived)
- Visit the [memorial](#) for Ivan at Zoo Atlanta
- Listen to this NPR [interview](#) with Katherine Applegate, author of *The One and Only Ivan*
- Watch the [book trailer](#) for *The One and Only Ivan*
- Read the "other side" of [Ivan's story](#)
- Ask your parents if you can watch Argo Films' *The Urban Gorilla* – the film documents the real Ivan's story and was the reason people fought so hard to help move him to a zoo
- Take National Geographic's fun [Quiz Whiz](#) about Great Apes

Animal Finger Paintings

In the story, Ivan loves to paint and uses art to share an important message. Here are some examples of finger paintings that real life gorillas have created.



To create a drawing like Ivan (or the gorillas above), ask your parents if you can use paint at the house to complete a finger painting. If you don't have paint at home, you can also ask them to help you make your own [finger paints](#).