

# ROBOT and REX

A tiny piece of animated calm

By Niel Bushnell

## Outline

Robot and Rex is a series of 5-minute stories that explore two unlikely siblings, Robot (a robot) and Rex (a Tyrannosaurus Rex) as they learn about life through their little adventures.

Each episode is narrated by a calming female voice who interacts with Robot and Rex as they play, learn and explore.

## Tone

This is a soothing show, a place to slow down for five minutes and enjoy the warmth of the character's interactions.

The background is minimal, reducing stimulation of the viewer, enticing you in with the clear space to let you unwind. The playspace is a white environment with minimal decoration to suggest any required locations (think Pocoyo or Raa Raa the Noisy Lion).

The camera moves gently, forming a continuous scene, as if we're looking through the eyes of the narrator. Her voice is soothing and warm, a calming influence over the entire show, and the only voice we can fully understand. The voices of Robot and Rex are tonally interesting and can convey emotion and intent, but not decipherable words.

## Characters

**Robot** is a young boy who likes to understand his world through inquisitive play. He enjoys playing alone and can study and learn through repetition without the need for guidance from others. Robot is meticulous and methodical, but he also enjoys playing with others when it suits him.

Robot's body allows him to complete a range of complicated tasks but he's not as fast as Rex and doesn't share her desire to burn off energy through running and dancing.

**Rex** is an excitable young girl who likes to play with others rather than by herself but she can easily lose herself in her imagination. She learns through make believe and loves to dress up and explore.

Physically, she enjoys running and performing, but her short arms make her less good at detailed tasks than Robot, and this often frustrates her.

**The Narrator** is the adult voice who helps Robot and Rex to solve their problems. She is soothing and calm, able to intervene when the siblings quarrel, and laugh along when they play together.

## **Episodes**

**Sharing** – When Robot loses his teddy, Cuddle Unit One, it soon becomes apparent that Rex has him. But Rex only took the teddy because Robot stole her crown. The pair learn to share with each other.

**Music** – Rex has made up a roaring song, but Robot doesn't like it and wants her to stop singing. Robot decides to make his own turn, which Rex thinks is boring, but the two tunes work well together, and Robot and Rex realise the song is better when they play it together.

**Playground** – Robot and Rex are in a playground. Robot sits on the swing, but he can't go very fast. Instead, he pushes Rex with his telescopic arms. In return Rex runs quickly to spin the roundabout while Robot sits on it. They realise they have more fun playing together.

**Pebbles** – Robot is collecting pebbles and stones, placing them into tidy piles. But Rex runs and knocks them over. She tries to tidy them up but only makes things worse when she places them in a swirling pattern. Robot fills in the gaps with neat rows of stones and together they make a fun image with the pebbles.

**Bedtime** – It's bedtime. Robot is tired and wants to go to bed, but Rex still wants to play! Robot gets frustrated that Rex won't let him rest. Finally, Rex understands when she sees Robot's batteries are low. Rex, realising she is tired as well, puts away her toys and stops playing, and they both go to bed.

## **Contact**

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