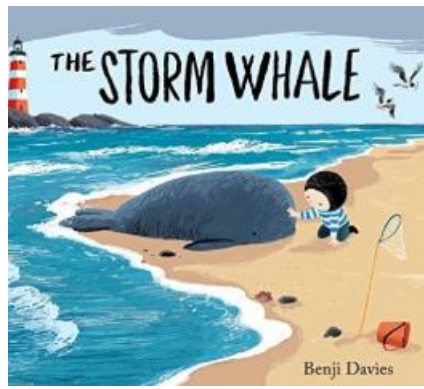


The Storm Whale



Noi and his father live in a house by the sea, his father works hard as a fisherman and Noi often has only their six cats for company. So when, one day, he finds a baby whale washed up on the beach after a storm, Noi is excited and takes it home to care for it. He tries to keep his new friend a secret, but but there's only so long you can keep a whale in the bath without your dad finding out. Noi is eventually persuaded that the whale has to go back to the sea where it belongs. For Noi, even though he can't keep it, the arrival of the whale changes his life for the better - the perfect gift from one friend to another.

[Click here](#) to watch the story on youtube.

Reading

Task 1: Look at the illustration on the front cover. Discuss what you think the book might be about. Read the blurb on the back. Does this give you any other ideas?

Task 2: Describe how Noi might be feeling when he takes the whale out to sea in the boat with his father.

Task 3: Read [The Storm Whale in Winter](#). Which do you prefer? Why?

Task 4: Retell the story from Noi's (or the whale's) point of view.

Writing

Here is a [booklet](#) with checklists you can use to see what you should be aiming for when you are writing. Scroll through to find the correct year group and you can try to tick the boxes off when you are working on a piece of writing. This checklist is used in school for assessed independent pieces of writing but it can be used at home as a guide.

Task 1: Write a description of a storm over the ocean. Try to use lots of adjectives to describe. Remember to think about all of the senses; See, hear, smell, taste, feel. Try to create a picture in the mind of the person who is reading your description.



Task 2: Write the conversation that Noi has with his father when the whale is discovered in the bath. What might they say to each other? You could use this [speech bubble template](#) or make your own. If you want to really challenge yourself you could write the speech out as a small play

script or using speech marks. Try to use a variety of punctuation.

Eg.

Dad: What is that?

Noi: It's a whale!

Dad: I can see it's a whale! But what is it doing in my bath?

Task 3: Whales are sometimes kept in captivity. Plan and carry out a debate to discuss the different points of view surrounding this issue. Discuss both sides of the argument first (for/against) then decide which side of the argument you are on. Ask someone in your family to write the other side of the argument. Then chose someone else in your family to help decide who wins!



Task 4: Can you write a poem about a whale? This could be an acrostic or a shape poem. Here is a [template](#) for an acrostic poem.

Task 3: Look at the silhouette pictures on the inside covers. Could you create similar pictures, based on whales or other animals?



Task 4: Noi paints pictures of the whale when he is gone. Can you paint your own pictures of whales and other ocean creatures?

Task 5: Watch this [TedEd video](#) about whale song. Listen to some 'whale song'. Can you describe what it sounds like? You can find lots of videos of this on youtube. Here is one to get your started. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tRMqbPH_pk

Task 6: Try out this fun [coastal erosion experiment](#). Any type of tray/box will do.