

HOW THE WHALE GOT HIS THROAT

by Rudyard Kipling

Once upon a time there was a giant Whale who lived deep in the sea. He was always hungry, and more than anything he loved to eat fish of all different kinds: mackerel, salmon, tuna, crab, octopus, squid, eel and more. He ate and ate, until there was only one fish left in the whole sea!

Luckily, the Last Fish in the sea was a clever one. Before the hungry Whale could chase him, the Last Fish took a bow and asked, "Oh, mighty Whale, have you ever tasted man?"

"No," said the Whale, who was a bit confused, "What is it like?"

"Oh, it's delicious," said the clever Last Fish, "And it will really fill you up. I saw one just the other day sitting on a raft in the middle of the sea. He is a shipwrecked sailor. Go and find him!"

So the Whale swam and swam, until he came upon a raggedy sailor, alone on a wooden raft. The hungry Whale crept up, opened his mouth wide and swallowed the sailor, raft and all. But it was not as the clever Last Fish had said—this man was not delicious at all! He kicked and danced, pranced and punched at the inside of the Whale's belly.

Annoyed, the Whale swam around trying to find that clever Last Fish, but he'd already made his escape. "This man is making me hiccup," the Whale said to himself, "What should I do?" Suddenly, from inside his belly the Whale heard a man's yell: "Take me home, to Albion, or I'll kick as hard as ever!"

The poor, hiccupping Whale had no choice but to swim the man home. After he escaped, the man lived happily ever after. And so did the Whale, but he had forgotten about the raft that was lodged in his throat. It was like a permanent sift! From then on, it prevented the Whale from eating anything except tiny fish.

And that was how the Whale got his throat.

Activities

Put the events in the order in which they happened.

- | | # | Order |
|--|----------|-------|
| A. The Whale met the Last Fish. | <u>2</u> | |
| B. The Whale spit out the man. | <u>4</u> | |
| C. The man's raft was stuck in the Whale's throat. | <u>5</u> | |
| D. The Whale ate almost all the fish in the sea. | <u>1</u> | |
| E. The Whale swallowed the sailor. | <u>3</u> | |

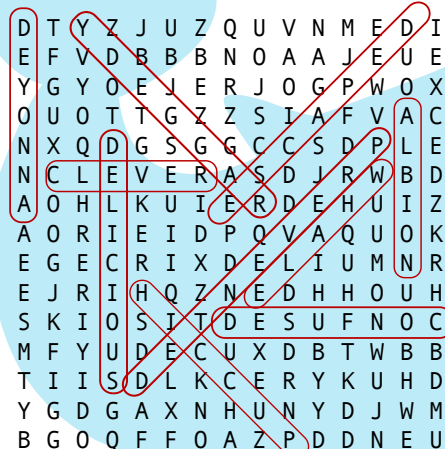
Who asked the Whale if he had tasted a man? the Last Fish

Who danced and kicked in the Whale's stomach? the Sailor

Who swam the sailor home? the Whale

At the end of the story, who could eat only small fish? the Whale

WORD SEARCH



WORD LIST
Albion
Annoyed
Clever
Confused
Delicious
Escaped
Hiccup
Prevented
Raggedy
Whale