



The Blue Whale

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A nonfiction picture book, *The Blue Whale* draws children into the life and world of this enormous whale by situating facts within a familiar context that is fun and engaging. Here, readers are given the actual size of an eye right on the page, and we are informed how understand this whale's body size in relation to trucks, cars, milk bottles, and hippos! With an accurate and engaging text, fully vetted by a blue whale expert, and lyrically lovely illustrations, *The Blue Whale* is a book that invites children in and holds their attention. Its tempo is like a pleasing melody, which means that the information never becomes too weighty or exhausting—a key thing when it comes to young readers and their enjoyment of a book!

A graduate of the renowned MA children's book illustration program at the Cambridge School of Art (ARU), **Jenni Desmond** works from her studio in London, England. She uses collage, paint, and pencil crayons to create her artwork, which she then scans and edits by computer. Jenni strives to make her illustrations entertaining, beautiful, and funny in equal measure. Her first picture book *Red Cat Blue Cat* (Blue Apple Books, 2012) won the Cambridgeshire Read it Again Picture Book Award 2013, and she has shown her artwork in many exhibitions in the United Kingdom, including the Royal Academy of Art Summer Exhibition.

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The Blue Whale From Ingramcontent Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 1–3—This delightful picture book provides a brief overview of these majestic creatures, from the perspective of a young boy absorbed in a volume about blue whales. (In a fun twist, the boy is revealed to be reading this very book.) Rich, warm, and imaginative, the illustrations support the clear, accessible text effectively, conveying the facts in a charming and accessible way that will easily resonate with kids. For instance, a page that states that blue whales weigh as much as 55 hippopotami is accompanied by an illustration of the boy sitting atop a pile of pachyderms, while a spread devoted to the vast quantities of milk whale calves drink features an image of 50 plastic milk jugs. Desmond includes endearing details as well, such as the boy's childlike pictures of these marine mammals, and her affection and admiration for the species is evident throughout, down to the last page, which depicts the boy asleep on a bedlike raft as a blue whale dives below the surface. VERDICT Budding cetologists will enjoy this lovingly crafted work.—Maggie Chase, Boise State University, ID

Review

A *Huffington Post* Honorable Mention in "Best Deep Dive" Category.

On the New York Public Library's List of 100 Books for Reading & Sharing

“While excellent nonfiction allows readers to learn something completely new, it also has the ability to make readers see something familiar with fresh eyes. The Blue Whale does exactly that. . . You think you know blue whales. Poor thing. You have much to learn. Start with this book.”

-- Travis Jonker, *School Library Journal*

“whale lovers will breach with happiness over this rich, artful mix of fact and frolic.”

-- *Kirkus Reviews*

“Desmond discusses the whale’s size, how it eats, and its various capabilities, in sentences that seem destined to leave readers’ jaws permanently dropped . . . A thorough, rewarding tribute to a majestic animal.”

-- STARRED REVIEW, *Publishers Weekly*

“Filled with strikingly beautiful watercolor illustrations, the book shows what impossible fun it would be to hang out in such close proximity to the majestic blue whale.”

-- Abby McGanney Nolan, *The Washington Post*

“This is one of those nonfiction books whose facts somehow make me cry. It’s partly the set up in the author’s note that blue whales are few in number due to human activity, from hunting to pollution. But it’s not just that. It’s the way this material is handled—from how the text is constructed to the dreamy illustrations.” -- *This Picture Book Life*

“Jenni Desmond celebrates in the marvelous nonfiction children’s book *The Blue Whale* — a loving science lullaby about our planet’s biggest creature, and a beautiful addition to the finest children’s books celebrating science.” – *Brain Pickings*

“A work of nonfiction that understands that true expertise is born out of curiosity. Filtering the storyline through one inquisitive young child, Desmond joyfully presents facts about the earth's largest mammal in a manner that is both accessible and engaging, and will definitely spark the reader's curiosity.” – *Huffington Post*

About the Author

Jenni Desmond: Jenni Desmond is an up and coming young illustrator whose books have been published by Walker Books in London and by Blue Apple in the US.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rita Dubois:

As people who live in the modest era should be change about what going on or information even knowledge to make these people keep up with the era which is always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to a person is you don't know which one you should start with. This The Blue Whale is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Kristen Hamilton:

Reading a publication tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world could share their idea. Textbooks can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire their reader with their story as well as their experience. Not only situation that share in the guides. But also they write about advantage about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors these days always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write on their book. One of them is this The Blue Whale.

Aaron Williams:

Exactly why? Because this The Blue Whale is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will surprise you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such amazing way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book include such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Francis Knapp:

Is it you actually who having spare time and then spend it whole day by watching television programs or just

lying down on the bed? Do you need something new? This The Blue Whale can be the answer, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these books have than the others?

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