



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:

James Crow:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important action, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a guide. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the publication entitled The Blue Whale. Try to the actual book The Blue Whale as your buddy. It means that it can to be your friend when you truly feel alone and beside those of course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you personally. The book makes you much more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So , let us make new experience and knowledge with this book.

Gladys Myers:

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Ann Yoho:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent the entire day to reading a publication. The book The Blue Whale it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book has high quality.

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