

Way Down Deep in the Deep Blue Sea

by Jan Peck

A child explores the treasures of the deep blue sea from the safety of a bathtub.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Have you ever played like the bathtub is the ocean?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder why his goggles look so big?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *Way Down Deep in the Deep Blue Sea*

- sea horse: shape
- hermit crab: crab that lives in empty shells
- starfish: star-shaped ocean animal
- do-si-do: a movement in square dancing in which two dancers pass each other and circle back to back
- sea turtle: warm-water ocean turtle
- tag: to follow closely behind somebody
- octopus: sea animal with eight arms
- dolphin: sea animal related to whales
- hitch: free ride
- swordfish: large ocean fish with sword-shaped jaw
- fencing: sword fighting
- touché: fencing score
- whale: big ocean mammal
- spouting: to discharge air from blowhole
- treasure: jewels and precious objects
- gleaming: bright and clean-looking
- pirate: robber at sea
- shark: a fish with a long body, two fins, and sharp teeth

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What was the little boy playing in the bathtub?
- What was he looking for?
- Can you name the different kinds of animals that he found?
- Which animal did he race? Who do you think won the race?
- Which animal waved at him?
- What animal did he ride? Have you ever been swimming with the dolphins?
- Which animal did he play swords with?
- Which animal spouts water from the top of his head?
- Can you name some of the treasures he found at the bottom of the sea?
- Can you name the animal that has big sharp teeth? Have you ever seen a shark? Where?
- When the little boy surfaced to the top of the ocean, who was there waiting for him?



Do

Deep Sea Diving

Provide flippers, goggles and air tanks (2-liter bottles) for pretend scuba diving.