

Teaching Notes & Resources

Key Stage 1

Themes: Family | Starting school | Growing Up | Empathy

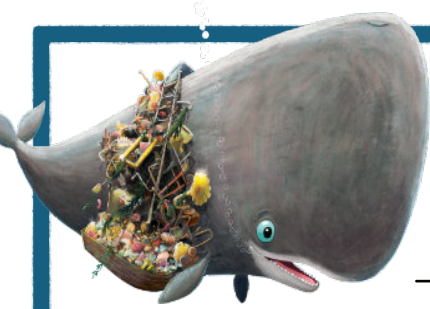
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CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE

Describe the whale, Humphrey, from *The Whale Who Wanted More*. Write about what he is like at the start of the story when he collects things that he thinks will make him happy. You can describe what he looks like, but you should also write about how he behaves.



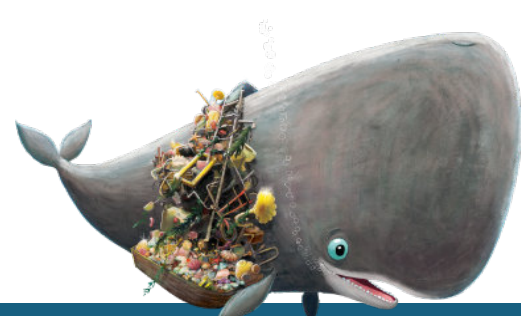
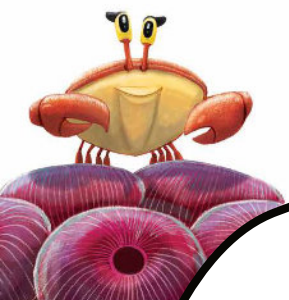
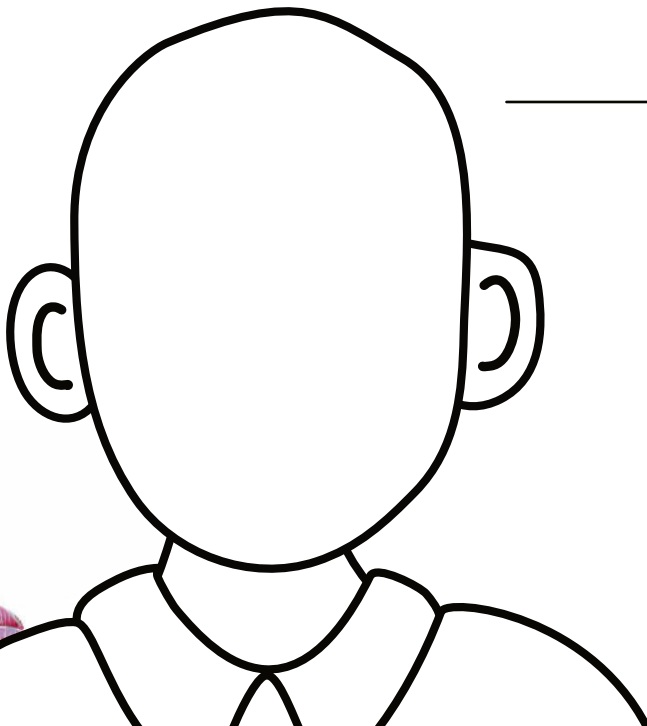
SHARING IS CARING



I can share
with others

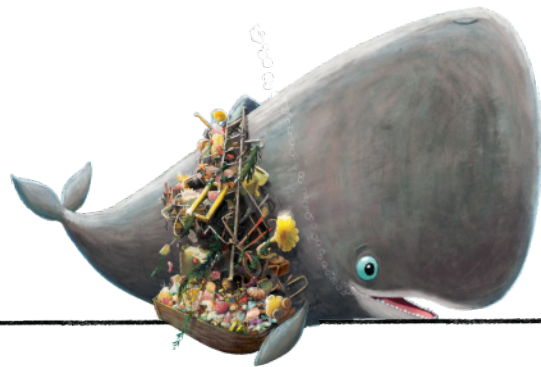
My favourite thing I own is...

When I share this with others it makes me feel...



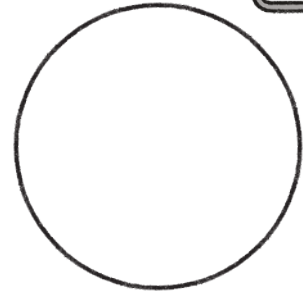
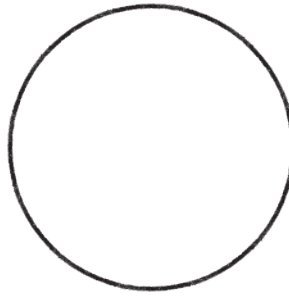
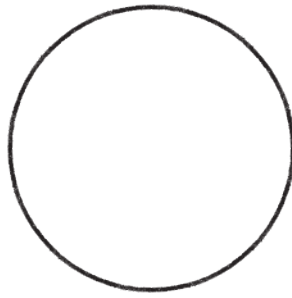
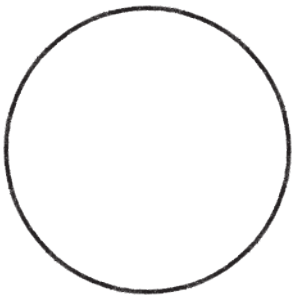
Name of animal:

Location:



Diet:

Find four foods this animal eats and draw them inside each circle.



Did you know?

CURRICULUM MAP

THE WHALE WHO WANTED MORE

Literacy

Speech and Thought Bubbles

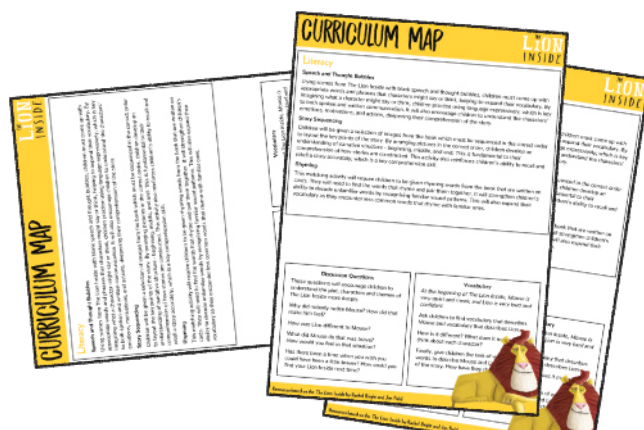
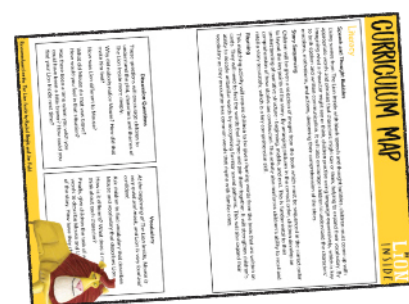
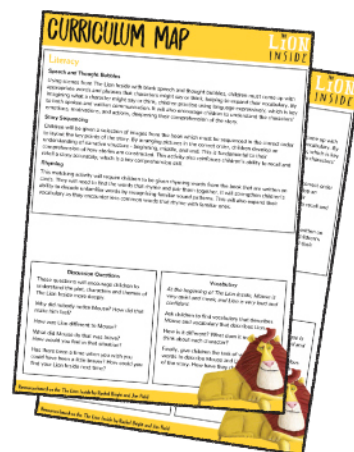
Using scenes from *The Whale Who Wanted More* with blank speech and thought bubbles, children must come up with appropriate words and phrases that characters might say or think, helping to expand their vocabulary. By imagining what a character might say or think, children practise using language expressively, which is key to both spoken and written communication. It will also encourage children to understand the characters' emotions, motivations, and actions, deepening their comprehension of the story.

Story Sequencing

Children will be given a selection of images from the book which must be sequenced in the correct order to layout the key points of the story. By arranging pictures in the correct order, children develop an understanding of narrative structure—beginning, middle, and end. This is fundamental to their comprehension of how stories are constructed. This activity also reinforces children's ability to recall and retell a story accurately, which is a key comprehension skill.

Rhyming

This matching activity will require children to be given rhyming words from the book that are written on cards. They will need to find the words that rhyme and pair them together. It will strengthen children's ability to decode unfamiliar words by recognising familiar sound patterns. This will also expand their vocabulary as they encounter less common words that rhyme with familiar ones.



Discussion Questions

These questions will encourage children to understand the plot, characters and themes of *The Whale Who Wanted More* more deeply.

Why did Humphrey collect treasure? How did it make him feel?

How would it feel to own lots of things? What do you think Humphrey is missing?

Why was Humphrey attracted to the reef?

How did Crystal stop Humphrey? What did she teach him?

Why is it important to give? How does it make you feel when you give?

Vocabulary

In The Whale Who Wanted More, there are a wide array of sea creatures that appear in the illustrations.

Go through the book and ask children to identify as many different creatures as they can from the text and the illustrations. Try and be specific, so rather than just fish, use its proper name, clown fish.

Once you have compiled a list of different sea creatures, challenge children to make expanded noun phrases by adding appropriate adjectives to each sea creature.



CURRICULUM MAP

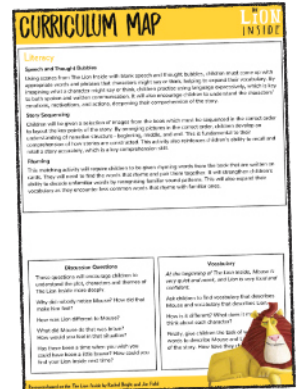
THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE

Character Description

In the first part of The Whale Who Wanted More, Humphrey is obsessed with collecting things which he thinks will make him happy. By the end of the story, he understands that he has everything he needs with the other sea creatures around and that there is joy in giving to others.

Ask children to write a character description of Humphrey in the first part of the story. They should use adjectives to describe what he looks like and how he behaves. They should include what the other sea creatures think of him.

As an additional challenge, children could write a contrasting character description based on what he is like at the end of the story.



Phonics

Phase 4: Consonant clusters (consonant blends or adjacent consonants)

- Make a list of consonant clusters (eg., 'st', 'bl', 'tr', 'cr') and ask children to find words that contain these in the book.
- Ask children to write down words containing these consonant clusters (For example, 'stirring', 'blue', 'treasure', 'crab'.

Phase 5: The graphemes 'ea', 'ay', and 'ou'.

- Make a list of words from the book that contain the graphemes, 'ea', 'ay', and 'ou'.
- Challenge children to write a descriptive sentence using words containing each of the three graphemes. (For example: The seaweed swayed to the beautiful sound of the whale's song.)

PSHE

Sharing is Caring

One of the key morals in the story is that the whale learns to share what he's collected and in return realises that it's not what you have that brings you happiness. Children can write about something that they have or collect, for example teddy bears. In pairs, you can then ask the children to swap sheets and write a question that they have about their collection or favourite item. After swapping the sheets back, the children can discuss their answers together and share.

Swap and Share

You can ask the children to bring in an item from home that brings them joy. You can then organise a show and tell in the classroom so children can share about their item. You can then allow some time for the children, in pairs, to hold or play with each other's item that they brought in and encourage them to ask questions about the item.



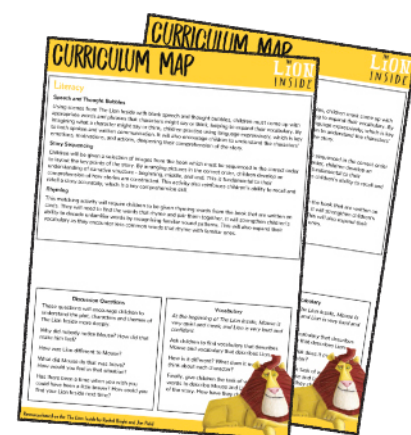
CURRICULUM MAP

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE

Topics

Geography – Where is the book set?

In this activity, children will have to analyse one of the illustrations from the book and use it to estimate what kind of habitat they think it is. They should be encouraged to discuss what they see in the illustration, such as physical features and other wildlife. They will then match their location to one of the habitat cards provided and write about the evidence that's drawn them to that choice.



Geography – Come and Visit Humphrey!

In this activity, the children will need to use the scenes from the book to reflect on what the character's habitat is like. They could write several descriptive words to describe the habitat and then use these words in sentences to create a letter from this character's perspective, inviting someone to come and visit their habitat.

Science – Animal Fact File

In this activity, children will need to research one of the main animals from within the book. They will need to find out what animal it is, where they can be found and several other interesting facts about that animal.

Science – Animal Specific Adaptation

Children need to research and find out why the animal from the book is well suited for its habitat. You could discuss their physical attributes, diet and their daily life.

PE

Create a dance routine that tells the story and shows the emotions that the characters feel throughout the book. This could be completed in small groups, or you could break the book up into sections to perform the whole story as a class.

Ocean Diorama

Use coloured card to create an ocean scene diorama box. Try and capture the effects of the colourful coral using crumpled up card or paper.

Ocean Silhouette Painting

Create an ocean silhouette painting by drawing an underwater scene on card, using deep blues. Black card with chalk would be best to create the effect of light shining below the sea using white chalk. Afterwards, cut out shapes of coral or rocks using black card and stick them in front of the scene.



Cut out the rhyming cards and see if you can find the matching rhyming words.
Can you think of any other words that they rhyme with?



eye

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



stirred

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



sun

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



kind

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



space

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



sigh

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



mind

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field




fun

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



word

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



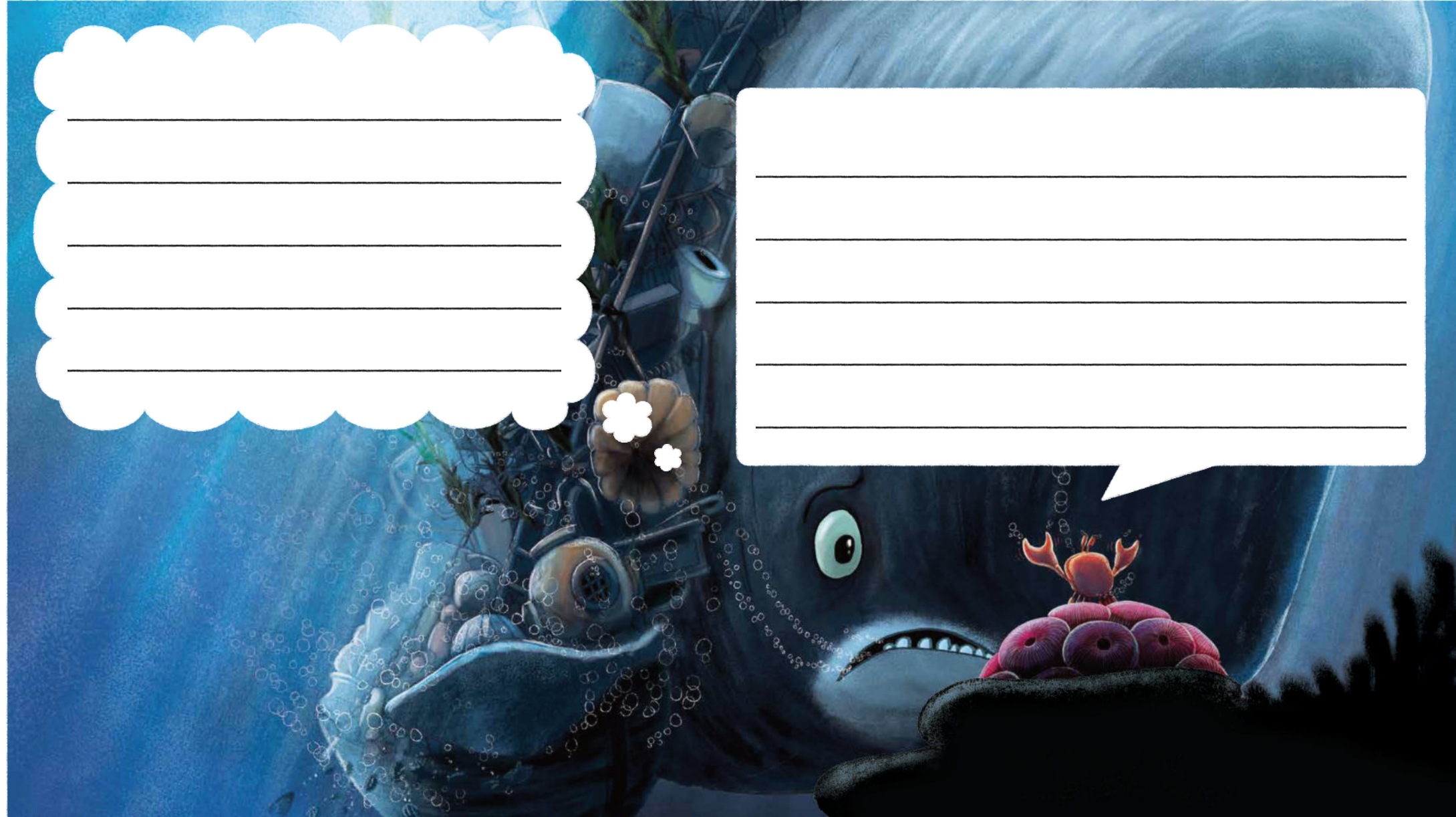
place

Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

SPEECH AND THOUGHT BUBBLES

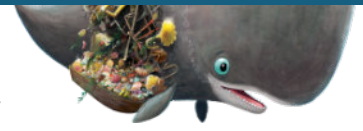
THE
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Complete the speech and thought bubbles to show what you imagine the characters might be thinking or saying.



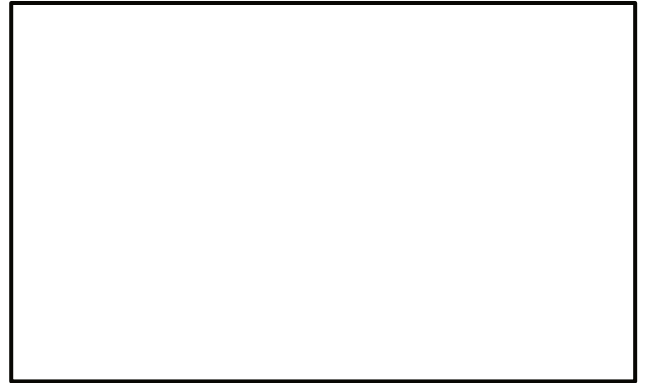
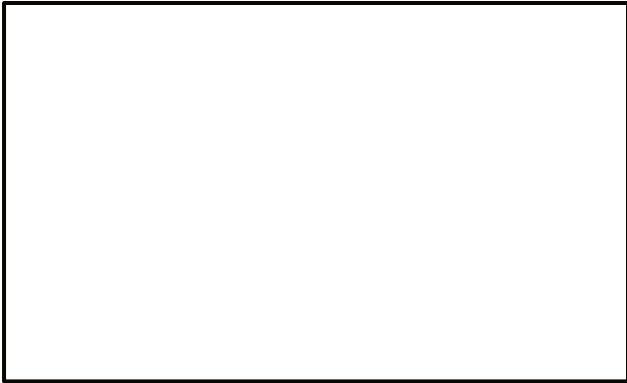
STORY SEQUENCING

THE
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WHO WANTED MORE



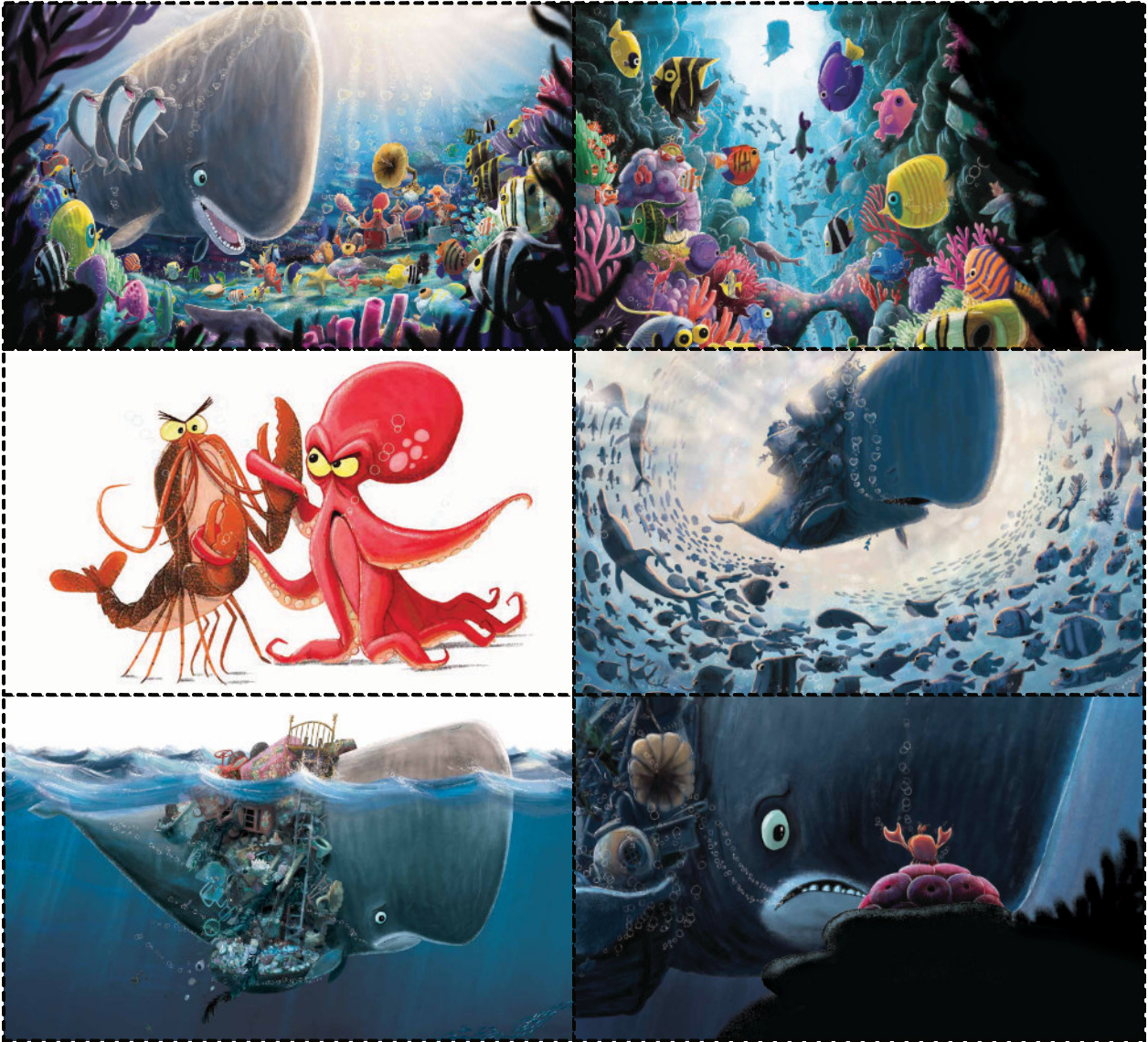
Cut out the pictures and put them in order.

Write a caption for each picture to explain what is happening.



STORY SEQUENCING

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



WHERE IS THE STORY SET?

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



WHAT CAN YOU SEE?

WHAT ANIMALS CAN YOU SPOT?

WHAT COLOURS ARE USED?

I think this book is set in... _____

I think this because...



CAN YOU
MARK IT ON
THE MAP?



HABITAT – DESERT

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



Resources based on the *The Gecko and the Echo* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

HABITAT – MOUNTAINS

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

HABITAT – SAVANNA

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



Resources based on the *The Gecko and the Echo* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

HABITAT – TROPICAL

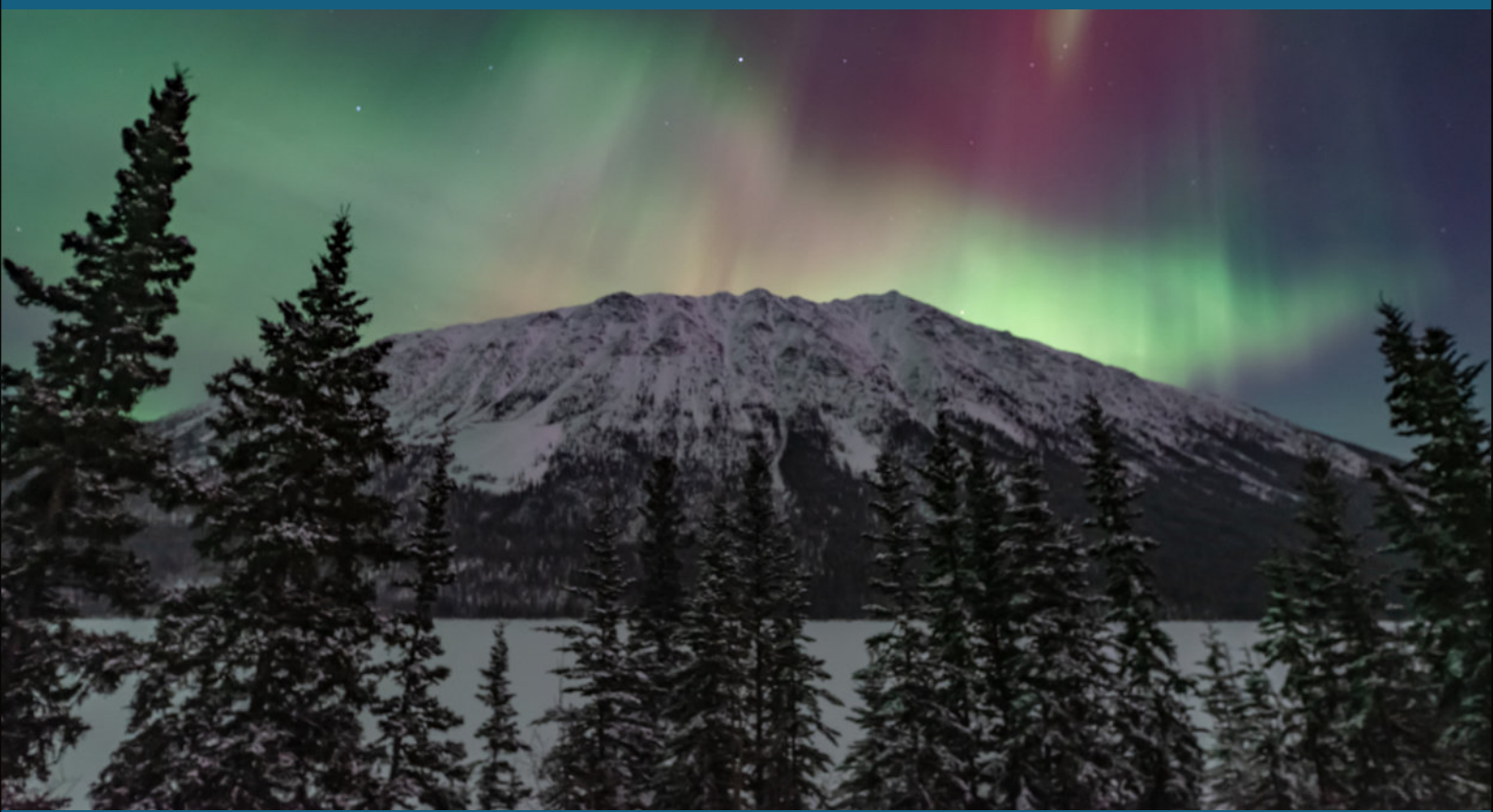
THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

HABITAT — BOREAL FOREST

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



Resources based on the *The Gecko and the Echo* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

HABITAT — WOODLAND

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

HABITAT – OCEAN

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



Resources based on the *The Gecko and the Echo* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

HABITAT – OUTBACK

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE



Resources based on the *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

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