



A big blue whale moves to Rainbow Fish's reef. The fish become suspicious of the whale and jealous of their food supply. Will Rainbow Fish have the courage to make peace with this new, and much larger, neighbor?

IDEAL FOR  
AGES  
5-6

## BIG IDEAS To Reinforce



Friendship,  
the Unknown,  
Cooperation

### Build Background

Ask students to explain the statement "To have good friends you have to be a good friend." On chart paper write "How to be a Good Friend." Students may respond with: good friends listen, help each other, say nice things, etc.

### Key Vocabulary

irritable	pg 5	cautious	pg 20
suspicious	pg 6, 23	hostile	pg 26
terror	pg 14	ashamed	pg 27
sinister	pg 15		

### Student-Friendly Learning Target



I can retell a story remembering the characters, setting and what happened.

### Discussion Starters



1. Describe the setting and characters of the story.
2. Retell the sequence of events in the story. What happened first, in the middle and how did the story end?
3. If you were Rainbow Fish, how would you feel about meeting the Big, Blue Whale?
4. What kinds of things could Rainbow Fish and the whale do now that they are friends?
5. Why were Rainbow Fish and the other fish afraid of the whale?
6. Rainbow Fish was like NED....he *never gave up*. How would the story have ended if Rainbow Fish had given up and didn't talk to the whale?

### Activity



#### MATERIALS

- Small brown-paper lunch bags
- Newspaper
- Yarn or string
- Tempera paint, markers, crayons, colored pencils
- Glue
- Scissors
- Sequins, foil paper, or prism paper

#### SET UP

Squeeze the newspaper into small paper balls and place firmly inside a lunch-size brown bag, leaving approximately 5cm at the end. Gather the remaining portion of the bag and tie closed with yarn to make the fish's tale. Allow students to decorate their fish as they see fit.

#### REFLECTION

When students are finished allow time for retelling the story with a partner or small group. When most have finished, gather the group together to retell the story one more time.

### Writing Prompt



**School of Friends** Hand out the printable activity. Instruct students to decorate their fish and write (or dictate) one word that relates to friendship (e.g. helpful, caring, kind). Cover a bulletin board with blue paper and title it "School of Friends."

PRINTABLE

### More Resources

Accelerated Reading Quiz: 30016 [www.marcuspfister.ch/](http://www.marcuspfister.ch/)

### Core SKILLS

With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Decorate the fish and write  
(or dictate) one word that relates to  
friendship (e.g. helpful, caring, kind).

