

About the Book

When an underwater current sweeps away his last sparkling scale, Rainbow Fish must brave the deepest waters to find it. What he also finds are the wonders of the deep sea and some amazing new friends.

About the Author

Marcus Pfister was born in Berne, Switzerland, where he lives today. He is perhaps best known for his series of books featuring Rainbow Fish, which has been published in more than thirty languages around the world. In addition to the *American Booksellers* ABBY Award for the first Rainbow Fish book, Pfister has also received the prestigious Critici in Erba Prize at the Bologna Book Fair, as well as the Christopher Award for creating books that “affirm the highest value in the human spirit.”

Pre-reading Activity

Show students the cover of the book. Then ask them to predict what the story might be about and ask them why they are making their prediction. Go over the predictions after reading the book to see which predictions were correct.

Classroom Activities

Name Game

Introduction

While in a circle, pass out the Rainbow Fish name tags with the children's names printed on them. Read each name aloud so everyone can hear how to pronounce the name and to help students make an association between the name and the child. Once all the name tags are passed out, ask students to find a friend who has a name that begins with the same first letter as their name. Then ask them to find a friend who has the same last letter as their name or to find a friend who has a letter that is also in their name. It may be helpful to ask them to find a friend who has the same number of letters as they have in their own name. Pause for a few moments between each request so that the students have time to get to know one another a little. Gather back into a circle and ask students to name some of the new friends they have made and to tell what they have learned about their new friends.

Hello
My Name is

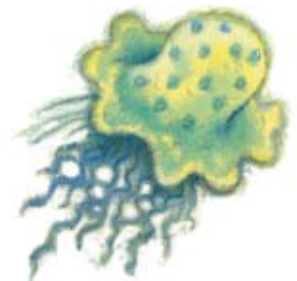


If I Were a Fish

Character Traits

Reread the story to the class and brainstorm some of the characteristics/traits of some of the fish Rainbow Fish met in the deep sea. Write characteristics on some chart paper for the class to see.

Ask students to design their own fish. Ask students to think about what they would look like. Use the reproducible If I Were a Fish Activity and have students create their very own deep-sea fish. Help students write their own descriptions or take dictation of their descriptions of their fish. After the students have drawn their fish, meet again and have them show their pictures and talk about their fish.



Different Is Good

Comparing and Contrasting

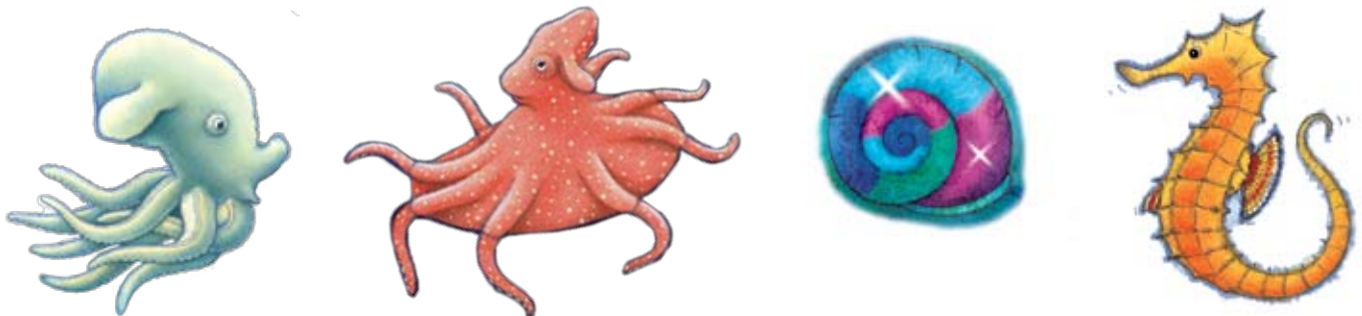
Ask students why they think the other fish were afraid of the deep-sea fish. Discuss how sometimes what is unknown or different can be scary. How are the deep-sea fish different from the other fish? Talk about these differences and how they help the fish live in the deep, dark sea. Ask how those different traits were able to help Rainbow Fish find his lost scale. Create a Venn diagram on chart paper as a class and chart the similarities and differences of the deep-sea fish and the other fish. After completing the Venn diagram, discuss how there may be differences but that differences helped Rainbow Fish and that there are also a lot of similarities between the two groups of fish.



Lost-and-Found

Story Sequence

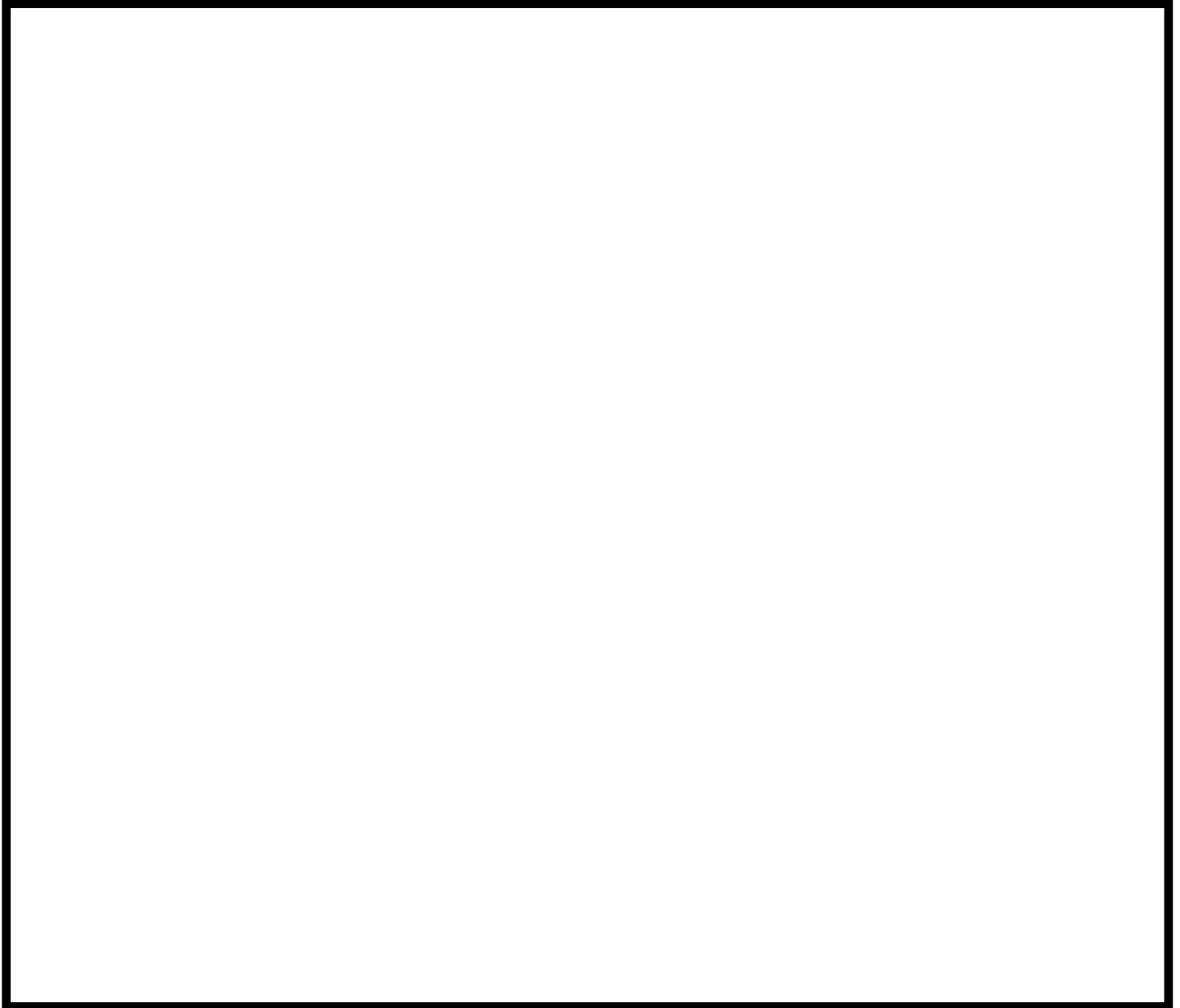
Ask students what Rainbow Fish lost in the story. Ask them if they have ever lost anything. Discuss different things the students have lost and how they found them. Did they get help from family or friends? Discuss who helped Rainbow Fish and in what order. Reread the story together and then ask students to find a new friend and complete the reproducible Lost-and-Found Maze together.



Reproducible Activity

If I Were a Fish Activity

Here is a picture of me.

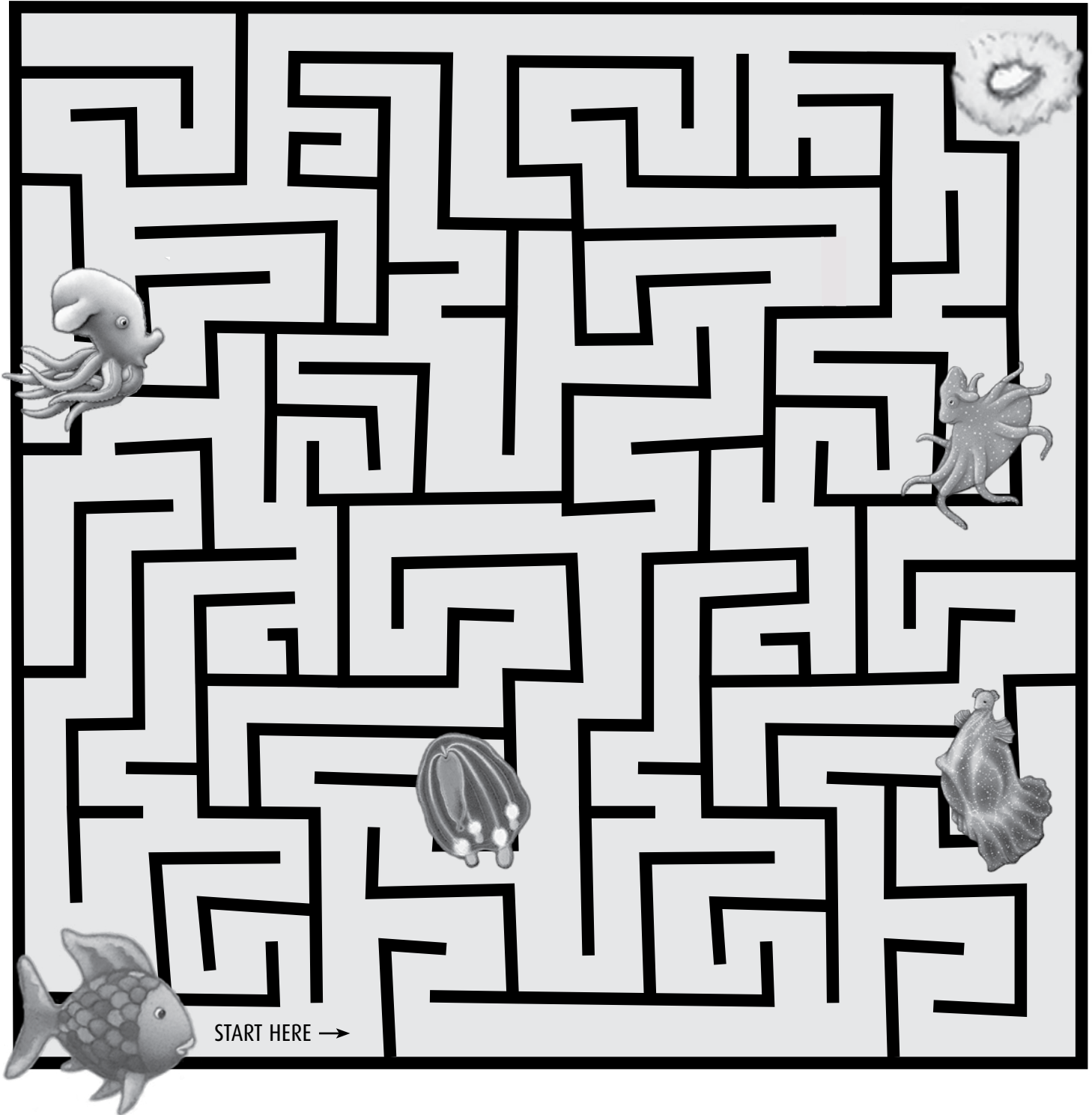


If I were a fish, I would

Reproducible Activity

Lost-and-Found Maze

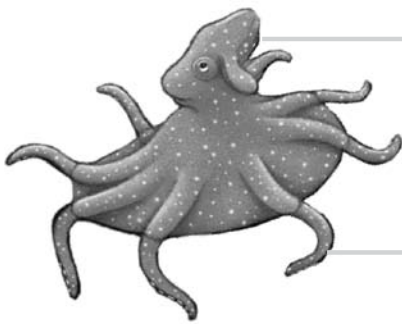
Help Rainbow Fish find his missing scale.



Booklet

My New Deep-Sea Friends

Name



Squid



Sea Slug

Teachers: **Reproduce, cut, and staple together to create individual books.**

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<http://www.northsouth.com>

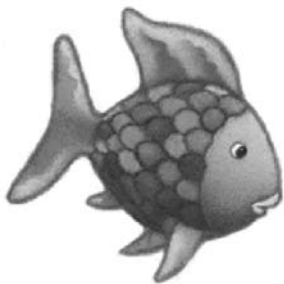
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Octopus



Jellyfish



Fish

Reproducible Activity

Coloring Page

