

Somewhere in the Ocean

• Reader's Theater •

by | Toni Buzzeo

Grades
1-3

Read the book aloud to children first, so that they can enjoy the illustrations and become familiar with the story. You may want to introduce the song, "Over in the Meadow" at this point, particularly if you will be asking students to "sing" their reader's theater production. Next, hand out a set of fourteen photocopied scripts to students. You will have a Parent Chorus of two students and a Baby Chorus of ten students. As you read through the script, you will see that this Baby Chorus begins with one reader and adds an additional reader for each verse. You may wish to designate these chorus members by number before beginning. (For challenged readers to whom you'd like to assign a brief part, consider one of the higher numbers in the Baby Chorus. Choose two fluent readers for Narrators One and Two.) Once all readers are comfortable with their parts, consider having them sing the reading. You may also want to add costumes or props if this is part of a larger performance.

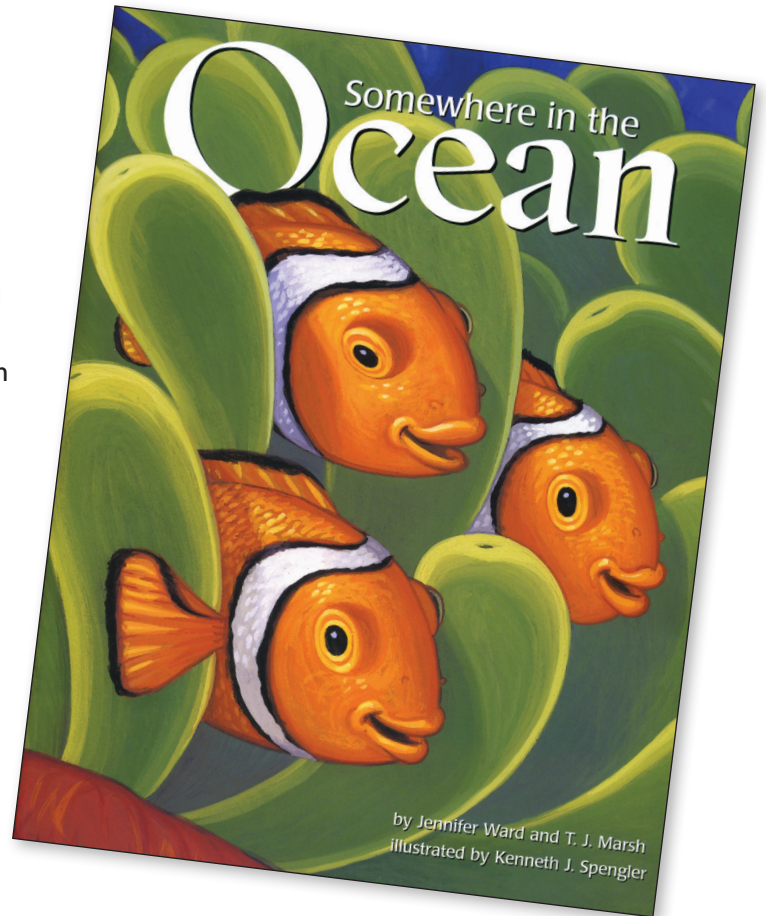
Roles

Parent Chorus (two students)

Baby Chorus (ten students)

Narrator One

Narrator Two



After Reading

Visit www.librarysparks.com for an interview with Jennifer Ward about *Somewhere in the Ocean*. Also visit Jennifer's Web site at www.jenniferwardbooks.com.

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Somewhere in the Ocean

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: where the warm waters run

Narrator One: Lived a mother manatee

Narrator Two: and her little calf one.

Parent Chorus: Nibble!

Narrator One: said the mother.

Baby Chorus: I nibble!

Narrator Two: said the one.

Narrator One: So they nibbled sea lettuce

Narrator Two: where the warm waters run.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: in the waters clear and blue

Narrator One: Live a pod of orca whales

Narrator Two: and their little calves two.

Parent Chorus: Splash!

Narrator One: said the mothers.

Baby Chorus (2): We splash!

Narrator Two: said the two.

Narrator One: So they jumped and they splashed

Narrator Two: in the waters clear and blue.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: in a sea anemone

Narrator One: Lived a mother clown fish

Narrator Two: and her baby fish three.

Parent Chorus: Nestle!

Narrator One: said the mother.

Baby Chorus (3): We nestle!

Narrator Two: said the three.

Narrator One: So they nestled safe and snug

Narrator Two: in their sea anemone.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: in a tide pool by the shore

Narrator One: Lived a mother hermit crab

Narrator Two: and her baby crabs four.

Parent Chorus: Dress!

Narrator One: said the mother.

Baby Chorus (4): We dress!

Narrator Two: said the four.

Narrator One: So they tried on different shells

Narrator Two: in their tide pool by the shore.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: where the kelp forests thrive

Narrator One: Lived a raft of sea otters

Narrator Two: and their baby otters five.

Parent Chorus: Munch!

Narrator One: said the mothers.

Baby Chorus (5): We munch!

Narrator Two: said the five.

Narrator One: So they munched prickly urchins

Narrator Two: where the kelp forests thrive.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: where the seas and rivers mix

Narrator One: Lived a mother tiger shark

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Narrator Two: and her little pups six.

Parent Chorus: Cruise!

Narrator One: said the mother.

Baby Chorus (6): We cruise!

Narrator Two: said the six.

Narrator One: So they cruised and they hunted

Narrator Two: where the seas and rivers mix.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: where the sea grass grows so even

Narrator One: Lived a father sea horse

Narrator Two: and his wee babies seven.

Parent Chorus: Hold on!

Narrator One: said the father.

Baby Chorus (7): We hold on!

Narrator Two: said the seven.

Narrator One: So they held and they swayed

Narrator Two: where the sea grass grows so even.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: where the water shimmered late

Narrator One: Lived a mother sea turtle

Narrator Two: and her baby turtles eight.

Parent Chorus: Paddle!

Narrator One: said the mother.

Baby Chorus (8): We paddle!

Narrator Two: said the eight.

Narrator One: So they paddled in the moonlight

Narrator Two: where the water shimmered late.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: drifting slowly in a line

Narrator One: Lived a mother jellyfish

Narrator Two: and her baby jellies nine.

Parent Chorus: Zap!

Narrator One: said the mother.

Baby Chorus (9): We zap!

Narrator Two: said the nine.

Narrator One: So they zapped tasty tidbits

Narrator Two: as they drifted in a line.

Narrator One: Somewhere in the ocean

Narrator Two: in a coral reef den

Narrator One: Lived a mother octopus

Narrator Two: and her little babies ten.

Parent Chorus: Squirt!

Narrator One: said the mother.

Baby Chorus (10): We squirt!

Narrator Two: said the ten.

Narrator One: So they squirted and they played

Narrator Two: in their coral reef den.