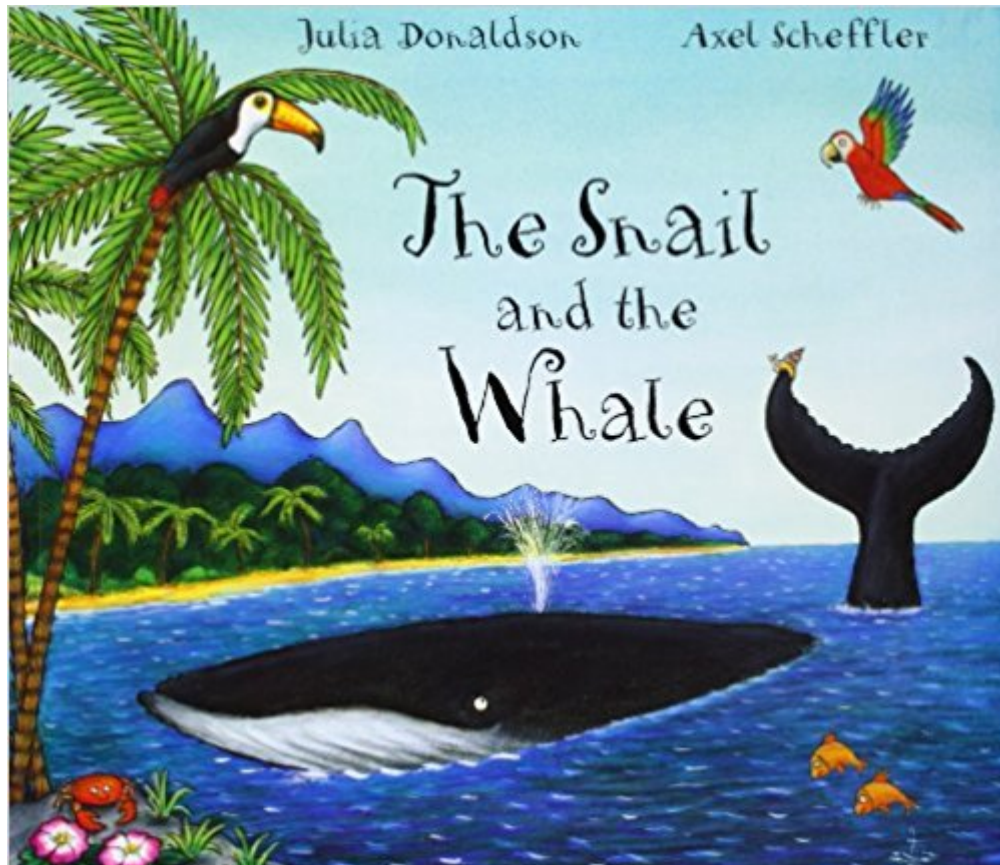




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# The Snail And The Whale



## Synopsis

When a tiny snail meets a humpback whale, the two travel together to far-off lands. It's a dream come true for the snail, who has never left home before. But when the whale swims too close to shore, will the snail be able to save her new friend?

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 630 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (April 6, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142405809

ISBN-13: 978-0142405802

Product Dimensions: 11.1 x 0.1 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 585 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,072 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature](#) #3 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Marine Life](#) #4 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders](#)

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 3--A tiny mollusk that longs to see the world hitches a ride aboard a humpback whale in this charming picture book. After seeing far-off islands, underwater caves, and storm-filled skies, the snail feels impossibly small--until the whale is beached in a harbor, and she saves the day by writing a note on the blackboard of a nearby school to summon help. The message that even the smallest among us can help others will not be lost on children, and neither will the poetic language: "A humpback whale, immensely long,/Who sang to the snail a wonderful song/Of shimmering ice and coral caves/And shooting stars and enormous waves." Donaldson's smooth, sprightly rhyming scheme buoys the story and never falters. The flat, cartoonish look of Scheffler's multimedia illustrations perfectly complements the tone of the text. The rollicking language and bright pictures make this a great choice for reading aloud.--Kathleen Kelly MacMillan, Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Along with providing a resonant environmental message, the story lightly demonstrates that friendships come in all shapes and sizes. — Publishers Weekly, starred review

The Snail and the Whale is one of the best -- if not THE best -- children's books we've ever read. (And we've read many hundreds by now.) This one excels in every aspect: 1. What a jewel of a story -- about an unlikely friendship, globe-trotting adventure, creative problem-solving and resourcefulness, thinking beyond the confines of one's limitations (perceived or otherwise)... 2. The book is beautifully written. The rhymes and prose flow seamlessly. It's lovely to both read and listen to. 3. The artwork is excellent, too. The pictures are vivid, colorful, and engaging. We've read the book dozens of times by now, and we'll still often notice some new little detail. This was our first Julia Donaldson book but remains my favorite. The Gruffalo and Room on the Broom have also been hits, and they're also very good. The story and prose quality of The Snail and the Whale are better, in my opinion. But we will try other books by this author. (Thank you for this amazing contribution to children's lit, Julia Donaldson!)

Julia Donaldson's books are so beautifully written and are such a joy to read. It is hard to find children's books that don't become tiresome after a few readings, but hers are amazing. My daughter is 4 and is just captivated by her stories and the wonderful illustrations.

This is my go-to gift for birthday parties. I gift this along with a gift card to Yogurtland. It's always a hit for both girls and boys. It's a cute story that captures the attention of kids.

I love this story and the message it contains! It's a little on the longer side, but I don't mind that at all. I don't think I'll get bored of reading this to my son.

The book was a little difficult to read to a 3 year old. The rhymes didn't work and was often a tongue twister. The story was cute, but boring.

My son loves this book! We giggle about the "whale with the itchy foot." There's a lot to look at on each page as far as counting or spotting animals. Cute illustrations too.

I had to explain why I kept stopping when reading this book to my kids. I told them it was allergies. I

lied. It's that good.

This is one of our all time favorites! The rhyming is great, the story is great, and the delightful illustrations lend themselves to additional discussion about what is transpiring on each page. When my son was 2-1/2 a friend lent us the UK version of this book, and it was an instant hit. It was the longest book he had ever sat through at the time, and his was completely captivated from the very first word to the last. At my son's insistent request I read this book 12 times the first day we had it (and would have sat through it more times if there were someone else to read it to him), and 4-12 times a day for the next six weeks. Six months later it is still in regular rotation. I recommend it highly. FYI, there are a few changes in the US addition, which we purchased, and my son corrects me if I don't use the UK language as that is what he initially memorized. Most of the changes are insignificant, but the one he doesn't like is on the second page. In the UK version it reads: The tiny sea snail sighed and sniffed, Then cried "I've got it! I'll hitch a lift!" This is the trail Of the tiny snail, A silvery trail that looped and curled And said, "Lift Wanted Around the World." In the US version it reads: The tiny sea snail sniffed and sighed, Then cried "I've got it! I'll hitch a ride!" This is the trail Of the tiny snail, A silvery trail that looped and curled And said "Ride Wanted Around the World." We have really enjoyed this book and look forward to exploring others by Julia Donaldson.

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