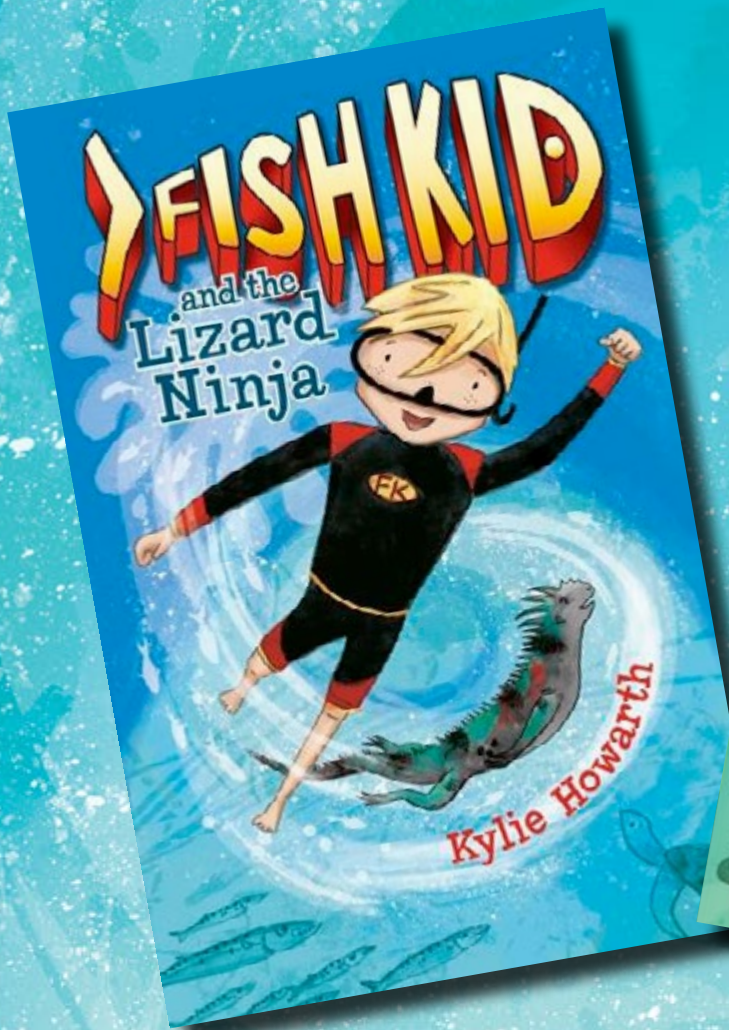


# FISH KID



## Discussion and Activity Guide

WALKER BOOKS



# Fish Kid Facts



## KYLIE HOWARTH

- Writes the words and draws the pictures of the Fish Kid series
- Lives in Perth, Western Australia
- Grew up in the country with her brother, dog, sheep, several orphaned kangaroos and one very cheeky echidna
- She is the author and illustrator of *Fish Jam*, *Chip, Chip the Lifeguard* and *1, 2, Pirate Stew*
- Her books have won and been short-listed for the CBCA Awards, Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year, YABBA, KOALA and WAYRBA Awards.

Find out more about Kylie at [www.kyliehowarth.com](http://www.kyliehowarth.com)

**Faster than a speeding mullet ...  
stronger than a bull shark ...  
it's Fish Kid!**

Slugging down slimy sea cucumbers and jellyfish is enough to make anyone vomit.

**BLAAGH!!**

When Emely's revolting prank gives Bodhi miraculous marine powers and turns him into Fish Kid, it lands them both in deep, shark-infested waters...



Fish Kid and the Lizard Ninja  
9781760650810 | Ages 7-10



Fish Kid and the Mega Manta Ray  
9781760651138 | Ages 7-10

Be sure to take a deep breath before you dive into these hilarious ocean-packed adventures.

Fish Kid and the Lizard Ninja and Fish Kid and the Mega Manta Ray are fast paced adventures mixing superheroes with fascinating marine nonfiction for young environmentally conscious readers.



## Book Club Discussion Questions: Book 1

- Choose three words to describe Bodhi and Emely at the beginning of the story and three words to describe them at the end. Did you choose different words? What changes did the characters go through that made you pick different words?
- Bodhi and Emely discuss sidekick names to give to the marine iguana – come up with a few of your own names for the list.
- Why is Bodhi afraid of snorkeling? How does he overcome that fear?
- How does Bodhi feel about being on the boat with his parents rather than in a normal school with his friends? Do his feelings change during the story? Why?
- Discuss how Bodhi or Emely demonstrate the following qualities:
  - Resourcefulness (finding clever solutions)
  - Courage
  - Intelligence
- Brainstorm some ideas for a Fish Kid sequel.
- What did this book teach you about conservation of marine life? Do you think looking after marine life is important? Why? What are some actions you can take to help?

## Further Activities

- Some of the text is designed in a different font and size. How does that change the way you read it? Write a short story and experiment with the size and font of particular words. Ask a classmate to read it out loud and discuss how the text design affects the reader.
- “Mum once told me a group of sharks was called a shiver of sharks.” (p105). This is called a collective noun. Name the collective nouns for the following animals:
  - Sea lions (herd)
  - Jellyfish (swarm, bloom or smack)
  - Fish (school)
  - Crabs (cast)
  - Iguanas (mess)
- All great superheroes have an origin story – summarise Fish Kid’s origin story into a snappy introduction.
- “My eyeballs bounced from side to side like a tennis ball” (p37). This is a simile, which means comparing one thing to another. Can you find other similes in the story? Why do you think authors use similes?

## STEM Questions and Activities: Book 1

- Bodhi’s dad says sea cucumbers are an endangered species. What does this mean? What other animals are endangered?
- “Climate Change is a very serious issue.” (p7). Have a class discussion about Climate Change. What do you know about it? Is it a good thing or a bad thing? What are some changes you or your family could make to help?
- What is Morse Code? Who uses it? Find a guide to International Morse Code in your library or online and write a coded message for a classmate.
- Bodhi says he is camouflaged against the black rocks. What does camouflage mean? Discuss how people and animals can use camouflage to their advantage.
- With his Fish Kid powers, Bodhi takes on some of the abilities of Guapo the Marine Iguana. What abilities does Fish Kid gain? What abilities might he gain if he encountered another marine animal, for example a dolphin, octopus or crab?



### Answers to Find-A-Word Worksheet

1. Jellyfish, 2. Sharks, 3. Sealions, 4. Galapagos, 5. MarineIguana, 6. SeaCucumbers, 7. Barracuda, 8. Bodhi, 9. Emely, 10. MarineBiologist, 11. Shiver, 12. Guapo, 13. Hammerhead, 14. SallyLightfootCrabs



## Book Club Discussion Questions: Book 2

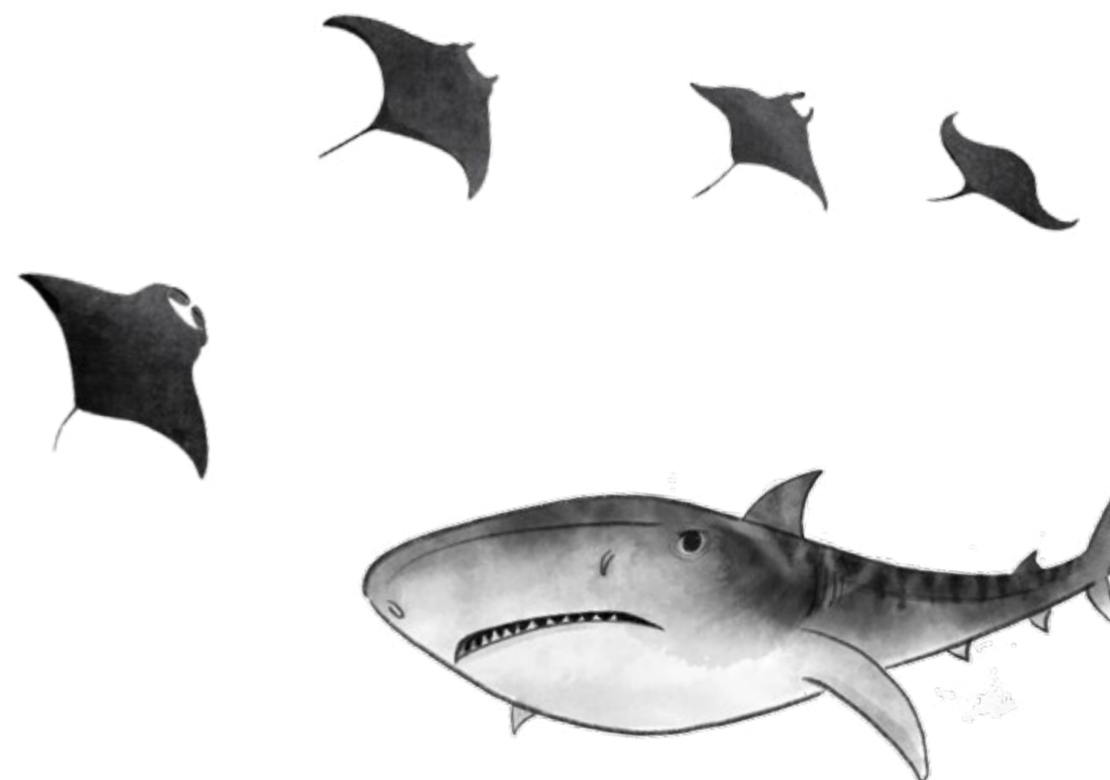
- Choose three words to describe Pops and Nan at the beginning of the story and three words to describe them at the end. Did you choose different words? What changes did the characters go through that made you pick different words?
- Were you surprised to hear what had happened to Nan? Why/why not?
- Bodhi is told not to use his Fish Kid powers while he's staying with Pops but he does anyway. Why does he choose to ignore his parents' warning? How does this make Bodhi feel? Do you agree with his decision?
- Bodhi's parents and Guapo are back in the Galapagos. How does Bodhi feel about being separated from them? How does he stay in contact? Do you have any friends that live far away that you miss?
- Discuss how Bodhi or Emely demonstrate the following qualities:
  - Resourcefulness
  - Bravery
  - Resilience
- Think about different moments in the book when Bodhi is afraid (you could consider where he's trapped in the net; when he's face to face with the tiger shark; or even the seaweed octopus prank). How does Bodhi react in each moment? How does he face and overcome his fears?

## Further Activities

- It's Emely's first time in Australia, and Bodhi shows her all around Ningaloo. Write a list of places you would take someone visiting your hometown. Consider things that would be especially exciting to someone who's never been to the country before.
- "Occy bait is the duck's guts." (p27). Look up what an idiom means, and see if you can think of any more. Hint: there's a more famous one on page 27 too. Can you make other idioms sound particularly Australian?
- Write a short story about Nan's adventures with the dugongs. Make sure to include some "delicious" sea grass...
- Draw your own picture of Bodhi and Freckles doing a Flying Pizza Flop.

## STEM Questions and Activities: Book 2

- Before reading, ask the class what they know about manta rays and make a list. Revisit this list after reading, and see if the students have anything new to add. Did *Fish Kid and the Mega Manta Ray* change anyone's perceptions of manta rays?
- Research other types of rays. What makes the manta ray similar or different? How do the different rays protect themselves?
- Kylie Howarth says Freckles the manta ray is based on a real ray. Find news stories about Freckles and how she asked divers for help. What was it like to see the real pictures of Freckles? You could check out the #raysneedlovetoo on social media to see more ray pics.
- Research "ghost fishing" and have a class discussion. Had anyone heard of it before? Why is it so damaging, and what can be done to help?
- Pops points out the boundaries of the marine sanctuary to Emely and Bodhi (p32). What marine sanctuaries do we have in Australia? Why are they important?
- On p48, Bodhi and Emely watch whales breaching. See if you can find a video of whales breaching online. What is a breach? Why do whales do it? Do any other animals breach?



Choose one of the animals from the **Fish Kid Facts** pages as your subject for this activity.

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

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Research Project

Teacher: Mrs Snoogle

Assignment 1a: Sea Creatures

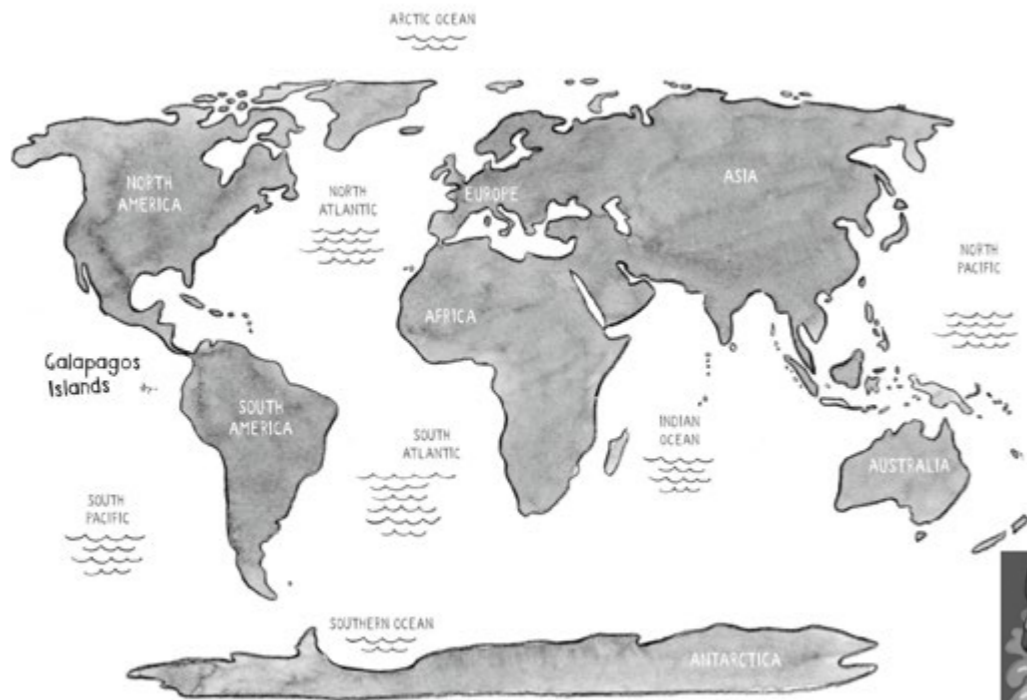
Name of Animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Picture: \_\_\_\_\_

Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat: \_\_\_\_\_

Shade where the animal can be found on the map below:



Diet: \_\_\_\_\_

Other interesting facts: \_\_\_\_\_



Puzzle out the clues and then find the answer in the find-a-word.

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

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Find-A-Word

J	K	S	K	H	M	I	H	K	S	G	K	L	A	Q	T	Q	T	L	S
T	R	T	B	M	Z	I	A	H	L	F	E	K	F	Y	H	S	S	M	A
D	W	V	C	H	S	H	A	R	K	S	P	A	T	M	I	P	E	D	L
J	E	L	L	Y	F	I	S	H	R	B	V	G	Q	G	H	E	A	C	L
G	A	L	A	P	A	G	O	S	I	O	L	L	O	O	B	A	C	Y	Y
D	R	D	H	Y	A	M	U	T	R	D	T	L	T	X	R	T	U	O	L
P	X	Z	B	G	Q	A	I	H	R	H	O	N	M	X	S	F	C	E	I
V	O	Z	E	U	A	R	F	W	Z	I	R	L	S	T	R	U	U	N	G
Y	Y	M	U	L	Q	I	D	R	B	Q	F	P	T	W	O	E	M	J	H
P	P	O	L	D	C	N	Z	E	P	J	Y	M	H	D	I	G	B	K	T
J	H	T	U	A	Z	E	N	E	I	O	Y	B	U	C	O	F	E	V	F
J	E	W	Y	Y	H	I	B	G	J	D	M	U	V	T	L	H	R	K	O
F	M	M	D	C	R	G	A	K	R	S	E	A	L	I	O	N	S	Z	O
B	E	F	U	A	Q	U	R	R	S	G	U	A	P	O	S	B	N	Z	T
C	L	D	M	C	U	A	R	I	H	I	S	R	V	J	F	W	L	O	C
K	Y	C	O	U	K	N	A	T	I	Y	C	Z	X	F	M	E	B	X	R
G	E	W	A	E	T	A	C	U	V	Y	H	S	T	I	K	E	K	W	A
X	K	M	M	U	W	O	U	T	E	Q	I	W	M	Z	P	M	N	M	B
V	Q	F	M	E	R	F	D	F	R	Z	L	L	E	P	R	S	N	N	S
D	F	V	U	J	X	H	A	M	M	E	R	H	E	A	D	M	Y	H	Q

### Clues

1. These brainless creatures can clone themselves \_\_\_\_\_
2. The Galapagos version of these grow to approximately three metres long and prefer warmer waters \_\_\_\_\_
3. These pinnipeds are known as *lobos marinos* in Spanish \_\_\_\_\_
4. The Lizard Ninja is only found on these islands \_\_\_\_\_
5. These creatures are famous for their salt boogers \_\_\_\_\_
6. They don't have brains and shouldn't go in a smoothie \_\_\_\_\_
7. These speedy hunters can chop a fish in half with one bite \_\_\_\_\_
8. Fish Kid's alter ego \_\_\_\_\_
9. Master prankster \_\_\_\_\_
10. A fancy name for someone who stares at fish a lot \_\_\_\_\_
11. The name for a group of sharks \_\_\_\_\_
12. The Lizard Ninja's name \_\_\_\_\_
13. These big-headed sharks can see 360 degrees \_\_\_\_\_
14. These bright red crustaceans have strong claws \_\_\_\_\_





Help Fish Kid his way to Freckles!

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

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Have fun colouring in Fish Kid and

Guapo the Marine Iguana!

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

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**FISH KID**  
and the  
Mega Manta Ray

Start

A circular maze with a manta ray in the center. A diver is shown at the top left. A small book cover for 'Fish Kid and the Mega Manta Ray' is at the bottom right.



**FISH KID**  
and the  
Lizard Ninja

A line drawing of a diver and a lizard. A small book cover for 'Fish Kid and the Lizard Ninja' is at the bottom right.



Have fun colouring in Fish Kid and Freckles!

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

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

# FISH KID

and the  
Mega Manta Ray

