



Host an *a small blue whale* storytime

BEFORE STARTING THE STORY Hold up a copy of *a small blue whale* and ask the audience what they think of the cover. Ask them if they know what the five senses are. Encourage them to name sight, hearing, taste, touch, and smell. Ask for one volunteer to tell you what the book looks like (blue/green), sounds like (loud, if you drop it on the ground!), tastes like (Just kidding, don't lick the book!), feels like (hard), and smells like (a new book smell!).

Tell them this story is about a whale who goes on an adventure to find out what friendship looks, sounds, tastes, and feels like. (We won't be using smell today, but most friends tend to smell pretty good!)

AS YOU READ Pause to let your storytime listeners take in the pictures and describe what they see happening. Ask them if they agree with what the whale thinks of friendship. Can a cloud really be a friend? Can those penguins really catch the colors of the rainbow?

END THE STORYTIME Ask your storytime attendees to call out what friendship feels like to them. If you could taste friendship, would it be sweet? Do your friends make you feel warm and comfortable? Then invite your storytime listeners to complete the activities in this brochure and to take home their own colorful rainbow!



What does friendship feel like?

Instructions:

Connect the dots to find out what friendship feels like to the small blue whale.
Use crayons or markers to color in your finished picture!

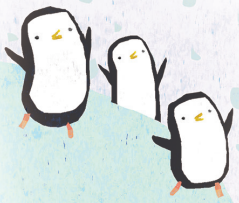


Help the small blue whale find his friends!

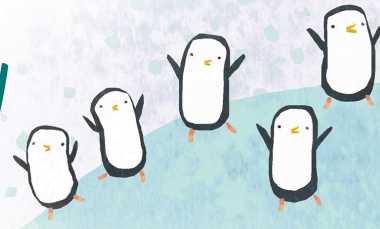
The small blue whale travels far
to find his penguin friends.

Help him find his way through
the maze to play with them!





Let's catch the colors of the rainbow!



The penguins in *a small blue whale* try to catch the colors of the rainbow.

During your storytime, have your attendees create their own colorful rainbows.

Items to gather before the event:

- Craft Glue
- Scissors

Of the provided, each child should receive:

- A set of rainbow colored pipe cleaners (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple)
- A small handful of cotton balls
- A paper plate

Instructions:

1.

Have a grown-up help each child line up their pipe cleaners and cut them on a diagonal. The smallest pipe cleaner in the bunch will be the bottom of the rainbow and the largest will be the top. See picture below.



2.

Have the children bend them to create a colorful arch—a rainbow!



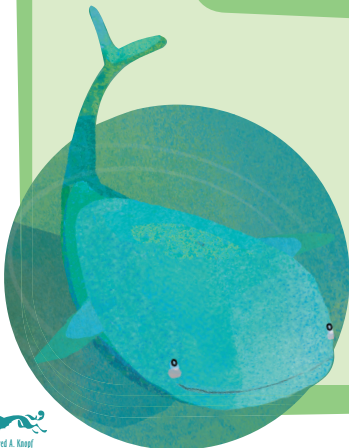
3.

Next, they can then glue their rainbows to the paper plates.



4.

Add more glue to the bottom ends of the rainbows to add cotton balls. (Tip: Stretch out the cotton balls a little to make them look more like clouds.)



Encourage everyone to bring home their rainbows and hang them up.
Or tell them to share it with a friend that makes them feel as happy as the rainbow does!

