

A TILBURY HOUSE NATURE BOOK

Ana and the Sea Star

R. Lynne Roelfs

Illustrated by Jamie Hogan

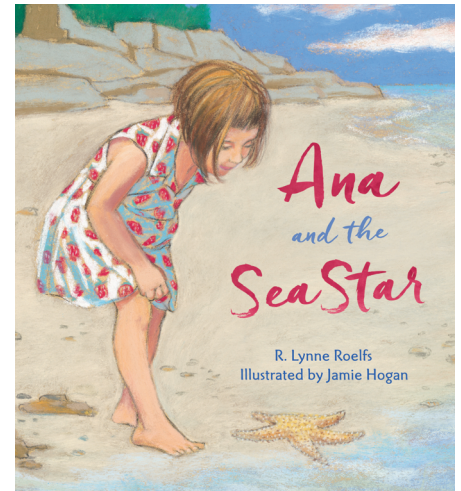
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9 x 10, 36 Pages, Full color illustrations

Grades PreK-2

Fountas & Pinnell Level M



Summary

A young girl finds a starfish on the beach and wants to take it home to show it to her mother, but she doesn't want it to die. With encouragement from her dad and a little imagination, Ana is able to let the sea star go and yet keep it with her at the same time.

This book will lead to discussions about

- Using your imagination and words to paint pictures of what you have seen
- Protecting animals in their environments
- Appreciation of the natural world and its creatures

Before You Read

Access Prior Knowledge

- What do you do when you go to the beach?
- What animals do you see at the seashore?
- Do you know why starfish are called sea stars?
- Name some creatures that live under the water.
- When you close your eyes, can you see pictures in your mind?

After You Read

Discussion Questions

- What animals does Ana see in the book?
- What happens when a sea star loses an arm?

- How does a sea star eat? Would you like to eat that way?
- How does a sea star move along the sand at the bottom of the sea?
- How does a stingray disguise itself under water?
- Why doesn't Ana take the sea star home to Mama?
- How does Ana help Mama see the sea star?
- Are you an invertebrate?
- Why should starfish be called sea stars? Why should jellyfish be called sea jellies?

Vocabulary

- Hermit crab
- Jellyfish
- Loggerhead sea turtle
- Sea star
- Piping plover
- Stingray
- Surf
- Vertebrate
- Invertebrate
- Echinoderm

Activities

- Go to the beach and look for creatures that are living there.
- Draw a picture of what you might see at the beach or under the water.
- Imagine that you are swimming underwater. Make your arms move as if you are swimming. Pretend you have gills that allow you to breathe underwater. Watch out for the turtles and sea jellies!

For Further Discussion

- How does litter on the beach hurt sea creatures? What can we do to keep our beaches clean?
- How can we draw pictures with our words? Tell your mother or father to close their eyes, then tell them what you did at school today. Use strong details so they can see your day in their minds.

For Further Reading from Tilbury House

City Fish/Country Fish by Mary Cerullo, photographs by Jeffrey Rotman

My Busy Green Garden by Terry Pierce, illustrated by Carol Schwartz

Pier at the End of the World by Paul Erickson, photographs by Andy Martinez

Project Puffin by Stephen W. Kress as told to Pete Salmonsohn

Riparia's River by Michael Caduto, illustrated by Olga Pastuchiv

Saving Birds by Pete Salmansohm and Stephen W. Kress

The Secret Pool by Kimberly Ridley, illustrated by Rebekah Raye

The Secret Bay by Kimberly Ridley, illustrated by Rebekah Raye

Swimming Home by Susan Hand Shetterly, illustrated by Rebekah Raye

If You are a Kaka, You Eat Doo Doo and other poop tales from Nature by Sara Martel, illustrated by Sara Lynn Cramb