



AUTHOR

Olaf Falafel is an author, illustrator and stand-up comedian. As well as trying to make people laugh on stage, he draws a lot and tries to come up with funny ideas for kids' books. He also has an Art Club on YouTube full of real drawing tips and facts about famous artists. He loves visiting schools too.

WEBSITE

www.olaffalafel.com

LINKS

Official trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxHI0I7DkZo>

How to draw Blobfish with Olaf Falafel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iXVw9kW0IG8>

Find out about Blobfish, SciShow Kids

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A7LU5Wxc_0Y

Simple colouring page

<https://kidadl.com/free-coloring-pages/fish-ocean-layers>



BLOBFISH

Younger Children Shortlist 2023

INTRODUCTION

A simple story about a lonely fish in search of a friend who ends up in a spot of trouble before eventually finding someone to share his jokes with.

As well as exploring **friendship**, the book introduces the issue of **plastics** in our oceans. At the beginning of the book, there are a few gentle hints about our own (positive and negative) impact on the seaside environment.

Real-life Blobfish live in the deep waters off the coasts of Australia and New Zealand.

ACTIVITIES

Read: Chose an information book about creatures of the sea or the problem of plastic in our oceans from your public or classroom library to read aloud and discuss with your child or children.

Research the creatures that live in the different layers of the ocean.

Illustrate or Write: Draw a picture of the Blobfish following Olaf's video instructions.

Suggest your child or children write down and illustrate one of their favourite jokes which could be used to create a display or 'published' in a class or group joke book.

Look at the page which shows Blobfish 'deep, deep deep, deep under the sea.' Talk about how the illustrator has used colour to suggest the depth of the water. Let your child or children experiment with a variety of media/techniques to achieve similar/different effects (pastels, coloured pencils, paint, tissue paper or collage, for example).

Make: Create a poster or display showing the different layers of the ocean and populate each layer with images of some appropriate creatures.

NOW READ ON

Stella and the Seagull by Georgina Stevens & Izzy Burton (OUP, 2021) Stella campaigns for change after her seagull friend gets poorly from eating plastic.

Setsuko and the Song of the Sea by Fiona Barker & Howard Gray (Tiny Tree, 2021) A fresh approach to the issue of caring for the ocean.

The Tale of a Toothbrush by M G Leonard & Daniel Rieley (Walker Books, 2020) A funny story to make you think about the plastic in our oceans.