

## **PREDATORY PIRATES AND CREATURES OF THE DEEP**

Summer is here and some of us will be going to the seaside. As you play in the rock pools and splash about in the surf, or listen to the waves crashing against the harbour wall, do you ever wonder about the creatures that live underwater? Or do you like to imagine a life of adventure on the ocean waves and a search for pirate treasure?

Watching seals bob up and down in the surf always brings to mind the Celtic folk tales of the Selkie, or Silkie. Selkies are seals that transform themselves into human form when they come onto dry land. They shed their skins and hide them away safely so that they can return to the deep.

One tale tells the story of a young man who falls in love with a beautiful girl he meets on the seashore. Suspecting that she is a Selkie, and wishing to marry her, he hides the sealskin to prevent her going back to the sea. Years later, after they have had a son, the wife longs to see her underwater family, but her husband refuses to return her seal skin. The child discovers the hidden skin and the two of them retreat into the waves never to be seen again.

Whether or not you are lucky enough to be beside the sea this summer, you can conjure up the smell of the briny by listening to our seriously salty selection of stories featuring wicked lady pirates and mysterious mermen. So slip into the balmy depths and float away on a wave of words...

## STORIES ABOUT SEA CREATURES

### **16876 THE DAY THE WHALE CAME by Lynne Cox**

One day whilst training, Lynne Cox, the world famous long-distance swimmer, found herself alongside a baby grey whale that had lost its mother. For seven hours they swam together as the desperate whale tried to find her. (VIP only) Key Stage 3/4

### **16757 EMILY WINDSNAP AND THE CASTLE IN THE MIST**

**By Liz Kessler**

Neptune puts a terrible curse on Emily when the magic ring she finds buried in the sand won't come off her finger. So begins an exciting underwater adventure for the girl who is half mermaid, half human. Key Stage 2

### **16658 EMILY WINDSNAP AND THE MONSTER FROM THE DEEP**

**By Liz Kessler**

To Emily Windsnap - half mermaid, half human - her new home is perfect. Unfortunately that all changes when she wakes a sea monster from its one hundred-year sleep. Key Stage 2

### **16523 INGO by Helen Dunmore**

Sapphire's father has mysteriously disappeared at sea, but she refuses to believe he is dead. She and her brother feel drawn to the water and one day Sapphire is introduced to the beautiful underwater world of Ingo by a merman. Soon the call of the water is too strong to resist. Key Stage 2

### **16100 THE MERMAID'S PURSE by Ted Hughes**

In these poems, Ted Hughes introduces us to a marvellous array of creatures that live in and around the sea.

(VIP only) Key Stage 2/3

**15980 THE MERMAN by Dick King-Smith**

On Zeta's tenth birthday she finds something that changes her life - a merman swimming in the far north of Scotland. The two become friends and a heart-warming story begins.

(VIP only) Key Stage 2

**16178 THE MERRYMAID OF ZENNOR by Charles Causley**

In Cornwall, Zachy and Tom both sing in the church choir. When a beautiful girl comes to the church Tom is entranced and one day he runs away with her. But who is the girl and where have they gone?

(VIP only) Key Stage 1/2

**16738 NOT QUITE A MERMAID by Linda Chapman**

Electra is a human mermaid with legs instead of a tail. Abandoned as a tiny baby, she was found and adopted by the merpeople of Mermaid Island, who gave her sea-powder so that she could live and breathe under water. Electra's desire for adventure is always getting her and her dolphin friend Splash into trouble!

Key Stage 1/2

**16823 SEA GIRLS: THE CRYSTAL CITY by G G Elliott**

Polly Jenkins is always top in swimming competitions. When she discovers a birthmark on her back shaped like a fish and meets a girl with the same birthmark their lives soon change.

Key Stage 2

**16778 SECRET OF THE SIRENS by Julia Golding**

Connie can communicate with animals but will her gift allow her to help the secret society that for centuries has been protecting the mythical creatures that still exist? The Sirens are once again using their deadly song to lure humans to their death, but why?

(VIP only) Key Stage 3

## **PIRATE STORIES**

### **16674 BUG BROTHER & PIRATE BROTHER by Pete Johnson**

Two stories about Jamie and his magic cape. When Jamie turns his annoying little brother into a bluebottle, in Bug Brother, he can't change him back! In Pirate Brother Jamie makes Brave Bill, the boy pirate, appear. They get into trouble when Brave Bill starts shrinking teachers.

Key Stage 1/2

### **15835 THE CORAL ISLAND by RM Ballantyne**

Three young sailors, sole survivors of a wreck are swept into adventures with bloodthirsty pirates in the South Pacific.

(Cassette only) Key Stage 3

### **16531 FERGUS CRANE by Paul Stewart & Chris Riddell**

Fergus Crane is transported on a winged mechanical horse to his long lost uncle Theo. When Fergus finds out that the teachers on his school ship are pirates he sets off to rescue his schoolmates from Fire Island.

Key Stage 2

### **16683 THE PIRATES OF POMPEII by Caroline Lawrence**

Flavia and her friends are staying with a rich man called Felix. When they discover that children are being kidnapped they set out to investigate who the kidnapper is.

Key Stage 2/3

### **16820 PIRATES: USBOURNE TRUE STORIES by Lucy**

#### **Lethbridge**

True stories from the Golden Age of Piracy (15th to the 18th century), when corsairs ruled the waves all over the world.

(VIP only) Key Stage 2/3

**16495 PIRATES! By Celia Rees**

When 16-year-old Nancy's brother plans to marry her off to a wealthy, evil man she runs away to join a pirate ship. Along with the runaway slave Minerva, she faces a series of adventures which portray a pirate's life in the 18th Century.

Key Stage 3/4

**16213 THE SHORT AND BLOODY HISTORY OF PIRATES**

**By John Farman**

Everything you really want to know about pirates, and some things you don't!

(VIP only) Key Stage 2/3

**16612 SURVIVAL by Chris Ryan** The Alpha Force team is born when five teenagers find themselves marooned on a desert island battling against unbelievable dangers – killer Komodo dragons, sharks and modern day pirates. (VIP only) Key Stage 3

**15833 WILLIAM THE PIRATE by Richmal Compton**

William and the outlaws are involved in more misunderstood capers in the neighbourhood.

(VIP only) Key Stage 3/4

**16764 TREASURE ISLAND by Robert Louis Stevenson**

Young Jim Hawkins finds himself sailing as a cabin boy on the Hispaniola in search of buried treasure along with Long John Silver and the rest of the frightening crew. Mutiny, murder and mayhem soon follow.

Key Stage 3/4

***STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS***

Coming soon... **PIRATES by Geoffrey Malone**

Tom Lee joins his father's ship in the dangerous waters of the Malacca Straits, where pirates in modern gun boats prey on merchant vessels. The order goes out to seize the ship at all costs when a Triad gang discovers the value of its cargo.

Key Stage 2/3

**Denise James**