The Tale of the Loneliest Whale

A visual resource for children and adults on the autism spectrum.

The show

You are going to watch a **play with puppets**.

The play lasts for 40 minutes and does not have an interval.

The play is performed by one actor who plays the part of the **storyteller**. She is also the puppeteer and all of the other characters. **Some of the other characters are puppets**. Some people in the audience will come up on stage to play some of the characters too.

It's okay to join in or just watch quietly. If something feels too loud or surprising, you can cover your ears or ask for help.
Everyone in the theatre wants you to feel **safe and welcome**.

This is Gemma.
She is the Storyteller



This is Whale. He is a whale who has a different song.



This is Turtle. He is an energetic young turtle.



These are the jellyfish.
They sing as a choir.



This is Moray. He is a lonely eel who lives deep in the sea.



What Happens in the Play



The Play Begins

The play starts with music. A performer named **Gemma** will speak to the audience. She helps tell the story.



Meet Whale

Gemma tells us about the big, wide ocean. She explains that whales talk to each other by singing.



We meet **Whale**. He can't sing like the other whales.

Whale feels **sad and lonely**. He swims away.



A New Song

Whale hears a **beautiful whale song**. You will hear it, but you won't see the other whale yet. Whale tries to sing along… and it fits! This makes him feel **happy and hopeful**. He decides to try and find the whale who sang that song.

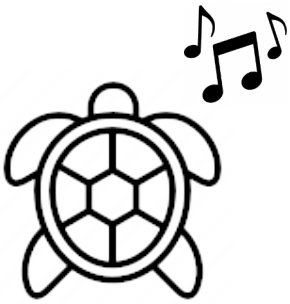


Meet Turtle

Gemma introduces **Turtle**. He has **lots of energy** and likes to move around. Turtle sings a fast, bouncy song about having big ideas. **Someone in the audience will be asked to pretend to be Turtle.** You don't have to join in unless you want to.



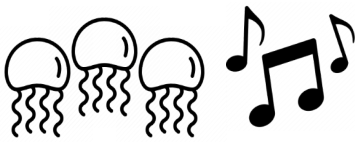
Turtle tells Whale to be **proud of his song**.



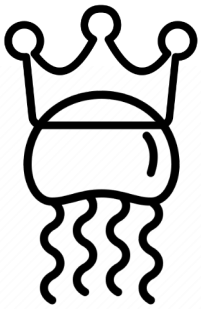
The Jellyfish Bloom



Gemma shows jellyfish puppets.
She gives some **jellyfish puppets to the audience**. If you get one, you can hold and wave it.
Gemma teaches a **jellyfish song** that everyone can sing together. You can join in if you want to.



One person will pretend to be the Queen of the Jellyfish.



The Queen tells Whale to look deep in the ocean for the song.

Meet Moray Eel



Whale swims down into the deep ocean. The stage may get **darker and quieter** here.
Whale feels a bit **scared and alone**. He thinks something might be watching him.

Gemma introduces **Moray**. He is a long eel. **Moray might float above the audience and gently sniff people.** This is just pretend and meant to be fun.
Moray looks scary but is actually very **kind and gentle**.



Moray sings a **sad song** about wanting a friend.
He tells Whale to search near the surface.



A Loud Noise



Whale hears the song again and feels **excited**. But suddenly, a **very loud sound** interrupts him.It is the sound of an oil tanker above the water. You will **hear** the tanker, but you won't **see** it.



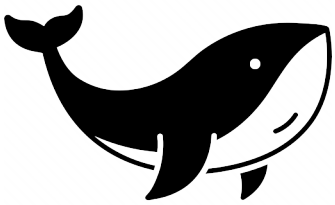
Whale feels upset and thinks he'll never find the other whale.

A New Friend



Whale hears the song again. It gets **louder and clearer**.

He sees another whale - a big, beautiful whale just like him!



You will see the other whale as a **shadow puppet on the walls**.

Whale feels **joyful and understood**.

The End



Gemma tells us that the two whales are now friends.

They travel the world together, singing their songs.

Whale is no longer lonely.

Everyone is **happy**.



People may clap now. You can join in if you want to. This is the end of the play.

Hoglets Theatre CIC

www.hoglets.org.uk

gemma@hoglets.org.uk