

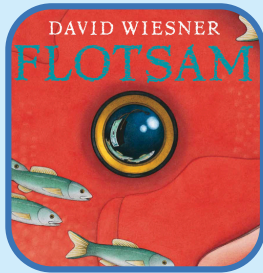
# BOOK OF THE MONTH:

## Flotsam

by David Wiesner

Ages: 4-10 years old

### 1. Introducing the Book:



#### Exploring the Cover

What color is this book cover? Can you guess what is the round thing in the middle? It is the eye of a fish! Together with the big red fish, how many fish can you see on the cover? If you look very closely, is there anything you can see reflected in the eye of the big fish?

#### Building Background

Let's open the book together and turn a few pages. Do you notice anything special about this book? It has no words! Why do you think this book only has pictures? Do you like books with no words? By looking at the pictures, can you tell what the story is about? This book is about a boy's adventure at the sea shore. Have you been to a beach before? When you go to the beach, what are your favorite things to do? Which animals live in the sea? Can you name a few?

### 2. Reading the Book:

As you explore the book, create the story together. Guide the children's learning about story structure - a story has a beginning, a middle and an end. Ask questions to help build the story: Where does the story take place? What creatures do you see? What are they doing? Where are they going? etc.

When reading with older children, you can let them take turns by letting one child tell a story about a two-page spread, then the next child about the next two pages, and so on.

### 3. After Reading the Book: Ocean in a Bottle



- Learning to measure, experiment and observe.

- Learning about the natural and physical world.



- Practicing fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination and precision (muscle control).



#### Materials:

- Water bottle (clear)
- Play sand or real sand
- Food coloring
- Glitter
- Seashells, small ocean-themed toys, pebbles, etc.

Decorate an empty clear water bottle with stickers or colored markers (optional). You can draw waves, fish, colourful coral and bubbles. Fill the water bottle with sand or pebbles, plastic sea creature toys, seashells, marbles or any other small objects of choice. You can add one or two unconventional items so the children can look for those after shaking their bottles. Fill the water bottle with water. Younger children may need a funnel to make this step easier. Add a drop of blue food coloring and shake the bottle.

#### Visit the Aquarium



- Building meaningful relationships with adults.



- Learning about the natural and physical world.

- Learning the importance of taking care of the environment.

Bring the book with you for an outing at the aquarium. Alternatively, you can watch a livestream from the cameras in one of the aquariums, such as the [Monterey Bay Aquarium](#) that has cameras in different locations. Use this opportunity to learn about the various wonderful sea creatures.

#### References and Resources

[Virtual Visit to the Aquarium](#)

#### Legend



Cognitive



Socio-emotional



Language



Physical