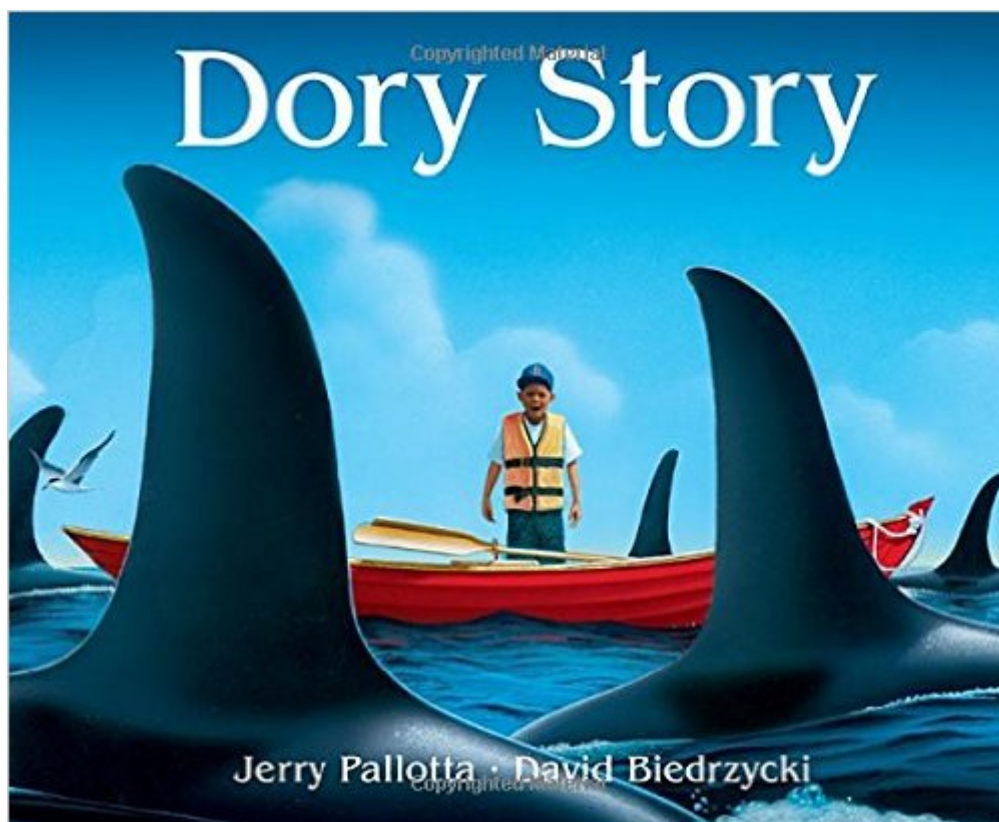


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# Dory Story



## Synopsis

Be prepared for a few surprises when Danny ventures out into the bay in his dory. Although taking the dory out solo is strictly forbidden, Danny cannot resist the calm waters of the bay. And that's where the adventure begins. He thinks rowing into a school of bluefish is trouble enough, but wait until the whales enter the picture. Danny encounters one sea creature after another and learns about the ocean food chain in the process. Just when you think you know what's going to happen next, the story takes an unexpected twist. With brilliant and vibrant illustrations, readers will feel the excitement of being out on the water surrounded by ocean creatures. The life and the life cycle of the ocean will fascinate young readers.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0500 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge (February 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881060763

ISBN-13: 978-0881060768

Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #89,994 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #62 in [Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Boats & Ships](#) #245 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Marine Life](#) #774 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

This beauty of a book has so many quality elements! The pictures are gorgeous, first of all, and easily catch and hold readers' attentions. Perhaps some parents will raise their eyebrows at the seemingly disobedient little boy's adventures, but children will be entranced. The ending, in which it is revealed that Danny's adventures are really a bath-time story he is telling himself, far from being a cop-out, is reassuring to parents and kids alike. In between, there is much (accurate!) information, gently shared, that will prompt kids to tell their own bath-time stories.

I checked this book out of our local library when I was teaching a unit on "oceans" to my preschool class. The children listened closely as the suspense built in this story and the surprise ending was wonderful. The children understood the food chain concept and have asked me several times to "Read it again!" It has also triggered a renewed interest in the children for using their own imaginations to create stories of their own creation. I am ordering a copy for our own personal library. This one is a keeper!

Dory Story is a fictional tale about Danny, who can't resist going out in a boat alone to search for bay creatures, despite warnings from his parents about being just a kid and therefore too young. Pallotta perfectly captures the innocent curiosity of young people that drives them to explore the bigger world around them. Each discovery leads his main character to desire to learn more, from his reading about plankton to his seeing seabirds and shrimp. As Danny rows further out, readers are educated right along with him about food chains, as he realized that killer whales eat tuna, tuna eat bluefish, bluefish eat mackerel, sand eels eat shrimp, and shrimp eat plankton. While the style and illustrations are fabulous, I did wonder if Danny might be a little old to cry, "Help! Where's my mommy?" Otherwise, I enjoyed being scared right along with Danny when he began to realize that like the harbor seals, he should have stayed near the shore. The end is unexpected and perfect.

While I wasn't as sure about the objects to find in this story, the story itself was really cute. The little boy decides to go out into the ocean and is fascinated with the fish. As he travels further and further out into sea, he watches as the fishes he's observing get eaten but progressively bigger fish until he's scared and wants to go home. While I had my concerns that this would scare a child, the ending revealed that it was the boy's imagination and all the characters he was observing are in his bathtub.

A nightly routine for grandpa and grandson is to read this book. They both love fishing and this is the best. I gave this book to my niece and nephews' children and discovered that they went to school with Jerry Pallotta's kids. And that the pictures of the beach were from their hometown.

I bought this book for my six year old son. He and his brother have always loved Jerry Pallotta's alphabet books, so I thought we'd give this book a try! Boy, are we glad that I did! The illustrations

are beautiful, and as always Mr. Pallotta gives children information in a way that they can understand - but without talking down to them. My son really loved the twist at the end of the story. He was relieved that Danny wasn't out there in the ocean all by himself!

"Never go out in the boat alone" is an admonition to which all responsible parents and children can relate. This tale depicts an adventure full of surprises and hidden messages. It is an original and imaginative depiction with educational value and spectacular illustrations.

My grandkids loved this book when they borrowed it from the library and they wanted me to buy it for them so they can read it over and over again. Sure to be a classic.

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