

# Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia presents *The Rainbow Fish*

*The Rainbow Fish* tells the story of the most beautiful fish in the sea, whose scales shimmer in all the colors of the rainbow. He is admired by the entire underwater world, and the other fish dream of owning one of his magnificent shiny scales. Resentment and isolation ensue when he is unwilling to give any of them away, and he becomes the loneliest fish in the ocean. Following the advice of a clever octopus, he gives each fish one of his scales. The more he shares, the happier he becomes.



# Three Books in One Show

**This show includes three books written by author Marcus Pfister in one show:**

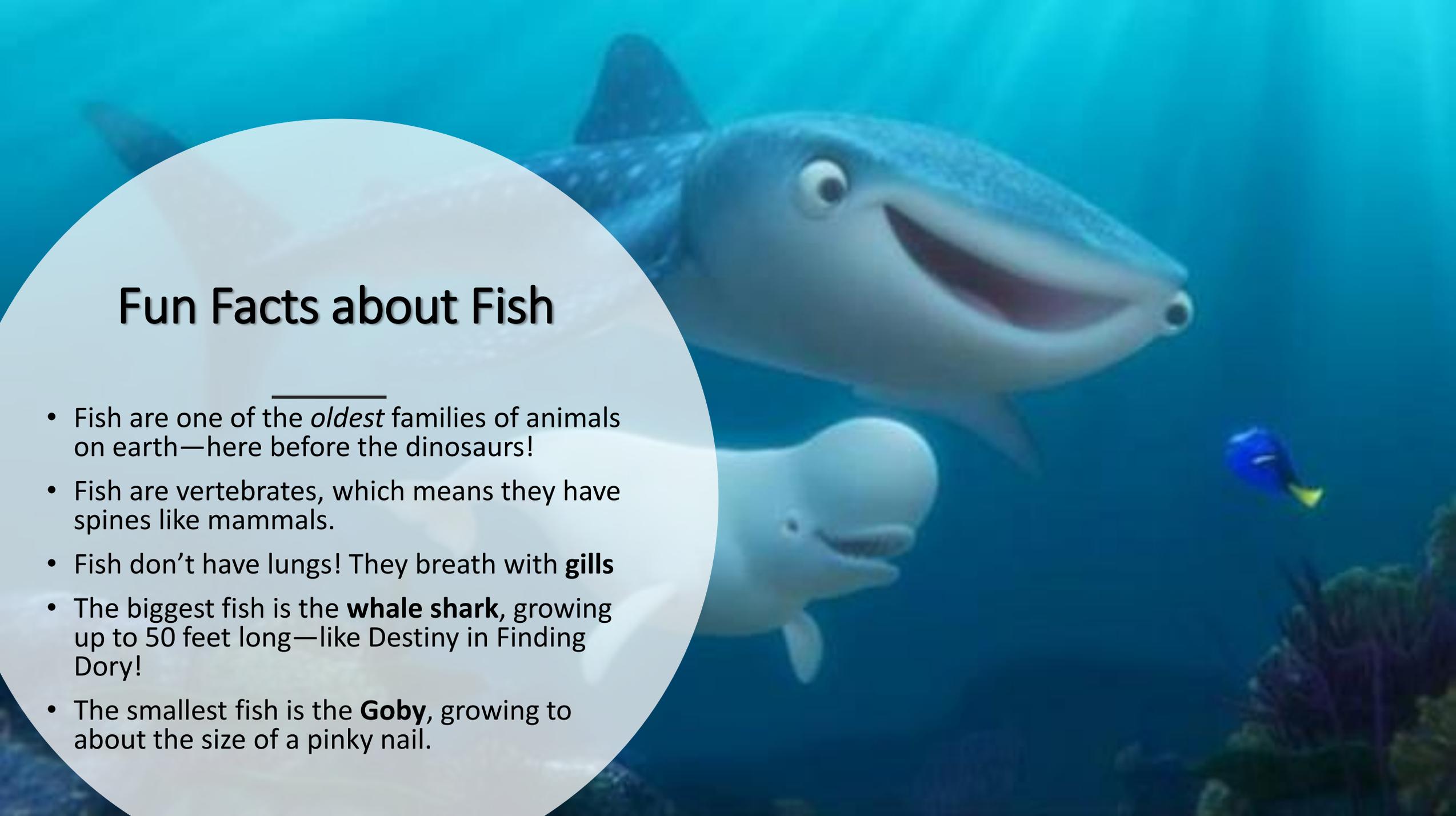
- *The Rainbow Fish*
- *Rainbow Fish Discovers the Deep Sea*
- *Opposites*

**This show uses three theatre techniques that make the show unique and amazing:**

- Puppetry
- Black Light Technology
- Narration and Music



Check out [Mermaid Theatre's Study Guide Link](#) for more information and activities.



## Fun Facts about Fish

- Fish are one of the *oldest* families of animals on earth—here before the dinosaurs!
- Fish are vertebrates, which means they have spines like mammals.
- Fish don't have lungs! They breath with **gills**
- The biggest fish is the **whale shark**, growing up to 50 feet long—like Destiny in Finding Dory!
- The smallest fish is the **Goby**, growing to about the size of a pinky nail.

# Discussion Questions about **Sharing** and *The Rainbow Fish*

- Have you ever had something you didn't want to *share*?
- Is sharing easy for you or a hard thing to do?
- Has sharing something with someone ever made you happy?
- Why do you think sharing ultimately made the Rainbow Fish happy?



## Staging *The Rainbow Fish*

### Discussion questions:

- How do you think they will show an ocean and fish on the *stage*?
- How could they use props, lighting, and sets to do this?

### Activity:

- Draw your own set for *The Rainbow Fish* show.



# Act it Out Yourself!

The production company uses puppets in the show to act out the story of the Rainbow Fish. Using the characters in the book, stage *your very own show* of *The Rainbow Fish*! Glue popsicle sticks to the back of the fish to move them along. Try to make fun voices for the characters!



Here are links to different ways to make a fish puppet:

- <https://www.thebestideasforkids.com/rainbow-fish-craft/>
- <https://funlearningforkids.com/rainbow-fish-suncatcher-craft/>
- <http://alittlepinchofperfect.com/paper-plate-fish-craft-inspired-rainbow-fish/>



## Now that You've Seen *The Rainbow Fish...*

- How did the show compare with what you *thought* it would be?
- What was your *favorite* part of the show?
- Did anything surprise you about the show?
- Did you *learn* anything new seeing it on stage than reading the book?
- Who was your *favorite* character/puppet?
- What else do you want to *learn* about theatre or fish now?

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