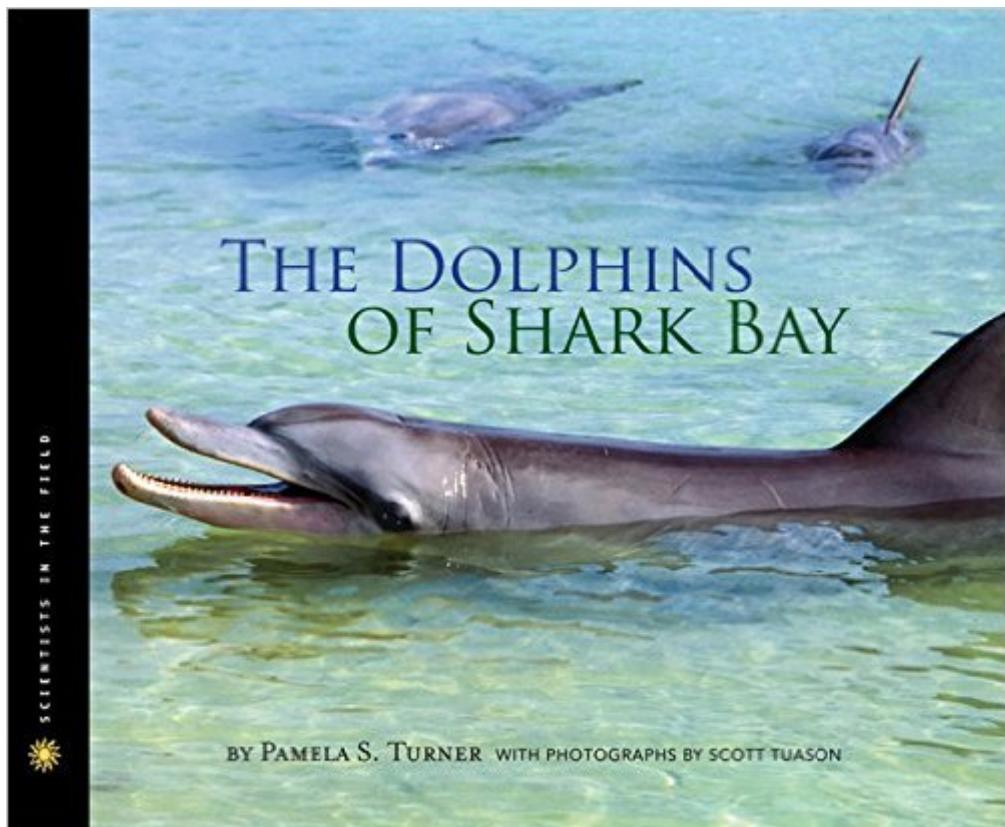


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The Dolphins Of Shark Bay (Scientists In The Field Series)



Synopsis

Ride alongside the author Pamela S. Turner and her scientific team and meet a cast of dolphin characters large enough (and charismatic enough) to rival a Shakespearean playâ "Puck, Piccolo, Flute, and Dodger among them. You will fall in love with this crew, both human and finned, as they seek to answer the question: just why are dolphins so smart? And what does their behavior tell us about human intelligence, captive animals, and the future of the ocean? Beautiful photos of dolphins in their natural habitat and a funny, friendly, and fast-paced text make this another winner in theÂ Scientists in the FieldÂ series. Pair this with other intriguing stories of real-world science,Â at www.sciencemeetsadventure.com.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 890L (What's this?)

Series: Scientists in the Field Series

Hardcover: 80 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (November 5, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0547716389

ISBN-13: 978-0547716381

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 11 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #436,633 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Australia & Oceania #371 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Zoology #467 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mammals

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

Customer Reviews

I love this book about wild dolphins with strange talents living near Monkey Mia in Australia! In fact, some of the dolphins are so smart that they have learned to come up near the beaches to take food from special people who are allowed to feed them. These dolphins are smart because of their big brains which are second only to human brainsâ theyâ re even smarter than chimpanzees! But dolphins didnâ t always have such big brains. They werenâ t even dolphins at one point. They

have evolved into the whales we know today (dolphins are toothed whales) from weird creatures called Ambulocetus natans (means walking whale) that had legs a really long time ago! A woman named Janet and her team have been studying these dolphins for many years. When they see a new dolphin or calf (baby dolphins are called calves), they give it a name. They can tell the dolphins apart by their dorsal fins. The dolphin's fin is photographed, labeled, and put on a "dolphin cheat sheet" that the team uses to identify and track the dolphins. Just one of the many talents these smart dolphins have is called sponging. The dolphin scoops up a sponge from the ocean floor, balances it on its beak, and then scrounges around the channel bottoms to flush fish out. Lunch! The sponge helps to protect their beaks (rostrum), and that makes the sponge a tool. It takes a really smart creature to use tools. Sponging dolphins usually have a mom that was a sponger, too. In addition to sponging, these smart dolphins do their "beach hunting", "kerplunking" (using their tails to scare small fish out of hiding), and can even catch a three foot trevally (a type of fish) by snapping its neck on the sea bottom! While watching the dolphins, Janet and her team realized that the male dolphins swim in groups that they call "alliances".

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