



Children's Literature Foundation of New Zealand | Le kaupapa o te kōrero

All at Sea

Term 3, 2006

As an island nation, many people in New Zealand have an affinity with the sea. It has great impact on our lives. There are the shared experiences of beach holidays, boating adventures and fishing escapades as well as stories where the sea is an influential setting in a range of genre.

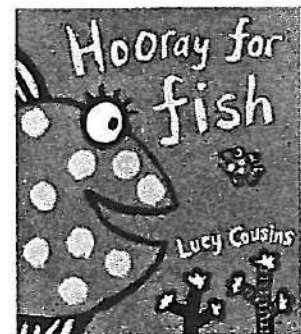
This term's selections include both New Zealand and off shore offerings. The many moods of the sea are captured well. From picture books for pre-schoolers, factual books and novels up to young adult level, there is something here for everyone.

Contributors to this list are: Kerry Aluf, Carol Arden, Sanya Baker, Joanne Baynes, Helen Beckingsale, Crissi Blair, Anne Coppell, Bronwyn Fox, Lois Huston, Libby Limbrick, Wayne Mills, Lorrain Orman and Rosemary Tisdall.

Hooray for Fish!

Lucy Cousins
Walker Books 2005
Hb ISBN 1844280225

Join Little Fish as he visits his colourful wacky friends in the deep blue sea. Lucy Cousins's vibrant use of bold colour and simple playful rhyme appeals to the very young and is a delight to read aloud. *'curly whirly, twisty twirly, upside down, round and round.'* 2+ KA



Mr McGee Goes to Sea

Pamela Allen
Picture Puffin 1993
ISBN 0140544038

Another adventure of the irrepressible Mr McGee written in Allen's trademark rhyme and rhythm. Mr McGee sits down to tea beneath the familiar spreading apple tree. But raindrops and an unexpected flood, lead to his being swallowed by a mighty whale. His trusty

umbrella ensures that he doesn't remain trapped in its belly for long. Disgorged in a spout of water, his umbrella guides him downwards and helps in his safe return to his tree and tea. Age 2+ BF



Storylines™

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Le kaupapa o te kōrero

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Grandpa and Thomas
 Pamela Allen
 Penguin Viking 2003
 ISBN 0670041572

Grandpa and his grandson Thomas visit the beach. Simple, yet effective descriptive text alternates with the 'swish, swash, swoosh, says the sea' refrain. The delight in each other's company is evident in the shared activities and the illustrations reflect this wonderfully. 2 + CA

Little Rabbit and the Sea
 Gavin Bishop
 North South Books
 ISBN Hb
 1558588094
 (1997)

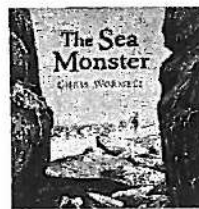


Pb 0735813124 (2000)
 Sailor suited Little Rabbit and his toy boat are never parted. However, Little Rabbit has never seen the sea, so he asks family members who all describe the sea very differently. He asks a squawking seagull who tells him the sea is too far away. But one day the gull returns with a shell ... "inside this shell is the never ending sea". The illustrations in Bishop's distinctive style use muted tones of blue, green and gold and certainly capture the moods of the sea. 3 - 7 year olds will enjoy this story. CA



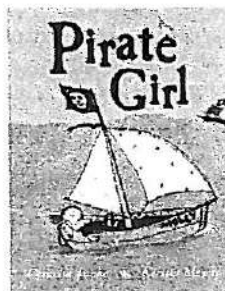
One Nighttime Sea
 Deborah Lee
 Rose
 Ill. Steve Jenkins
 Scholastic Press
 2003
 Hb ISBN
 0439339065

Take a nocturnal tour of the ocean, counting some of the strange creatures of the sea, from beluga whales and basking otters to silky nudibranchs (sea slugs). Jenkins uses stunning paper collage to bring these creatures to life. The spare elegant text focuses on particular traits of these unusual sea creatures, creating an awareness of the diversity of life abounding in the ocean. 3+ KA



The Sea Monster
 Chris Womell
 Jonathan
 Cape 2005
 Hb ISBN
 0224070258

The sea monster lives in the gloom of the ocean but sometimes crawls out and sits among the rocks on a lonely beach. An old fisherman lives in a cottage on a cliff above the beach. One day a boy comes, with his dog and toy yacht, to the beach to play in the rock pools. A magical story of a sea rescue is woven around these three characters. 3+ KA



Pirate Girl
 Comelia Funke
 Ill Kerstin Meyer
 Translated by Chantal Wright
 The Chicken House 2003
 Hb ISBN 1904442498

A madcap romp into the jolly world of pirates. Molly, while sailing to visit her grandmother, is kidnapped by Captain Firebeard and put to work on the pirate ship,

the Horrible Haddock. Just in time her mum and fellow shipmates arrive to the rescue. Has Captain Firebeard met his match in Barbarous Bertha? 3+ KA.

The Smallest Turtle



Lynley Dodd
 Mallinson
 Rendel 1982 (reprinted 1987)
 ISBN 0908783183

When the turtles hatch and head for the sea, the smallest turtle is left behind. He takes a very circuitous route, but all the time the 'to the sea - to the sea' rhythmic refrain spurs him on. Expressive language - 'waves crashing and hissing', 'down the scorching sand he scabbled and skittered' and delightful illustrations make a great sea story for 4 - 7 years old. CA

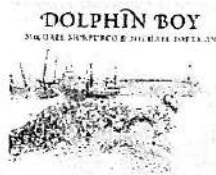


There's a Sea in my Bedroom
 Margaret Wild
 Ill. Jane Tanner
 Picture Puffin 1984

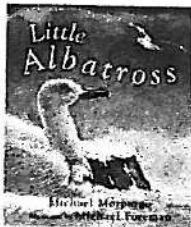
David is scared of the big, monstrous sea but loves the shells on the beach. He takes a conch shell home and enjoys the soft, gentle sound, but feels sorry for it trapped inside, so decides to let it out. David's room transforms into an ocean paradise where he isn't frightened at all. Jane Tanner's illustrations beautifully capture the small child's vibrantly coloured world. 4-8 years. CB

Dolphin Boy

Michael
Morpurgo
Ill. Michael
Foreman
Andersen
Press 2004
Hb ISBN
184270320



Jim and his dad love taking the 'Sally May', their old fishing boat out for a sail even though there are no longer fish to catch. But when the boat needs new sails and there is no money, the 'Sally May' joins the other fishing boats lined up on the shore. Then, Jim rescues a stranded dolphin, beginning a friendship that revives the economic fortune of his fishing village. 4+ KA



Little Albatross

Michael
Morpurgo
Ill. Michael
Foreman
Doubleday 2004
Hb ISBN
0385601492

Little albatross is now big enough to be left in the nest while both parent birds fly off to hunt fish. Nearby, a predatory bird slowly moves in for the kill. And now out at sea the albatross become entangled in a fishing trawler's net. Will his parents be able to return in time to save little albatross? Michael Morpurgo highlights some of the hazards both natural and manmade that threaten the survival of our wildlife in this appealing story. For 4+. KA

The Selkie and the Fisherman

Chardi Christian
Ill. Freya
Blackwood
Hachette
Children's Books
Australia 2005
Hb ISBN 0733617336



A haunting retelling of the ancient selkie folktale. A lonely young fisherman hides the selkie skin of a young selkie woman and takes her to live with him and his mother. While his love for her grows, the selkie women pine for her old life in the sea. Finally he realises that he must let her return to the sea. Using watercolour, gouache, pencil and ink, Freya Blackwood creates authentic images that add to the magic of this tale. 5+ KA

The Great White Man-Eating Shark

Margaret Mahy
Ill. Jonathan Allen
J.M. Dent 1989
Picture Puffins 1991
ISBN Pb 01454187X

This clear cautionary tale has delighted children for many years. Not wanting to share the cove with other swimmers, Norvin implements a plan to have the bay to himself. It works well until a real shark enters the bay. A beach story that will be thoroughly enjoyed by 5 – 8 year olds. CA



The Mousehole Cat

Antonia Barber
Ill. Nicola Bayley
Walker Books
1990
ISBN
0744523532

Set in the Cornish coastal fishing village of Mousehole, this remarkable picture book with its powerful, carefully crafted text and evocative illustration, was inspired by an old Cornish legend. One winter, a howling storm prevents

the fishing fleet from putting to sea and food supplies run perilously low. Finally, on Christmas Eve, old fisherman Tom, and his cat Mowzer board their boat and slip through the Mousehole gap to brave the fury of the storm. Not to be missed. Age 5 + BF

The Man Whose Mother was a Pirate

Margaret Mahy
Ill. Margaret Chamberlain
Puffin 1985
ISBN
0140554300



Journey with the respectable little man and his pirate mother to the sea, and "the

drift and the dream of it, the weave and the wave of it, the fume and foam of it" will never leave you. This is a story of joyous, imaginative transformation that is recommended for readers (and listeners) of all ages. SB

Sea Secrets

Dawn McMillan
Ill. Julia Crouth
Reed Children's
books 1998
ISBN
1869488032



Hannah and her Gran spend hours walking along the beach together, collecting treasures, playing in the waves, having picnics, watching the mood of the sea. They love writing messages in the sand, watching the tide take the messages away "until they are needed again". This bond keeps their love alive when Hannah moves to Australia to live with her family – the messages of love they write in the sand find each

other across the sea. A tender story of grandparent and child sharing time and secrets. Julia Crouth's beautiful full page illustrations perfectly capture the New Zealand (and then the contrasting Australian) beach scenes, bringing alive the different moods of the story. RT



Pigtails the Pirate

David Elliot
Random House NZ
2002
ISBN Hb 1869414691

Jess sets off in her small sailboat 'Unicorn' to find her father who has not returned from sea. Storms blow her to the wrecks of many ships where a giant pirate is collecting trinkets to weave into his plaits. Jess's boat is carried to the pirate's cave where she sees her father trapped in a cage. Jess helps her father escape but they are recaptured by the pirate who then becomes entangled in kelp. Quick thinking Jess thinks of a way to ensure their freedom that also pleases the pirate. Wonderful sea moods are portrayed in the illustrations that complement an exciting original story. 6-10 year olds will enjoy this picture book. CA



Sydney and the Sea Monster

David Elliot
Random House NZ
1999
ISBN Hb 1869414071
Pb 1869414322

An ingenious penguin, with the help of his friend the whale, creates a contraption that keeps a seal colony safe from hunters. CA

Sydney and the Whalebird

David Elliot
Random House 2000
ISBN Pb 1869414594

Sydney's newest invention sees Bill the Whale stranded on the shore. The rescue



plan is complicated, but eventually ends successfully. CA



Paint What You See

Dot Meharry
Ill. Lindy Fisher
Reed
Publishing NZ
Ltd 2004
ISBN Pb
1869486471

A boy frustrated by the limits of his life confined to a wheelchair is given paints and brushes by his friends. His painting skills gradually develop and eventually his love for the sea is captured in paint. This experience is life changing, as he realizes that through his painting he can still experience the sea's many moods, his varied emotions and life's joys. A poignant picture book with magnificent illustrations most suited to 7 - 10 years old. CA

Blueback

Tim Winton
Pan Macmillan
Australia
Pb ISBN
0330361627
(2004)
Pb ISBN
0330422146
(2005)



Abel and his mother live on the coast, eking out a living from the sea. Theirs is a life lived in sympathy with the sea and its denizens. While out diving one day Abel meets Blueback, an old and huge blue groper. Over the years Abel spends many hours swimming with Blueback and trying to protect him and his environment. A deceptively simple tale but delivering some serious messages. A more modern version of *Storm Boy*, by Colin Thiele. First published in 1997. For ages 8 and over. AC

The End of the Harbour

Elsie Locke
Ill. Katarina Mataira
Jonathan Cape 1968
ISBN 0224615351 HB
ISBN 0473078422 PB

This is a story of two boys: David, an English immigrant who journeys by cutter with his parents to Waiuku, the 'end of the harbour' in the 1890s and Honatana, of the Ngālitēata for whom this thriving, busy corner of the Manukau is home. In a period of increasing inter-group tension between Pakeha settlers and Maori, Honatana and David build an enduring friendship like those of their Biblical namesakes, David and Jonathan. A New Zealand classic for ages 8+. SB

Frog hopper

Joy Cowley
Random House
2002
ISBN
1869504372



Frog hopper and the Paua Poachers

Random House 2003
ISBN 1869504844

These two stories about the Green family who set off on a year long adventure sailing around the Marlborough Sounds have a conservation theme to them. There is plenty of action when they encounter a gang of paua poachers. They meet the paua poachers again in the second book and the poachers seem determined that the children will change their minds about what they saw and embark on a campaign of intimidation to ensure that they do. Great stories of family interaction, adventure and life at sea for 8-9+. HB

The Whale Rider

Witi Ihimaera
Reed Publishing (NZ)Ltd 1987 (this
edition 2002)
ISBN 0790008696

The Whale Rider tells the story of Kahu, descended from Kahutia Te Rangī, known as the whale rider because of his legendary journey with a whale from Hawaiki to the East Coast of New Zealand. Kahu is the first of her generation in the whanua but her great grandfather rejects her as she is a girl and therefore not continuing the spiritual tradition carried by the male line of the whanau. Kahu however is spirited and courageous, often achieving better than her male peers in the feats associated with her tribe. When a herd of whales becomes stranded, it is Kahu whose determination and commitment to her people gives her the strength to ride the bull whale back into the sea. This is a wonderful moving story of family love, which explores the tensions that can arise between generations. It provides insights into the beliefs, traditions and community life of Maori. Although more suited to young adult readers, younger readers who have seen the film would find new understandings in reading the story, and children from seven or eight upwards would be entranced in hearing *The Whale Rider* as a read aloud. LL



The Optimist

Bob Kerr
Mallinson Rendell 1992
ISBN 0908606842
Danny is obsessed with boats. The one thing he wants more than anything is to actually experience being in one! One day on his way home from school he makes a decision that he soon regrets...he 'borrows' one from a local yard. Time and tide are against Danny and he ends up being rescued. The

gruff owner of the boat listens to Danny's apology and over the next few weeks teaches Danny to sail the optimist. No one could foresee the result of the forthcoming competition! Ages 8-12 years. JB



Ocean Without End

Kelly Gardiner
HarperCollins
Publishers 2006
ISBN 1869505859

Twelve year old Lily Swann is taken captive by pirates raiding her Santa Lucia island home. Narrowly escaping being tossed overboard by offering to help in the galley, Lily becomes part of the crew, earning the name 'Cygno'. She takes part in their various adventures, meeting the fearsome pirate Hussein Reis, attacking merchant ships and fighting French soldiers. While some of Lily's exploits seem a touch unbelievable (how does a twelve year old know how to sword fight so well?), the book is fast-moving and fun, and exactly what many a twelve year old secretly dreams. Just published, this is book one in the Swashbuckler Trilogy, and the first novel by Auckland author Kelly Gardiner. For ages 8-12 years. LH

The sea caves

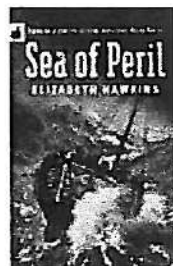
Colin Thiele
Lothian Books 2000
ISBN 0734401329

School holidays, and what better have 12 and 13 year old boys to do but dream of action, adventure and treasure. That's exactly what Sam and Nick have in mind until nature and human greed come in to the picture. The boys end up in dire trouble. It seems as if nobody can help them... A great adventure story for ages 8-13 years. JB



Sea of Peril

Elizabeth
Hawkins
Orchard 1996
Pb ISBN
186039065X



Based on true events, this book tells the story of a group of children evacuated from Britain to Canada during the early days of World War II. Their ship, the *City of Karachi* is torpedoed in the middle of the Atlantic, miles away from help. The survivors are left drifting on a lifeboat praying for rescue. A thrilling adventure for ages 9 and over. AC



Kensuke's Kingdom

Michael
Morpurgo
Mammoth 2000
ISBN
0749736399

An adventure story akin to a modern day Robinson Crusoe. When Michael's parents were made redundant they bought a yacht and decided to sail around the world. After six months, the preparations were complete – they were off! However, against all he knew to be right, one night Michael did not put his safety harness on when he was on watch. The unthinkable happens. Michael goes overboard – he is alone in the vast, dark sea. Very exciting adventure for 9-13 years. JB

Lobster Boy

Rodman
Philbrick
Usborne
Publishing Ltd
2005



ISBN 0746065094

Twelve year old Skiff Beaman's mother has recently died and his father, once a hard working fisherman, has sunk into alcoholic despair. With their fishing boat needing thousands of dollars in repair, Skiff takes it upon himself to change the family's fortunes. Set in coastal Maine, the story chronicles his remarkable courage and determination when, after lobster fishing fails, Skiff heads out to deeper water in a flat-bottomed three-metre boat to harpoon a bluefin tuna. Authentic, with a strong supporting cast of characters, *Lobster Boy* is an arresting and moving adventure that reads well aloud. Also published as *The Young Man and the Sea* Age 10+ BF

When the War Came Home

Sarah Ell
Scholastic 2002
ISBN 1869435281

Jimmy is 13, the eldest of six children, in 1918 Auckland. His father missing in action in France it falls to Jimmy to find work to help feed his family. When his mother's brother Rory comes to stay on his return from the war, Jimmy sees the shell-shocked soldier as just another burden. However, with the city falling into flu epidemic chaos and his mother and siblings having left town, Uncle Rory comes into his own - getting himself and his young nephew out of danger, out to sea. Ages 11+ SB

Fired up

Sarah Ell
Scholastic 1998
ISBN
1869434153

Geraldine is nuts about sailing and getting excited about the upcoming competitions when life gets complicated. Her grandfather comes to live with the family, taking Geraldine's room so



she has to share with her big sister, then her boat is destroyed leaving her devastated. The events that follow see Geraldine discover a lot about herself, her family and her community. A great story with a real Kiwi flavour for 12 year plus. CB

Compass Murphy

Stephen Potts
Mammoth 2001
Pb ISBN 0749740272

A great adventure story in the old-fashioned tradition. Joshua's father sails to the Arctic to hunt whales, leaving Joshua on a farm with his bullying uncle. Joshua runs away and stows aboard the *Aurora*, bound for the Arctic. He has a compass given to him by his father, but he also has an uncanny ability to detect north in his head. After many adventures he finally discovers his father's fate, but also discovers his own calling - to be a seaman. Best for intermediate ages. LO



The Astrolabe; Adventure in the Southern Seas

Susan Arnott
Lothian 2005
ISBN 0734408188

The Astrolabe is the name of one of two French ships which disappear somewhere in the Pacific Ocean in 1788 and the book begins with the disappearance of this ship and continues with a rather graphic description of the execution of Louis XVI. The story continues in 1826

when a second ship of the same name sets off to find out what happened to the first Astrolabe. Ten year old Lucien tells the story of 3 years of harsh conditions at sea and dangerous adventures on

land culminating in his safe return to France. A gripping story for Intermediate age or older. HB

Victory

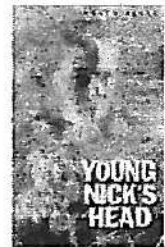
Susan Cooper
Random House
2006
ISBN 0370328914



Molly's feeling pretty vulnerable: her mother has remarried and the reconstituted family has moved from safe England to America. During an excursion Molly discovers an old book by Robert Southey about the life of Lord Nelson. At periods of stress and/or tiredness Molly flicks back to life on the *Victory*. She is present during the Battle of Trafalgar and is there when Nelson is mortally wounded. Cooper bases descriptions upon the moored *Victory* in Portsmouth Harbour. WM

Young Nick's Head

Karen Hesse
Simon & Schuster
2001
Pb ISBN
0689835086



Nicholas Young was 11 when he stowed away on the *Endeavour* in 1768. In diary/ship's log format Nick tells of their three-year circumference of the globe, including explorations of New Zealand and Australia. Realistic descriptions of all aspects of shipboard life, including the antics of John Banks and his gentlemanly scientists and artists. Sadly, the crew battle scurvy for most of the trip only to pick up typhoid and malaria in Batavia on the way home. Recommended for intermediate and up. LO

The Wanderer

Sharon Creech
HarperCollins
2000
Pb ISBN
0060277300



Sophie (13) and her cousin Cody record their trans-Atlantic crossing aboard the *Wanderer*, a 45-foot sailboat. They are enroute to visit their grandfather in England. Both Sophie and Cody have personal problems to work through, which are gradually revealed as the journey progresses. Offers vivid descriptions of life on an ocean-going yacht, including storms and a devastating rogue wave. Best for early teenagers. LO

Secrets of the Fearless

Elizabeth
Laird
Macmillan
2005
Pb ISBN
1405055278



Rollicking adventure story for intermediate-aged boys and girls. In 1807 12-year-old John Barr is press-ganged into the British Navy. He becomes a powder monkey aboard the *Fearless*. He makes friends with a boy called Kit, and they face battle and injury together during the Napoleonic Wars. Eventually John finds out that Kit is a girl, noble heiress to a French estate. They go spying in France together, but then John gets shot... Exciting historical reading. LO

The Silent One

Joy Cowley
Puffin Books 2000
ISBN 0141310618



One day, the captain of a copra boat spies a newborn boy in an empty canoe adrift in the middle of the ocean. He rescues the baby, taking it to the

nearest island. There Luisa, whose baby has just died, gladly takes the young foundling and brings him up as her own. The story begins when Jonasi is twelve, and is left behind by the villagers on their annual pighunt. He can't understand why. What he doesn't realize is that he is deaf and mute. He sees the villagers lips moving, but when he moves his, no-one takes any notice. So Jonasi grows up alone in his silent world, his only pleasure the sea and the life within it. An excellent book, for ages 10 and up. LH

Shark attack

Anthony Masters
Orchard Books 2003
ISBN 1841219061

A whale watching trip off the Californian coast had seemed like a great idea earlier in the day but by the time Jack had watched a great white shark feeding, then a storm struck he wished he was safely ashore. Things soon went from bad to worse then worse still as they abandon their sinking boat and, in a tiny dinghy, are at the mercy of the storm. A truly exciting story that spares no detail to show the power of the great white in its own environment. Ages 10-14 years. JB



Benny and Babe

Eoin Colfer
O'Brien Press 2004
ISBN 0862786037

Benny is bit of a wise guy, but Babe is at least three steps ahead of him. Benny is visiting his grandfather in the coast for the summer holidays and finds his position as a 'townie' make him the object of a lot of teasing by the locals. Babe is the village tomboy, given serious respect by the all the local tough guys. She runs a thriving business, rescuing the lost lures and flies of visiting fishermen

and selling them at a tidy profit. Babe just might consider Benny as her business partner. But things become very complicated, and dangerous, when Furty Howlin also wants a slice of the action. For ages 10-14 years. JB

Down to the sea again: true sea stories for young New Zealanders.

Tessa Duder (editor)
Harper Collins 2005
ISBN 1869504763

40 original true stories by young writers or by adults writing about childhood experiences. The collection is divided into 3 parts- At the Beach, On Board and Drama at Sea. There is something to appeal to everyone in this diverse collection of different experiences of the sea. 10-14 HB

Night Race to Kawau

Tessa Duder
Oxford University
Press 1982
Penguin 1985
ISBN 0140317589



This was Tessa Duder's first book and has been continuously in print for over 20 years- testament to its enduring popularity and to New Zealand children's love of a good sea story. It is the story of a family setting off for the night race to Kawau, only to meet with disaster when the father is knocked unconscious. Sam and her mother are left to manage the boat, complete the race and get help. Sam is typical of Tessa's intrepid girl characters and also featured in our Gutsy Girls booklist. This book won the Gaelyn Gordon Award for a much loved book in 2005. 10-14 HB



Bloody Jack
L.A. Meyer
Macmillan Children's
Books 2002
ISBN 0330418106

Mary Faber is an orphan. Her parents have died in the pestilence, and she is cast out to live amongst the beggar children in poverty stricken London, 1797. But Mary does not allow her new life to confine her. Horrified at the death of one of her closest friends, she cuts her hair, changes her name to Jacky, and joins the British Navy as a ship's boy.

Jacky Faber revels in her new life at sea. However, to stay in the Navy, she must remain a boy. How Jacky contrives to hide her secret amidst the swashbuckling adventures she enjoys is a marvelous read.

Sequels: **Curse of the Blue Tattoo**, and **Under the Jolly Roger**.

Suitable for 12 years and up. LH

Sea of Mutiny

Ken Catran
Random House
2005
ISBN 1869417070



Most people know something about the mutiny on the Bounty without knowing exactly why and when this occurred. Ken Catran tells the story from the point of view of teenager John Hallett, one of the survivors from the crew set adrift and left to die by the mutineers. The story of their ordeal at sea is interspersed with flashbacks to their life on Tahiti and the strong attachments of many of the crew with Tahitian women. That they didn't all die was due to the strength, fortitude and harsh discipline of Captain Bligh who lived to command another ship although some of his men were not so fortunate. The hardships endured by these men and the deaths of some of them make absorbing but perhaps disturbing reading. 14+ HB

Nonfiction

Imagine you're a mermaid

Meg Clibbon
Ill. Lucy Clibbon
Zero to Ten 2002
ISBN 1840892684



Everything you ever wanted to know about mermaids and mermen. From their natural habitat to methods of communication, from accessories to food, anyone interested in life under the sea will be fascinated by the information contained in this book. Includes ideas for activities and crafts. For ages 7 to 10 years. JB

Imagine you're a pirate



Meg Clibbon
Illus Lucy Clibbon
Zero to Ten 2001
ISBN 1840890827

If you ever wanted to run away to sea and become a pirate this will be essential reading. In fact it may make you change your mind once you've read the pirate code, seen the food they eat and learnt about the punishments given to pirates who disobey their captain. Includes ideas for activities and crafts. For ages 7 to 10 years. JB



ISBN 1869487303

24 page book full of colourful photographs showing children how to fish at sea. Easy to read format, lots of colour and large fonts. For ages 7 and up.

How to Catch Fish

Colin Anderson
Ill. Keith Olsen
Bridge Hill
Publishing 1999
ISBN 0473051826



This excellent non-fiction book came out a few years ago from small New Zealand press, Bridge Hill Publishing. Alas, Bridge Hill Publishing is no more, but it is still possible to order the book through children's bookshops. How to Catch Fish is a brightly coloured, 48 page book that gives clear and interesting instructions on many kinds of fishing, including boat fishing, beach fishing, and fly fishing. Furthermore, it also gives information on fish identification, gear care, knots and hooks and cleaning your fish. Suitable for children from 8 years and up. Highly recommended. LH

Peter Blake: Sailor, Adventurer

Alan Sefton
Puffin Books 2005
ISBN 0143318306



Shortlisted in the non-fiction section of this year's New Zealand Post Book Awards, this book, for 10 – 14 year olds, is an abridged version of **Sir Peter Blake: An Amazing Life**. Small boat sailing, coastal cruising in a keeler, round the world racing and America's Cup campaigns as well as his environmental initiatives are all covered in a compact paperback format. Alan Sefton has a long association with Blake and the book clearly describes the focus and determination that drove Peter to excel. The book is important historically and a tribute to a world famous New Zealander. CA