

# Reading Thematic Overview

## 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' – Sarah Roberts

*Someone Swallowed Stanley* by Sarah Roberts is a heartwarming yet cautionary tale about a plastic bag named Stanley who, mistaken for a jellyfish, causes trouble in the ocean, teaching children the importance of protecting marine life and reducing plastic pollution.

### English

*Someone Swallowed Stanley* offers opportunities to encourage discussions on storytelling elements like character, setting, and plot, helping children develop comprehension and sequencing skills. The language and engaging narrative also provide a platform for phonics practice, vocabulary building, and creative writing activities such as imagining Stanley's adventures or crafting their own environmental stories.

### Music

*Someone Swallowed Stanley* provides opportunities to explore Music by creating soundscapes to represent Stanley's journey through the ocean, using instruments to mimic the sounds of water, waves, and marine life. Pupils can also compose and perform a simple song or rhythm to promote the message of reducing plastic pollution, linking music to environmental awareness.

### Geography

The story addresses the issue of plastic in our oceans, linking to broader discussions about our environment and how our actions, such as producing and discarding plastic, affect climate change. Conversations about the negative impacts of plastic waste on marine life can help encourage everyone to reduce plastic use to protect our Earth.



### Science

*Someone Swallowed Stanley* provides opportunities for exploring the impact of plastic pollution on marine life, linking to the topic of living things and their habitats. The story encourages discussions about how human actions affect the environment and introduces concepts of recycling and protecting ecosystems.

### ICT

*Someone Swallowed Stanley* allows pupils to use ICT by creating digital posters or animations about the dangers of plastic pollution and how to protect marine life. Children can also research marine animals using safe online resources and present their findings through simple multimedia tools.



### History

Throughout the book, Stanley is confused with different items, which can lead to conversations about plastic toys. Children can learn how many toys are made from plastic, contributing to pollution, and why it's important to use eco-friendly or recyclable materials to help combat climate change.

