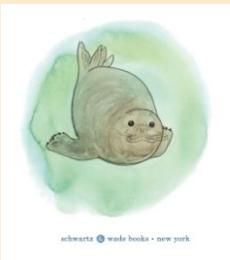


Did You Know?

Southern elephant seals are found all across the southern hemisphere of our planet. They can range in size from around two thousand pounds upwards of over eight thousand pounds. It is the largest member of the seal family, and the largest marine mammal outside of the cetacean group, which includes whales and dolphins. This mammal is also the protagonist of May's Book Club selection, Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas.

This story focuses on a southern elephant seal named Elizabeth who chose to live in a river by the city instead of the ocean with other seals.

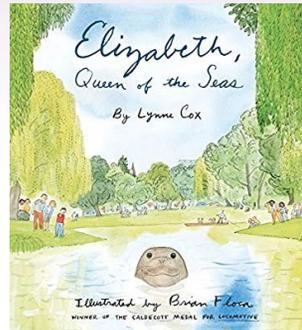
It is based on the true story of Elizabeth and her adventures of living in New Zealand. Be sure to look out for further information and photo in the back of the book to learn more!



Images courtesy of Penguin Random House

MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB NEWSLETTER

The Mayor's Book Club is pleased to present our **Book-of-the-Month** for May:



Sponsored by : **Hampton Healthy Families, Inc.**

It's Fun and Easy!

Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas is a delightful story of Elizabeth, a southern elephant seal, and her choice to live among people. It's a marvelous piece that exhibits a strong sense of belonging and community.

Tip #1 – Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas has beautiful illustrations on each page. The images are realistic and yet stylized, which brings the story to life. The illustrations allow children to follow along with the story more easily.

Tip #2 – Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas has a paragraph or two on each set of pages. This writing style enables a parent, guardian, or loved one to read aloud to or with his/her/their child. The longer text is ideal for a reader who enjoys a challenge, but it is still a picture book with eye-catching illustrations for those who are visual.

Tip #3 – The story depicts a real-life story of Elizabeth the southern elephant seal living among people in New Zealand. The story describes their adventures and challenges, and what it means to belong. This story is excellent to discuss with children and to see how they feel about communities.

Bringing the Story to Life!

Discuss the Book: Elizabeth, Queen of the Sea

When you discuss the book-of-month with your child after reading it with them you reinforce the learning. Here are a few suggestions on ways to make your reading experience interactive: You can ask your child, why the people in the town towed Elizabeth back to sea and why did Elizabeth kept coming back to the town?

Seal Snack

You can extend the learning into snack time by making a seal snack. You will need an apple, three grapes and a few slivers of almond or carrot shreds. Slice the apple into round pieces then, cut one of the slices in half. You will use the large round slice for the seal's face and the halves for his flippers. Use the grapes, almonds and carrot shreds to create a face.



Photo Courtesy of KixCereal.com



Shape Seal

Teach your child about shapes while using circles to create your own seal. You will need paper, glue, scissors and your imagination.



Photo Courtesy of PreschoolActivities.us

Book Picks

Follow The Moon
by Sarah Weeks

**Shark Lady: The True Story of How Eugenie Clark
Became the Ocean's Most Fearless Scientist**
by Jess Keating

The Rainbow Fish
By Marcus Pfister

**How to Hide an Octopus and Other
Sea Creatures**
by Ruth Heller

Community Resources

Hampton Heritage Day, Mill Point Park 100 Eaton Street, Hampton, VA 23669
Saturday, May 18, 2019 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Join in commemorating the Native American, European and African cultures that have shaped our community. Enjoy traditional music, dance, storytelling and other performances and presentations that will take place throughout the day. There will be hands-on family activities, cultural displays and demonstrations, glassblowing, blacksmithing, wool spinning, food, heritage arts & crafts, and more. It's all designed to honor those who came before us.

Buckroe Beach Farmers Market, Every Saturday EXCEPT: June 8, July 20, Aug. 31 & Sept. 7

Vendors will be located on the grassy area surrounding the Buckroe Beach gazebo and will sell local produce, baked goods, sausage, seafood, jarred foods and more.

Happily Ever After Elementary Prom, 1300 Thomas Street, Hampton VA 23669
Saturday, May 18, 2019 4:00 PM—7:00 PM

For ages 5-12. Children dress up for an exclusive prom filled with tons of fun! Registration: April 1—May 16. Refreshments for students only. Parents are welcome to stay.

Thanks to the **Langley Civic Leaders Association**,
Exchange Club of Wythe, and **Downtown
Hampton Exchange Club**
for their sponsorships.



Visit your local public library or school library:

Hampton Public Library:

<http://www.hamptonpubliclibrary.org>

Hampton City Schools – Information Literacy Services:

<http://www.hampton.k12.va.us/departments/informationliteracy/infoliteracy.html>