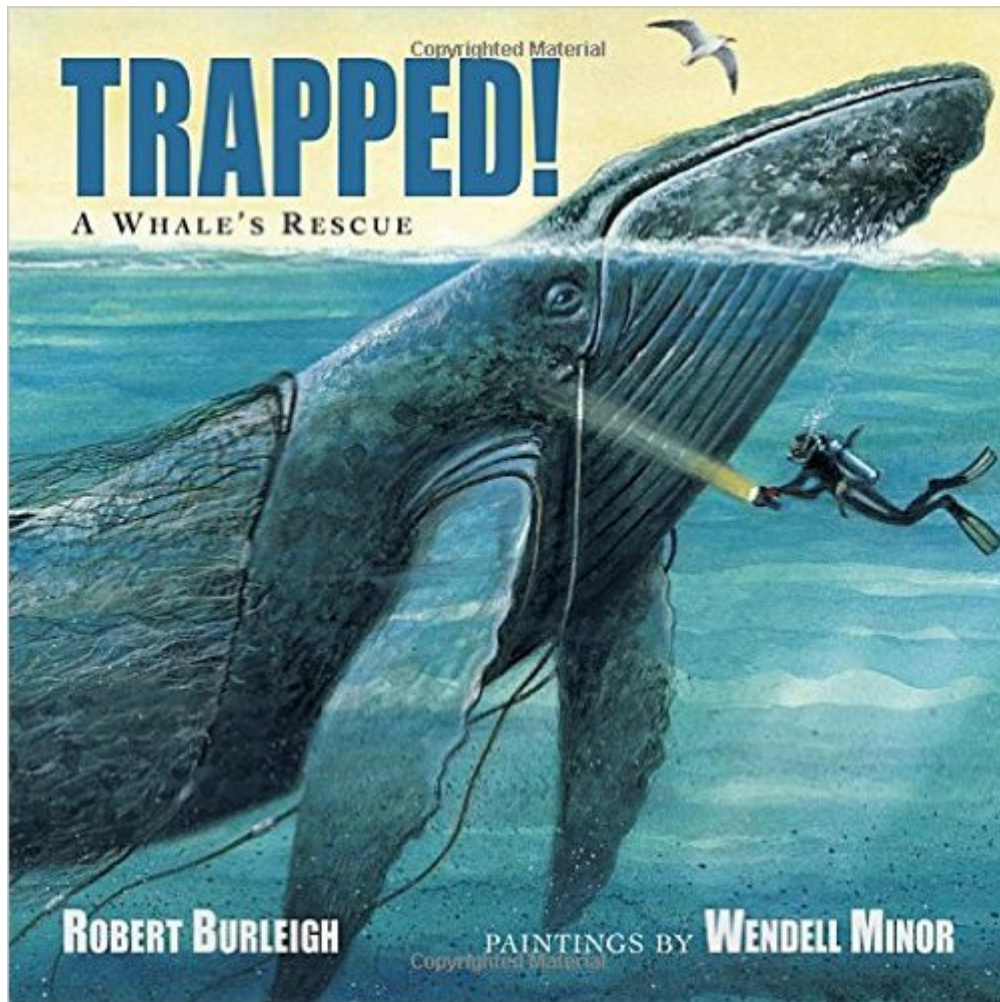


The book was found

# Trapped! A Whale's Rescue



## Synopsis

In the icy waters of the Pacific, a massive humpback whale unexpectedly finds herself tangled in a net abandoned by fishermen. When a rescue boat and a convoy of divers arrive to help the struggling humpback, a realistic and moving encounter bridges the human and aquatic worlds.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD510L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge (April 14, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1580895581

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Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 0.3 x 10.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #130,683 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Oceans & Seas](#) #73 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Water](#) #185 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mammals](#)

Age Range: 4 - 6 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 1

## Customer Reviews

Most of the whale books I see for little readers are cartoony and suggest bathtub toys more than real creatures. They're fun and I get that. But sometimes it's also fun, and interesting, to have a book that really gets across the grandeur and dignity of these wonderful creatures. Well, this book does that in stunning fashion, and even manages to tell a ripping tale along the way. This is based on a real whale rescue that occurred a few years ago. A humpback whale became entangled in some crab nets and was released by a group of intrepid divers. From that story we get this book. The text is economical. It tells the story without exaggeration or overwrought excess. The story is exciting enough that it doesn't need to be hammed up and the author has wisely chosen a matter-of-fact, (though still dramatic), approach. This actually heightens the excitement while still allowing the story to capture the young reader's imagination. In the same vein, the paintings are naturalistic and the coloring is subdued, while still clearly representing the size of the whale and the

danger and excitement of the rescue. Again this seems to be aimed just right for the younger reader. As a bonus there is just a suggestion of humor and a touching description of the whale's calm thank you to the divers for the rescue. This warm and upbeat element was unexpected. Yet another bonus is found in the brief but informative two page fact spread at the end of the book. The narrative text mentions spyhopping and lobtailing and I was happy to see these terms explained, (along with other facts), at the end. So, this turned out to be a very inviting and rewarding find. It might not be the most memorable or stirring book in the family library, but it struck me as elegant and worthy.

I want to call this book "delightful" because I so enjoyed reading it - even though it's about a potentially tragic situation- a true account of a whale that is caught in fishing nets and would have died if not rescued by trained divers who cut it free. What made the book delightful was its flow and the beautiful language the author employs - "The huge humpback whale dips and dives. Her sleek black sides shimmering, she spyhops, lobtails, flashes her flukes." (While this vocabulary would be difficult for our EL students--requiring a lot of teaching, it would be a nice stretch for our native language speakers with a lot of potential teaching for stretching their own vocabulary.) LOVED the author notes at the end. I'd read the book AND the author notes aloud--to late kinder through 3rd grade. This book could be the launch of a unit of study on human impact on the environment, etc. It could serve as a writing mentor for descriptive writing - maybe recreating an event based on an initial news article. It could be used as one source to compare with other sources on this event. I searched "December 11, 2005 humpback whale caught in nets california" and immediately found some good links including video. Lots of potential here and a book to JUST ENJOY!!!

Living in Monterey where locals go out into the bay to cut whales loose from fishing gear they have become entangled in this book's subject is near and dear to me. Actually I know some of the folks who risk their lives to rescue whales each season so I have heard about these rescues from those who actually perform them. This picture book gives a pretty good idea of what is involved in a whale rescue although usually divers are not actually involved...small boats with a few people in them get close to the whales and then cut the ropes and nets free in most cases. You'll get a good idea of what is involved though in a rescue and why these huge mammals are in jeopardy because of what we leave in the water for them to become entangled in. So read and enjoy this book about those who try and help whales endangered by our carelessness.

Trapped: A Whale's Rescue, is based on a true event which occurred in the icy waters near San Francisco on December 11, 2005. After a crabber's fishing net was left in the waters of the Pacific ocean, a humpback whale, swimming and feeding on krill became wrapped in the large nets. The ropes were cutting into her mouth and wrapped around her fins making it impossible for her to swim free and breathe normally. Despite the fact that mammals such as these can be unpredictable when they feel threatened or frightened, a team of rescuers and divers worked tirelessly to free the frightened whale. More than 20 ropes were wrapped around the frightened whale. When all was said and done, no divers were injured and before the freed whale swam off, she circled the divers and gently nudged each one as if to show her appreciation. I really enjoyed this story and felt it would make a great addition to school and public library collections. The painting-like illustrations seem to come alive on each page so that you can almost feel the leathery skin of the whale. The illustrations help to show just how scared the whale must have been when the nets restricted her ability to swim and even breathe. In the back of the book there is lots of interesting information on the humpback whale --for example, the humpback has lungs the size of a small car; females weigh around 50 tons; life span 40-50 years and the heart weighs 400+ pounds.

A #mustread picture book that should be told to every child at any age. This book shows the wonder and awe of the whales and how man causes harm by being neglectful and careless. This book also shows that humans do care and will do what they can to undo the harm they fellow humans caused. Wonderful book about caring for animals and how we humans can be our best by letting the animals have the best habitat they can have free from human debris. Written by Robert Burleigh and painted by Wendell Minor. Published by Charlesbridge. #PB #whales #rescue

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