1

Baby Dolphin

The gray bottle-nosed dolphin was ready to give birth after carrying her calf for a year. She pushed the calf, tail first, out into the water of the sea. The three-foot calf couldn't breathe and was in shock from the cold water. His mother nudged him to the surface of the water to take his first breath. The calf popped his head out of the water, took in some air through his blowhole, and then swam to his mother's side. She will give him milk, and they will stay together as he learns about the sea.



Vocabulary to Visualize:

dolphin: a marine mammal that is very smart and playful

calf: a newborn

shock: a stunned response to a sudden

unexpected change nudged: pushed gently

Third and Fourth Sentences: The three-foot calf couldn't breathe

blowhole: a single nostril on the top of the head through which dolphins and

whales breathe

| 1 | First and Second Sentences: The gray bottle-nosed dolphin was ready to give birth after carrying her calf for a year. She pushed the calf, tail first, out into the water of the sea. |
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| | What did those words make you picture? |
| Wh. | at did you picture for |
| 1. | the mother dolphin? |
| 2. | the sea? |
| 3. | her carrying the calf? |
| 4. | the tail of the cali? |
| | |

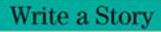
| 2 | and was in shock from the cold water. His mother nudged him to the surface of the water to take his first breath. |
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| | What did those words make you picture? |
| Wh | at did you picture for |
| | the calf? |
| 2. | the calf in shock? |
| 3. | the mother nudging the calf? |
| 4. | him taking his first breath? |

| Fifth and Sixth Sentences: The calf popped his head out of the water, took in some air through his blowhole, and then swam to his mother's side. She will give him milk, and they will stay together as he learns about the sea. What did those words make you picture? | Picture Summary: Number your images in order. | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| What did you picture for 1. the calf popping his head out of the water? | The cold water put the calf in shock and he was unable to breathe. The calf will stay with his mother and she will teach him about the sea. | | |
| 2. his blowhole? | The dolphin was ready to give birth and pushed the calf out into the sea. | | |
| 3. the calf swimming by his mother? | The mother helped her calf to the surface of the water so he could take his first breath. | | |
| 4. his mother giving him milk? | | | |
| Write a Word Summary: | | | |
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Critical Thinking

Main Idea:

| Ch | eck the box that best describes all your images—the main idea. | | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | The bottle-nosed dolphin pushed a three-foot newborn calf she had been carrying tail first out into the sea. The bottle-nosed dolphin first gave birth to her baby, then helped him learn how to breathe. The three-foot bottle-nose dolphin calf was in shock from the cold water of the sea. | | | | | | | |
| н | OT Questions: | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Why do you think the dolphin was ready to give birth? | | | | | | | |
| 2. | Why do you think the calf couldn't breathe? | | | | | | | |
| 3. | Why do you think the calf was in shock? | | | | | | | |
| 4. | Why do you think his mother nudged him to the surface? | | | | | | | |
| 5. | Why do you think he swam to his mother's side? | | | | | | | |
| 6. | How do you think the mother gives the calf milk? Does she use a bottle? | | | | | | | |
| 7. | Why do you think it is important that he stays with his mother? | | | | | | | |
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