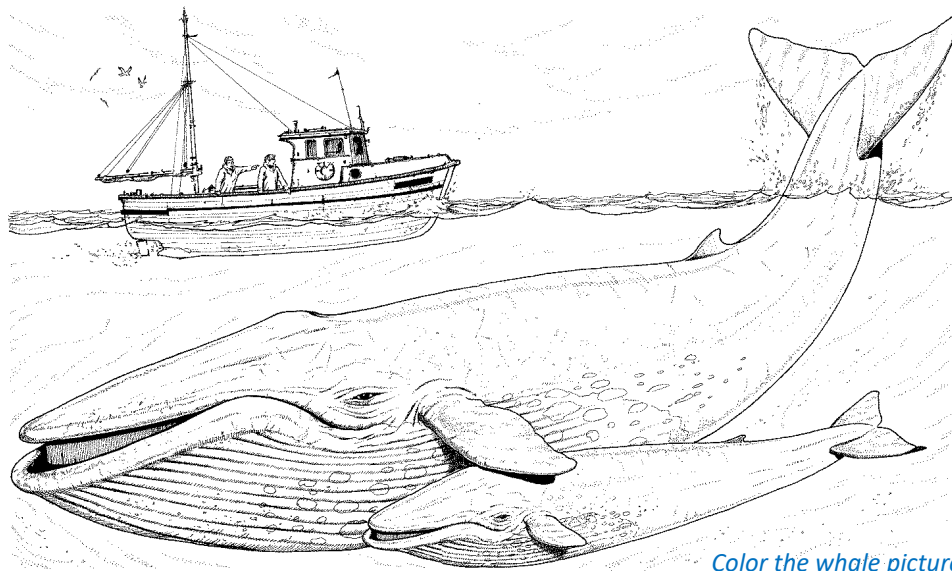


JONAH'S GIANT

The book of Jonah tells of the selfish, runaway prophet, who was swallowed by a *great fish*. In Matthew, Jesus called it a *whale*. We know that "with God all things are possible", so why do some say it is impossible that Jonah was swallowed by a whale? Some say, "No fish could be big enough to swallow a man or have room inside for him to swim and survive!" Surely they have never seen or read about the giants God created or they would be amazed and thrilled!

Whales are exciting and huge! Even the smallest, the Minke, is more than *30 feet long* and weighs *seven tons*. The largest, the blue whale, can reach more than *100 feet long* (longer than a Junior Olympic size swimming pool) and weigh up to *200 tons*! (Don't call Weight-Watchers. His weight is just right for his size!)

Whales are warm-blooded mammals and breathe through a *blow hole* in the top of their head. Some whales, like the big blues, are known as *Baleen* whales. They don't have teeth but take in food through big bristles in their mouth that strain food from the water so big things cannot get through. They live on tiny shrimp-like animals called *krill*, but one whale can eat *40,000* of the tiny creatures in one day! *Toothed whales*, like humpbacks and killer whales, have big teeth and eat big fish like tuna, cod, and salmon. Jonah's whale must not have been one of those or he might have been chomped up!



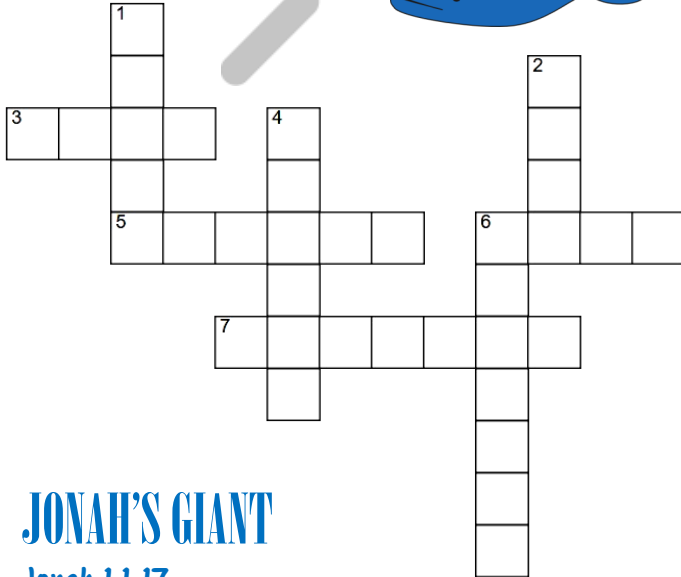
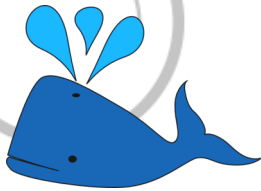
Color the whale picture.

The cold water of polar regions does not bother whales, because God gave them a thick layer of *blubber* (fat) to keep them warm. God also built in a GPS system that guides them once a year to warm waters in the south where they have their babies. Some baby whales are as big as *hippos* when they are born! Every whale is special. His *fluke* (tail) that slaps the water is unlike any other tail. Every fluke has a different white mark. Just as your fingerprint is different from everyone else, every whale's "tail print" is different!

A whale could easily have swallowed Jonah. The *miracle* was that God spared him and brought him back to life. The whale got a whale of a tummy ache and vomited up Jonah on the shore. (Eew! I expect he needed a bath!) After that, Jonah hurried right to Nineveh to warn the people of God's coming judgment. How much better it would have been if Jonah had obeyed God at once!

Later, when Jesus was on earth, He said, "As Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matt. 12:40). A more wonderful *miracle* happened after Jesus was crucified, dead, and buried. After three days, He was resurrected! He came back to life and is *alive forever!* If you turn from your sin and trust Christ, He will save you and you also can *live forever!*

KIDZ PUZZLE POWER



JONAH'S GIANT

Jonah 1:1-17

ACROSS

- 3 The Lord sent this out onto the sea (v.4)
- 4 The prophet's nationality (v.9)
- 6 What was going to Tarshish? (v.3)
- 7 The place the Lord commanded the prophet to go (v.2)

DOWN

- 1 The word of the Lord came to this prophet (v.1)
- 2 Creature the Lord prepared to catch the prophet (v.17)
- 4 All the mariners and sailors were this (v.5)
- 6 What the creature did to the prophet (v.17)

POCKET SIZE
"LILACS AND SAGE"

Seven lovely flowers teach Amy important Christian character lessons. Salvation and service.
More little books and other great materials are on our website
childrensbibleclub.com.

(Be sure to take your vitamins and say your Vita-Verse every day!)



Jesus said, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Mark 2:17b



Can you memorize this verse and say it to your parents or teacher?



KIDZ HEROES

Ira D. Sankey, Gospel Singer

(1840-1908)

D. L. Moody and Ira D. Sankey made a great team for the Lord. Mr. Moody preached and Mr. Sankey sang, and thousands were stirred to turn to the Savior.

Sankey grew up in a Christian home and trusted Jesus Christ at age 16. He served in the Civil War, then worked in government service. When he was 30 years old, he heard an announcement that Moody would conduct a prayer meeting at six o'clock one Sunday morning. Sankey went and sat near the door. After long prayer, a friend asked him to start a hymn. No one seemed to be in charge of the singing, so Sankey stood and in a beautiful voice sang: *"There is a fountain filled with blood, Drawn from Immanuel's veins; And sinners plunged beneath that flood Lose all their guilty stains."*

The audience soon joined in. Afterward as Moody and Sankey talked, Mr. Moody said, "Well, you'll have to give up business and come with me. I have spent eight years looking for a man like you." He was sure that good singing would be a blessing to the meetings. He wanted "singing that reaches the heart." Sankey joined him in the work, and they continued together for 28 years. Sankey used a large organ for the choirs, but he accompanied himself on a small organ for his own solos. He did not want the music to take anything away from the message.

In later life, Sankey's health failed and he lost his eyesight. The impact of his life and ministry was great in his day and still continues through his many hymns and music such as, *Hiding in Thee, A Shelter in the Time of Storm, and Beneath the Cross of Jesus*. One of his first and most famous compositions is *The Ninety and Nine*, a poem set to music for one of Mr. Moody's sermons.

We, too, should love to sing the good hymns of the faith. Look through your hymn book. How many hymns written by Mr. Sankey can you find?

DID YOU KNOW?

You can find all past issues of Kidz Newz on our website!

They are FREE!

ANSWERS
KIDZ PUZZLE POWER