

Reader Guide

Surf Soup TV I'm a Star?

A Starfish from the Great Barrier Reef, Australia

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Overview: In this delightful tale, Koa and Twinklet embark on an adventure that teaches the importance of friendship, self-acceptance, and confidence.

Discussion Questions:

What do you think made Twinklet feel nervous at first?

How did Koa help Twinklet gain confidence?

What does it mean to “shine bright” in your own way?

How can we support our friends when they feel scared or unsure?

Why do you think Twinklet wanted to be a part of Surf Soup TV?

Activities:

Craft Time: Create your own starfish using craft supplies.

Decorate it and write a positive message on it.

Deep Breathing Exercise: Practice the deep breathing technique Koa taught Twinklet. Have fun counting breaths together!

Storyboard Creation: Have children illustrate their favorite scene from the book and create a mini-storyboard.

STEAM Activities:

Science:

Explore the anatomy of a sea star! Learn about their unique features, such as their ability to regenerate lost arms. Create a simple diagram labeling these features.

Technology:

Use an app or website to research different types of sea stars. Present your findings to the class, highlighting their habitats and behaviors.

Engineering:

Build a simple model of a coral reef using recycled materials. Discuss the importance of marine ecosystems and how sea stars contribute to their health.

Arts:

Create a mural depicting a beach scene with Koa and Twinklet. Use different materials to represent the ocean, sand, and other elements.

Mathematics:

Measure the sizes of various sea stars found online. Create a chart comparing their sizes and calculate the average size of the sea stars you researched.

Fun Facts:

Starfish vs. Sea Stars: Did you know that “starfish” is actually a misnomer? These creatures are more accurately called sea stars, and they play a vital role in their ecosystems!

Unique Features: Sea stars have the ability to regenerate lost arms. This is not only fascinating but also a vital survival mechanism.

Reader Guide: Exploring the Great Barrier Reef

Discussion Questions:

What do you think Twinklet feels about being away from the Great Barrier Reef?

How does Koa's kindness help Twinklet?

Why do you think the Great Barrier Reef is important for marine life?

Activities:

Art Project: Draw your favorite sea creature from the Great Barrier Reef.

Science Exploration: Research the Great Barrier Reef and present three interesting facts to your class.

Creative Writing: Imagine a day in the life of Twinklet at the Great Barrier Reef and write a short story about it.