

## One Smart Fish

Long ago, before you were born, and before I was born, and before anyone in the whole world was born...the ocean was filled with a variety of amazing fish. It still is of course, only they were MORE amazing then.

Some were remarkably colourful like floating rainbows. Some were peculiar looking creatures with huge googly eyes and elongated curly tentacles. There were fat ones, thin ones, short and long ones. Some were big; others were small. Some were cute; others were scary. However, the most extraordinary fish of them all was a dull and drab, light-grey and very plain fish. He didn't look amazing, but he was!

He was wonderfully smart: smarter than all the other fish in the ocean put together. He was so smart that he could do almost anything: He could sing and dance and make sweet sounding music. He could draw brilliant detailed pictures and perform marvellous entertaining plays. This fish was a genius, yet he was not content. For there was one thing he wanted to do, more than anything else, and it was the one thing he couldn't do—he wanted to walk upon the land!

Every year, when the fish went towards the land for their holidays, the smart fish would gaze desperately up the beach, wishing he could experience the world: to feel the wind on his face and the sun on his scales. But everyone knows that fish can't walk...can they?

Thinking long and hard, he at last came up with an excellent idea! FEET! (It sounds obvious now, but back then no-one under the ocean had ever heard of feet).

The very next day, the smart fish equipped himself with a beautifully crafted set of feet and attached them over his fins. He waited patiently for the brightest of days, and emerged from the waves, walking straight up the beach!

He was the first fish ever, in the history of the world, to walk upon the land. And not just the first fish, but the first CREATURE ever to walk upon the land! There was no-one else. The place was empty. Bored and lonely, fed up and sad, he dived back into the ocean to re-join all the other fish!

But do you know what?

His walking idea eventually caught on, and a few million years later, some other fish tried it. They weren't clever enough to make feet of their own, so they slithered slowly up the beach, crawling on their fins. After a few hundred million years, they grew feet instead of fins! No longer fish - they were reptiles!

Changes started happening all around and in due time that's how you and I got here! It was all thanks to one smart fish!