What to do today

IMPORTANT! Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.

1. It's story time!

First, share the information on *Biographies and Autobiographies*. Then watch the first part of *Manfish – a story of Jacques Cousteau* by Jennifer Berne https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YGi2BkgPfDc&t=499s%2C, stopping at 6:02, *Jacques had done it. He had become a manfish*.

- Is *Manfish* a biography or an autobiography?
- Use the facts on the checklist to confirm that it is a biography. It tells the true story of Jacques Cousteau's life, but it is written by Jennifer Berne.

2. Answering questions

Now read the short *Extract from Manfish*.

- Answer the *Manfish Extract Questions*.
- If you can't just remember an answer straight away, be sure to re-read the part of the text you need to find the answer.

3. Let's get ready for writing

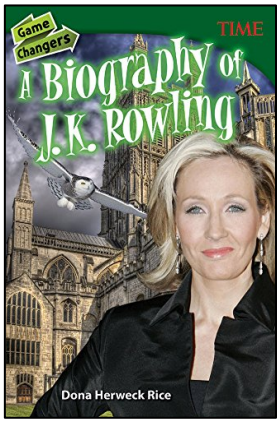
Jacques loved swimming and being in the water, even when he was very little.

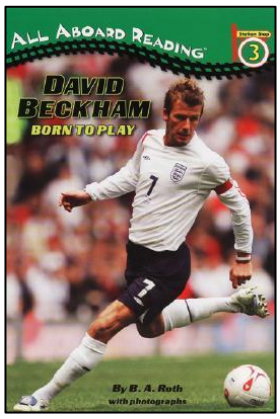
- On *Going in the Water*, draw a picture of you swimming and then write correctly punctuated sentences in response to the questions:

Now try this Fun-Time Extra

- Jacques Cousteau loved writing adventure stories when he was little. Try writing an adventure story of your own.
- You could use the picture from *Manfish* of Jacques' story to get you started.

Biographies and Autobiographies





Bio is the Ancient Greek word for **life**.

A **biography** is a special kind of non-fiction book.
It…

- tells the true story of a real person's life.
- contains lots of accurate facts and information about the person.
- tries to be unbiased and fair.
- usually goes in chronological order, starting with when the subject was little.
- is often accompanied by photographs or pictures from that person's life so you can see what they looked like, where they lived and what sort of things they did.

An **autobiography** is when a person writes the story of their own life.
It

- has all the same characteristics as a biography, listed above,
- BUT no other author is involved.
- has lots of sentences in the book that say 'I'. "I dived into the sea and saw amazing fish."

An Extract from Manfish

When Jacques finished school he joined the French Navy. His ship sailed all around the world, and everywhere he went he filmed what he saw.

In China he filmed men catching fish with their bare hands. They held their breath underwater for many minutes. Jacques wondered what that would be like.

One day at a beach, a friend gave Jacques a pair of goggles with rubber frames and glass to look through. Jacques wore them into the ocean. Beneath the water he was surrounded by silvery green forests of sea plants and fish he had never seen before. Everything was silent and shimmering. It was a whole new world.

When he came up he saw cars, people, buildings and telephone poles. Once again he went below into the magical underwater world. At that moment Jacques knew his life was changed forever. His eyes had been opened to the wonders of the sea.

Jacques and his friends Philippe and Didi began to dive together. They experimented to see how long they could stay underwater and how deep they could go.

Jacques created a waterproof case for his camera, to film the amazing kingdom he and his friends were exploring beneath the surface. They made rubber suits to keep themselves warm and flippers to help them kick better.

But Jacques wanted to stay down longer than one breath at a time. He realised he needed to take more air with him, enough to explore the mysterious depths and vast expanses of the ocean – to swim through the sea as free as a fish.

He wanted to become a manfish. And he began to work on just how to do it.

Manfish Questions

1. How did the men that Jacques saw in China catch their fish?

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2. What were the names of Jacques' two friends who went diving with him?

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3. When Jacques came up out of the sea after diving he saw various things. Tick the ones in this list that he saw:

Cars _____ People _____ Lorries _____

Buildings _____ Telephone poles _____ An aeroplane _____

4. Find and copy the phrase that describes the sea plants Jacques saw when he was diving.

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5. "His eyes had been opened to the wonders of the sea." What does this expression mean? Tick one answer:

(a) Jacques opened his eyes underwater and got salt in them _____

(b) Jacques knew he needed to get a better pair of goggles before his next dive ____

(c) Being able to see underwater had made Jacques realise for the first time how amazing the ocean was _____

(d) Philippe and Didi made Jacques open his eyes in the sea _____

6. Write a short caption to go with this picture from the story.

_____

_____

7. Using 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th, put these events from the story in the right order:

_____ *Jacques created a waterproof case for his camera.*

_____ *Jacques joined the French Navy.*

_____ *Jacques, Philippe and Didi experimented to see how long they could stay underwater.*

_____ *One day at the beach a friend gave Jacques a pair of goggles.*

8. The story says that Jacques wanted 'to explore the mysterious depths and vast expanses of the ocean.' Why do you think it says the depths of the ocean were 'mysterious'?

_____

9. Give another word or words that mean the same as 'vast'.

_____

_____

10. How do you think Jacques and his friends felt as they dived deep into the ocean?

_____

11. Why do you think they felt like that?

_____

_____

_____

Going in the Water

Do you like swimming and being in water? Say why you do or don't.

_____

_____

_____

Where do you go to swim? An indoor pool? An outdoor pool? The sea?

_____

Do you put your face in the water? How does that feel?

_____

_____

_____

An Adventure Story