

Anemone Is Not The Enemy

By Anna McGregor

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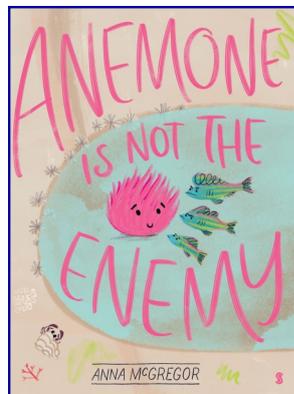
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Anemone lives alone in the rock pool. The tide comes in and the tide goes out.

All Anemone wants is a friend, but they keep accidentally stinging everyone who comes near. NOBODY wants to be their pal!

And then along comes Clownfish. Might Clownfish and Anemone be a perfect match?



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Building friendship
- Difference
- Strengths and weaknesses
- Compatibility
- Loneliness

Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever been the new kid somewhere? Maybe at a new school, or at a playground, or in an after-school activity? How does it make you feel? Do you introduce yourself, or wait for other kids to talk to you? How do you pick out which kids to make friends with?
- Is there anything about you that makes you feel different to all your other friends?
- What do you know about anemones? Do you know where they live, what colours they can be or what role they play?
- NB: Anemone does not use gendered pronouns.

Activities:

Storytelling: Tell the story of the hermit crab looking for their new shell home.

Sensory play:

- Make a rockpool diorama! You could use a tin tub, or a baking dish, or your dad's roasting pan. Add sand, rocks, shells from the beach, and sea-creature toys. To make Anemone and Clownfish, you could use coloured paper.
- If you live near the beach, go beachcombing and collect some treasures to add to your diorama.
- Take your paper Anemone and Clownfish sculptures into the sandpit and do an action replay of the story. You could even make some other fishy friends for Anemone to STING!

Arts and Crafts:

- Draw or paint anemone and clownfish.
- Cut out and glue felt pieces onto a blue-green felt background to recreate a picture from the book.
- Alternatively, cut out felt characters from the book, stick them onto icy-pole sticks, and make a puppet show!