

July 17, 2009

<http://www.san-diego-east-county.macaronikid.com/>

## Macaroni Reads

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### Look Who Lives in the Ocean!

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*Review by Kathie Zaccaria*

As a new mom and publisher of San Diego Macaroni Kid, *Look Who Lives in the Ocean!* is my introduction to author, illustrator, and naturalist Brooke Bessesen. And what a welcome I have received!

From the front cover to the back, Bessesen provides an equal opportunity look at some of the most popular underwater dwellers such as sharks, stingrays and sea turtles to a smattering of lesser-known – but just as important – ocean animals such as the doris and the angler fish.

This isn't a fairy tale or a mystery or a hard-core science book. It is one your child (and you) will read over and over again. There is much to discover and even more to enjoy!

You will be entertained as the humpback whale performs on Ocean Idol and at the same time, find out that whale songs can be heard more than 20 miles away and last for 20 minutes, and the song patterns change every few years.

You will be gleefully captured by the rhythms of Bessesen's rhymes: "With thousands of teeth that are lined up in aisles, her choppers are whoppers, so shark always smiles" and find out that sharks will grow new teeth continually throughout their lives and may have 3,000 at one time.

You will meet Doris, the beautiful Miss Oceanica, a sea slug and then travel to Coral City where you are greeted with "You might think that corals are sea plants or rocks, but they're living creatures – they just cannot walk."

Bessesen's rhyming is fun and perhaps a little contagious! She will make you want to try your hand at creating a rhyme or two. Here's my rhyme:

There are interesting tidbits that are fun to read  
about the many animals that live undersea,  
like the sea horse, the octopus, the clown fish and manatee  
and let's not forget the lobster, who dines on decaying meat.

Within the pages of *Look Who Lives in the Ocean!*, fun and facts are interwoven around beautiful illustrations, eye-catching colors, creative storytelling, and lively rhymes – excellent for kids, parents, and teachers.

*Meet Brooke at Warwick's in La Jolla on Saturday, July 18th at 2 pm for a reading of Look Who Lives in the Ocean! See calendar listing in This Week's Picks. Learn more about Brooke Bessesen at [www.brookebessesen.com](http://www.brookebessesen.com).*