

## A Story Lesson for *Ugly Fish*

Packet prepared by Flora Joy, florajoy@comcast.net; book authored by Kara LaReau

*The text of the storybook **Ugly Fish** is presented below, but it is SOLELY offered for the purpose of assisting the educator in the preparation of the classroom activities. In no case should this substitute for the purchase of the book itself, which may be ordered through Harcourt or purchased at local bookstores (etc.).*

Ugly fish was ugly. And BIG. And mean. He liked swimming around in his fish tank. He liked gliding in and out of his driftwood tunnel. He liked eating his special briny flakes. One day, a new fish appeared in the tank.

“I am Teensy Fish,” the new fish said, flicking his tail fin. “What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH,” said Ugly Fish. “And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Teensy Fish around the tank. And then he ate him.

Another day, another fish appeared in the tank. “Hello there!” the new fish said, blowing bubbles. “I am Kissy Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH,” said Ugly Fish. “And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Kissy Fish around the tank. And then he ate her.

Two days later, two other fish appeared in the tank. “We are Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish,” the new fish said. “What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH,” said Ugly Fish. “And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish around the tank. And then he ate them. Ugly Fish was very satisfied with himself. He swam around in his tank, blowing bubbles. He glided in and out... in and out... in and out...of his driftwood tunnel. He gulped down his special briny flakes. But after a while, the tunnel didn’t seem so fun anymore. The special briny flakes no longer tasted very special. Sigh! Ugly Fish was glum. I wish I had someone to play with, he thought. Chasing those fish was fun. If only I hadn’t eaten them.

At last a new fish appeared in the tank. Ugly Fish blew bubbles. His fins perked up. “Hello there!” he said. “I am UGLY FISH. What’s your name?”

“I am Shiny Fish,” said the fish.

“Welcome to my tank,” said Ugly Fish, flicking his tail fin. “This is my driftwood tunnel.”

“Nice,” said Shiny Fish.

“And these are my special briny flakes,” said Ugly Fish.

“Very nice,” said Shiny Fish. “I wish I had a tank as nice as this.”

“There’s plenty of room for both of us,” said Ugly Fish. “Do you like to play?”

“Oh, I like to play,” said Shiny Fish. “And then, I like to eat.”

“That makes two of us!” said Ugly Fish.

“Guess again,” said Shiny Fish.

So Ugly Fish got his wish—a new friend to play with.

And Shiny Fish got his wish, too—a nice new home... [*He eats Ugly Fish*] BURP all to himself.

**Educational Use:** This book may be used for a variety of different purposes in an academic setting. The most obvious is the discussion of the treatment of others and the criteria for friendship. Comparisons with other stories (such as *Rainbow Fish*) may also be insightful. Pictures of fish may be used as visual aids for optional story reenactment, during which the young “actors” can further (and subtly) infuse the story’s distinct message into their thoughts. The fish characters shown on the following three pages are some copyright-free samples extracted from Corel clipart.

# Optional characters for the story *Ugly Fish*

Practically any “water creature” could be used for this story when learners retell it. On this page is a possible character for the Ugly Fish. The next two pages show optional designs for the remaining characters.

Photocopy this page onto card stock for an instant “stick character.” This design was taken from the CorelDRAW free clipart files.

## Ugly Fish

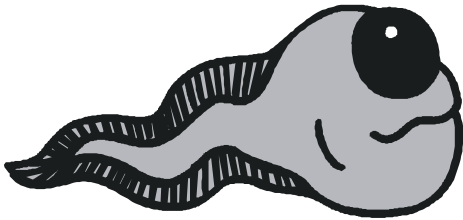


Optional characters for the story

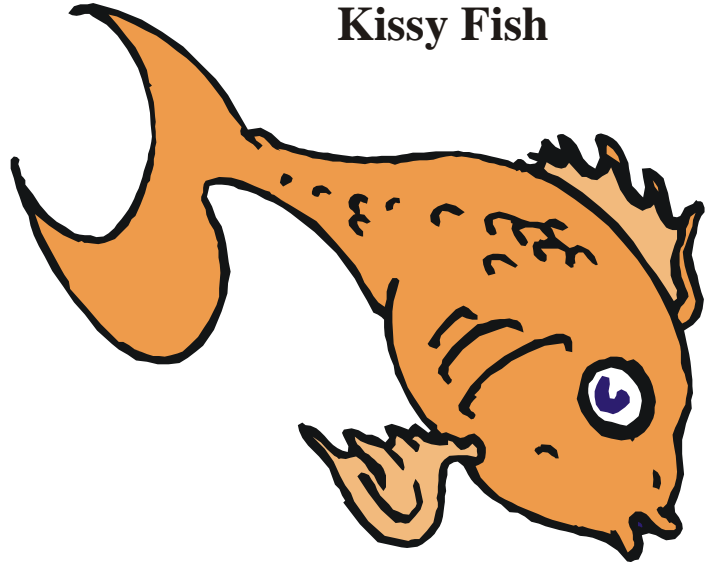
# *Ugly Fish*

Photocopy this page onto card stock for instant “stick characters.” These designs were taken from the CorelDRAW free clipart files.

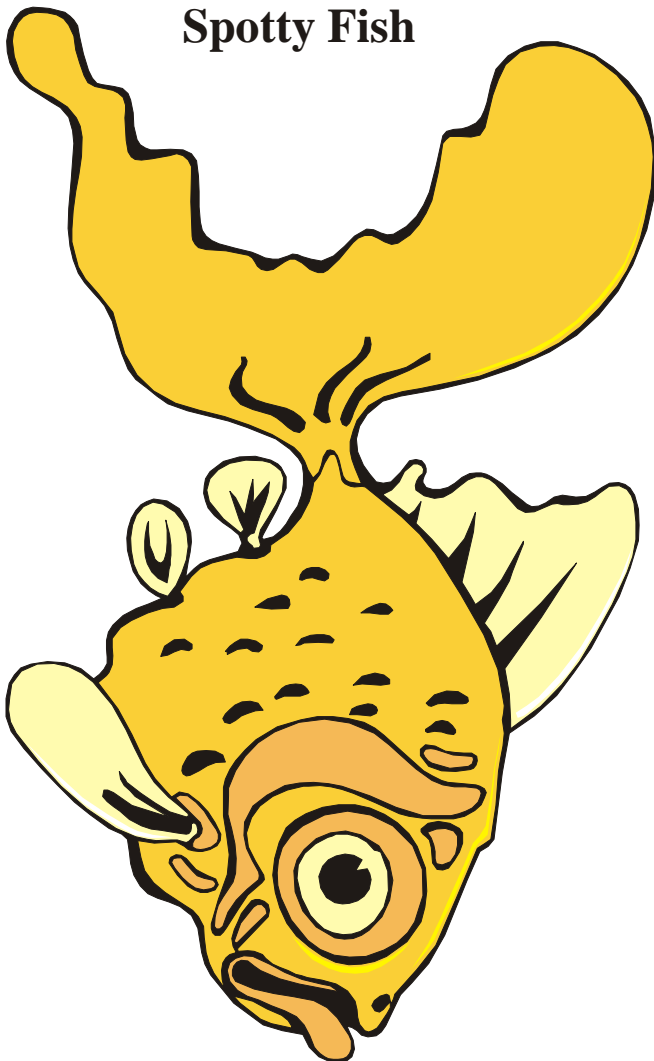
**Teensy Fish**



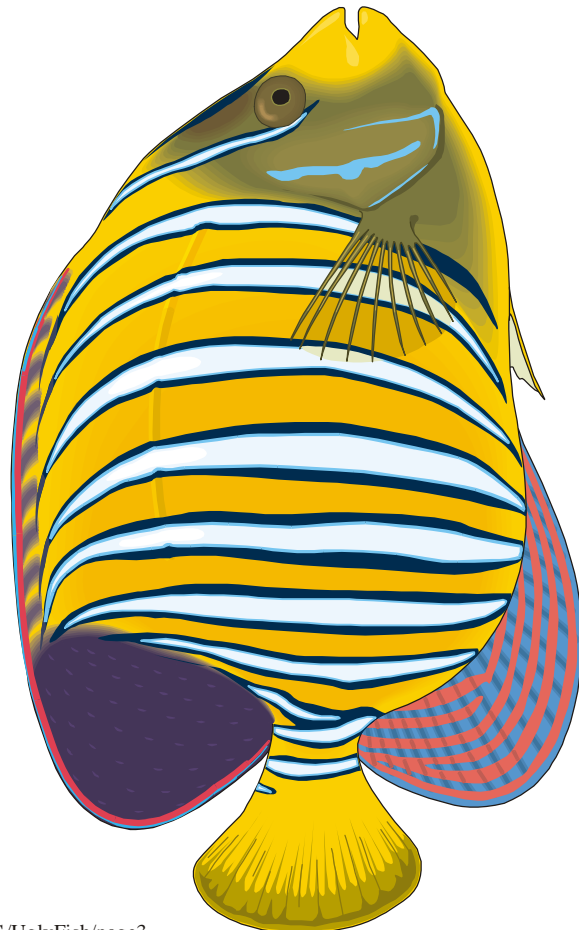
**Kissy Fish**



**Spotty Fish**



**Stripy Fish**



Optional characters for the story

# *Ugly Fish*

**Shiny Fish**



Photocopy this page onto card stock for an instant “stick character.” This design was taken from the CorelDRAW free clipart files.

# ***Ugly Fish: Tandem Version for SEVEN Tellers/Readers***

© by Kara LaReau - Copy for **NARRATOR** (Read everything **SHADED**.)

*(The text below has been slightly altered for a more efficient tandem presentation.)*

Ugly fish was ugly. And BIG. And mean. He liked swimming around in his fish tank. He liked gliding in and out of his driftwood tunnel. He liked eating his special briny flakes. One day, a new fish appeared in the tank. He flicked his tail fin and said,

“I am Teensy Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Teensy Fish around the tank. And then he ate him.

Another day, another fish appeared in the tank. She blew bubbles in the water and said, “Hello there! I am Kissy Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Kissy Fish around the tank. And then he ate her.

Two days later, two other fish appeared in the tank, and said, “We are Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish around the tank. And then he ate them. Ugly Fish was very satisfied with himself. He swam around in his tank, blowing bubbles. He glided in and out... in and out... in and out...of his driftwood tunnel. He gulped down his special briny flakes. But after a while, the tunnel didn’t seem so fun anymore. The special briny flakes no longer tasted very special. Sigh! Ugly Fish was glum. He said aloud, “I wish I had someone to play with. Chasing those fish was fun. If only I hadn’t eaten them.”

At last a new fish appeared in the tank. Ugly Fish blew bubbles. His fins perked up. He swam over to the new fish and said, “Hello there! I am UGLY FISH. What’s your name?”

“I am Shiny Fish.”

“Welcome to my tank. This is my driftwood tunnel.”

“Nice.”

“And these are my special briny flakes.”

“Very nice. I wish I had a tank as nice as this.”

“There’s plenty of room for both of us. Do you like to play?”

“Oh, I like to play. And then, I like to eat.”

“That makes two of us!”

“Guess again!”

So Ugly Fish got his wish—a new friend to play with.

And Shiny Fish got his wish, too—a nice new home... [He **EATS** Ugly Fish] **BURP** all to himself.

# ***Ugly Fish: Tandem Version for SEVEN Tellers/Readers***

© by Kara LaReau - Copy for **UGLY FISH** (Read everything **SHADED**.)

*(The text below has been slightly altered for a more efficient tandem presentation.)*

Ugly fish was ugly. And BIG. And mean. He liked swimming around in his fish tank. He liked gliding in and out of his driftwood tunnel. He liked eating his special briny flakes. One day, a new fish appeared in the tank. He flicked his tail fin and said,

“I am Teensy Fish. What’s your name?”

“**I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!**” Ugly fish chased Teensy Fish around the tank. And then he ate him.

Another day, another fish appeared in the tank. She blew bubbles in the water and said, “Hello there! I am Kissy Fish. What’s your name?”

“**I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!**” Ugly fish chased Kissy Fish around the tank. And then he ate her.

Two days later, two other fish appeared in the tank, and said. “We are Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish. What’s your name?”

“**I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!**” Ugly fish chased Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish around the tank. And then he ate them. Ugly Fish was very satisfied with himself. He swam around in his tank, blowing bubbles. He glided in and out... in and out... in and out...of his driftwood tunnel. He gulped down his special briny flakes. But after a while, the tunnel didn’t seem so fun anymore. The special briny flakes no longer tasted very special. Sigh! Ugly Fish was glum. He said aloud, “**I wish I had someone to play with. Chasing those fish was fun. If only I hadn’t eaten them.**”

At last a new fish appeared in the tank. Ugly Fish blew bubbles. His fins perked up. He swam over to the new fish and said, “**Hello there! I am UGLY FISH. What’s your name?**”

“I am Shiny Fish.”

“**Welcome to my tank. This is my driftwood tunnel.**”

“Nice.”

“**And these are my special briny flakes.**”

“Very nice. I wish I had a tank as nice as this.”

“**There’s plenty of room for both of us. Do you like to play?**”

“Oh, I like to play. And then, I like to eat.”

“**That makes two of us!**”

“Guess again!”

So Ugly Fish got his wish—a new friend to play with.

And Shiny Fish got his wish, too—a nice new home... [*He **EATS** Ugly Fish*] **BURP** all to himself.



# ***Ugly Fish: Tandem Version for SEVEN Tellers/Readers***

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**“I am Teensy Fish. What’s your name?”**

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Teensy Fish around the tank. And then he ate him.

Another day, another fish appeared in the tank. She blew bubbles in the water and said, “Hello there! I am Kissy Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Kissy Fish around the tank. And then he ate her.

Two days later, two other fish appeared in the tank, and said. “We are Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish around the tank. And then he ate them. Ugly Fish was very satisfied with himself. He swam around in his tank, blowing bubbles. He glided in and out... in and out... in and out...of his driftwood tunnel. He gulped down his special briny flakes. But after a while, the tunnel didn’t seem so fun anymore. The special briny flakes no longer tasted very special. Sigh! Ugly Fish was glum. He said aloud, “I wish I had someone to play with. Chasing those fish was fun. If only I hadn’t eaten them.”

At last a new fish appeared in the tank. Ugly Fish blew bubbles. His fins perked up. He swam over to the new fish and said, “Hello there! I am UGLY FISH. What’s your name?”

“I am Shiny Fish.”

“Welcome to my tank. This is my driftwood tunnel.”

“Nice.”

“And these are my special briny flakes.”

“Very nice. I wish I had a tank as nice as this.”

“There’s plenty of room for both of us. Do you like to play?”

“Oh, I like to play. And then, I like to eat.”

“That makes two of us!”

“Guess again!”

So Ugly Fish got his wish—a new friend to play with.

And Shiny Fish got his wish, too—a nice new home... [*He **EATS** Ugly Fish*] **BURP** all to himself.

# ***Ugly Fish: Tandem Version for SEVEN Tellers/Readers***

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“I am Teensy Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Teensy Fish around the tank. And then he ate him.

Another day, another fish appeared in the tank. She blew bubbles in the water and said, “Hello there! I am Kissy Fish. What’s your name?”

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Two days later, two other fish appeared in the tank, and said. “We are Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish. What’s your name?”

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“I am Shiny Fish.”

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“Nice.”

“And these are my special briny flakes.”

“Very nice. I wish I had a tank as nice as this.”

“There’s plenty of room for both of us. Do you like to play?”

“Oh, I like to play. And then, I like to eat.”

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So Ugly Fish got his wish—a new friend to play with.

And Shiny Fish got his wish, too—a nice new home... [*He **EATS** Ugly Fish*] **BURP** all to himself.



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© by Kara LaReau - Copy for **STRIPY FISH** (Read everything **SHADED**.)

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“I am Teensy Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Teensy Fish around the tank. And then he ate him.

Another day, another fish appeared in the tank. She blew bubbles in the water and said, “Hello there! I am Kissy Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Kissy Fish around the tank. And then he ate her.

Two days later, two other fish appeared in the tank, and said. “**We are Stripy Fish and Spotty Fish. What’s your name?**”

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“Very nice. I wish I had a tank as nice as this.”

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# ***Ugly Fish: Tandem Version for SEVEN Tellers/Readers***

© by Kara LaReau - Copy for **SPOTTY FISH** (Read everything **SHADED**.)

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“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Teensy Fish around the tank. And then he ate him.

Another day, another fish appeared in the tank. She blew bubbles in the water and said, “Hello there! I am Kissy Fish. What’s your name?”

“I am UGLY FISH. And there’s only room for one fish in this tank—ME!” Ugly fish chased Kissy Fish around the tank. And then he ate her.

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“And these are my special briny flakes.”

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“Nice.”

“And these are my special briny flakes.”

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