STORY: MATAGINIFALE

Mataginifale was the daughter of King Tihamau. She was a beautiful young lady from the village of Oneonepata, Avatele. Every day she would go down to the seashore and pound tapa in the sunshine. She was well known for painting all the different colours of the fish in the ocean. She would decorate each one in beautiful patterns and colours. It was these patterns that Mataginifale painted of the fish that she also painted on the tapa that she made. One morning a whale swam close to shore where Mataginifale was. Mataginifale did not appreciate the whale coming so close, so she insulted the whale and called it nasty names. The whale was very upset with Mataginifale.

Many days passed and Mataginifale was collecting shells close to shore. The sea was calm and still. The whale saw Mataginifale and wanted her to take back the insults she had said. So, he swam guietly close to shore and swallowed Mataginifale whole.

Mataginifale was in the stomach of the whale for many days, but she was not scared at all. She still had the shells she had gathered and used a shell to scrape at the lining of the whale's stomach. The whale got such a bad stomachache that he landed on a beach in Tonga.

Mataginifale escaped when the whale coughed and spat out Mataginifale on the beach. The kings' servants were nearby when they saw Mataginifale. They ran and told the King about the beautiful young lady on the beach. The King told them to bring Mataginifale to the palace.

When the King saw Mataginifale he instantly fell in love with her, and they married straight away. Mataginifale was able to show the women of Tonga how to give birth naturally. This made the king very happy, and they had many children.

CREATING YOUR BIG BOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- 8 A4 sheets of paper
- Crayons or pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Read the story
- 2. Follow the guidance below to create your big book
- 3. Read the big book to your child
- 4. Ask questions before, during and after the story is read.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK BEFORE. DURING AND AFTER READING

- a. What can you see in this picture? What do you think the story is about?
- What did Mataginifale do every day? b.
- Why did Mataginifale insult the c. whale?
- What did the whale do in return? d.
- e. How did Mataginifale escape the whale's stomach?
- Why did the king fall in love with Mataginifale?



Mataginifala

PAGE 1

Drawing of Mataginifala pounding Ata to make tapa on the seashore of Oneonepata, Avatele.

PAGE 2

Drawing of Mataginifala looking out to sea.

PAGE 3

Drawing of a fish of all shapes, sizes and lots of different colours and Mataginifale painting fish.

PAGE 4

Drawing of a whale swimming close by to Mataginifale while she is pounding tapa.

Drawing of the calm sea and whale swimming near Mataginifale.

PAGE 6

PAGE 5

Drawing of Mataginifale inside the stomach of the whale scraping at his stomach with a shell.

PAGE 7

Picture of Mataginifale sitting on the rocks trying to warm up and the kings servant looking at her from behind the coconut trees.

PAGE 8

Picture of the King and Mataginifale with their baby.

BACK PAGE

Pictures of tapa with fish patterns.





