

Beneath the Turquoise Waters

By Summer Gillett

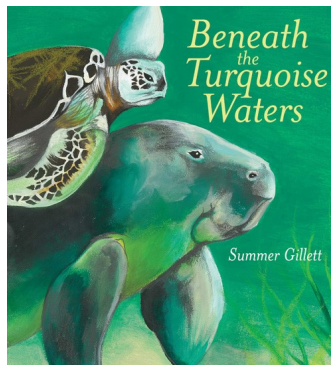
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Set within a seaside paradise, *Beneath the Turquoise Waters* follows the journeys of a newborn baby dugong and baby turtle from their birth and into the outside world.

This gentle tale is accompanied by rich illustrations and follows the babies' childhood through to their own maturity as they too embark on becoming mothers.



Themes:

- Friendship
- Nature / Life Cycles
- Dugongs
- Turtles

Discussion Points:

- By looking at the cover, can you tell what creatures this story is about?
- What do you know about turtles and dugongs? Have you heard of both of them before?
- Can you identify what type of creatures both the turtle and the dugong are?
- What was different about how baby turtle and baby dugong were born?
- Would this difference have anything to do with what 'type' of creatures they are? Explain.
- At what stage of their life do turtles and dugongs leave their mother and venture out on their own?
- What are some of the dangers that baby turtles and baby dugongs might face?
- How do you think baby turtle and baby dugong know each other again when they meet up?
- How did they show their affection for each other?
- How do you think that both baby dugong and baby turtle ended up in the same place to give birth as their mothers? Discuss this as a class.

Activities:

- As a class, conduct a research project into both turtles and dugongs, identifying things such as their life cycle and what they eat. Half the class may like to work on one and the other half of the class on the other. Include five interesting facts that you didn't previously know.
- Re-create your favourite picture from the book, using either paint or pencils.