

## **The Big Fish**

By Pamela Allen

Publisher: Viking/Penguin

ISBN 9780670078974

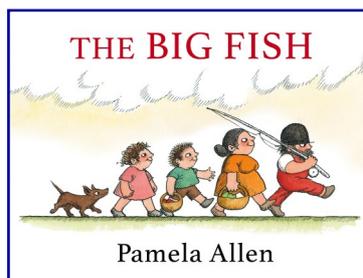
\$24.99

Once upon a time  
a little old man, a little old woman,  
a small boy and a small girl  
went to spend the day by the river.

The little old man wanted to catch a big fish  
and soon there was a tug-tug-tug on his line . . .

Find out what happens next?

From much-loved picture-book creator comes another delightfully playful story for all to share.



### **Themes:**

- Fishing
- Family
- Helping others
- Animals and humans

### **Discussion Points:**

- The family were all going fishing. Is this something that you like to do? If so, where do you fish and what sort of fish do you catch?
- Why do you think people like to fish? List 5 things that are good about fishing.
- Do you think he was actually close to catching a fish? What clues are there?
- What was the song that the old man sang?
- The little old man found himself in trouble. Can you recall in what order the rest of the family came to help him?
- Have you ever been in a position when you have had to help someone in difficulty or someone has had to help you? Is it a natural reaction to want to help others? Discuss.
- How do you think the dog knew that the family needed help?
- How else do animals help people in the community and in the workplace? What characteristics do these animals have? What animal is the most common in these situations?

### **Activities:**

- Find some real life examples of animals helping and rescuing humans.
- As a class, make your own giant fish. Use a variety of materials, especially for the scales. Also make a large sign of the old man's song, 'I wish, I wish, Oh, how I wish I could catch a big fish!'