

Pippin's Big Jump



Some penguins are afraid of the dark.

Some penguins are afraid of creaking icebergs.

But this penguin, Pippin, was afraid of jumping the sea!

"Come on Pippin," said Ma Penguin, gently.

"Watch the other penguins."

Pippin watched nervously as they jumped off the iceberg and played in the cool, blue sea.

"Why don't you have a go, Pippin?" Ma suggested. Pippin stood quietly, shaking with fear.

"Just try," said Ma. "I'll get into the water and you can jump to me."

So Pippin said he would try.

He closed his eyes.

He teetered at the edge.

"After three, Pippin," shouted Ma.

"One... Two... three... JUMP!"

"I can't , I'm too scared!" Pippin sat down and wept.

"I'll never be a proper penguin!"



"You are already," said Ma.

"No, I'm not!" cried Pippin.

"Proper penguins swim and catch fish. How can I catch fish if I'm too scared to jump in the water?"

"It just takes courage," said Ma.

"What's courage?" asked Pippin.

"Can you hear a voice inside you saying 'You can do it!' and another voice saying 'No you can't!'"?

Courage is when you make the 'can do it' voice louder than the 'can't do it voice," Ma explained.

"But it isn't easy, is it?" said Pippin.

"Well, I've got an idea!" Ma replied.

"Sometimes courage is easier to find when we help each other. So why don't we all jump in together?"

Pippin liked that idea very much.



So Ma called the other young penguins to the edge of the iceberg.

They all lined up, side by side.

"After three," shouted Ma.

"One... two... three... JUMP!"

In they jumped! Pippin dipped and dived and splashed and swam.

"Well done!" cheered Ma.

"You've done it, Pippin!"

Pippin was thrilled. He played happily in the water.

"Watch me!" he shouted.



"See how deep I can dive!"

And all the penguins watched as Pippin disappeared below the waves.

Then they waited for him to come back up.

Ma was starting to worry. Then, suddenly, up popped Pippin!

He scrambled on to the iceberg. "What happened?" asked Ma.

"A fish..." coughed Pippin.

"You caught your first fish on your first swim? Well done!" said Ma, proudly.



"No!" said Pippin.

"The fish tired to catch me!"

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Can be ordered at:

http://www.amazon.co.uk/Pippins-Jump-Hopscotch-Hilary-Robinson/dp/0749647108#_