



# Knowledge Organiser    The Morning I Met A Whale by Michael Morpurgo

Can discuss a book that has been read, taking turns and listening to what others have to say. Can ask questions to improve understanding of the text.

Can infer characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions and justify these inferences with evidence from the text. Can identify a main idea from an extract of text.

Be able to justify their views drawing evidence from the text and explain their understanding through presentation and debate.

## Star vocabulary

**Bottle-nose whale** – A beaked whale of variable colour, with a bulbous forehead.

**Prehistoric** – Relating to or denoting the period before written records.

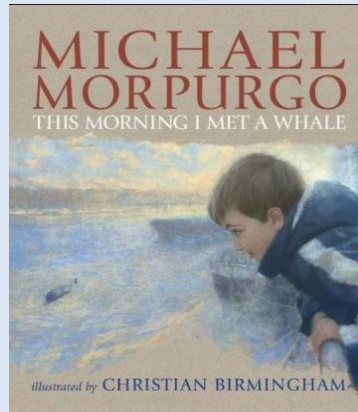
**Shallow** – An area of the sea, a lake or a river where the water is not very deep.

**Abandoned** – Having been deserted or left.

**Sniggering** – Laughing in a half-suppressed, typically scornful way.

**Flounder** – Struggle or stagger clumsily in mud or water.

**Bewildering** - Extremely confusing or difficult to understand.



Battersea  
Bridge



## Genre

Fiction

## Key characters

Young Michael

Bottle-nose whale

## Context

At sunrise, Michael spots a whale on the shores of the Thames. At first, he thinks he must be dreaming but the whale is real, and it brings a message for him – a message to tell the whole world. The whale tells him that the earth's days are numbered and that humans must put right the damage they have done. Within hours, the city and the newspapers learn of London's remarkable visitor. All eyes are on the whale's struggle against the sinking tide. Michael must join his new friend in a race to reach the ocean – and in the race to save the world itself.

## Author – Michael Morpurgo



Michael was born in St Albans on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 1943. He became a primary school teacher after graduating from the University of London. Michael was awarded an OBE from the Queen in 2006. Michael has written over 120 books. Michael writes all his books in exercise books.