

# What to do today

*IMPORTANT! Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.*

## 1. Listen to a reading of *The Whales' Song* by Dyan Sheldon and Gary Blythe.

- Watch this reading of the book <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tJDF3GSrZ9g&t=94s> which shows some of the book's illustrations and / or listen to an audio-only version read by Helena Bonham Carter <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sShJ23J9ZMM> .

## 2. Comprehension

Answer the *Questions* about *The Whales' Song*.

- Listen back to the story if you need to check something.
- Use full sentences for your answers.
- Read all your answers through carefully before you finish.

## 3. Writing: Perfect Gifts

In the story, Lily's Grandma tells her you have to take the whales a special present or gift if you want them to sing.

- Decide what your special present for the whales would be.
- On *My Perfect Gift*, draw and describe your perfect gift.

## Try these Fun-Time Extras

- In the story, Lily has a lovely time with her Grandma. List all the fun things you like doing with your grandparents and other relatives.
- In *The Whales' Song*, Dyan Sheldon uses similes for description – whales as big as hills, whales as peaceful as the moon. On *Similes to Describe Me!* draw a picture of yourself and create three or four really good similes that describe you (My eyes are as green as sea water; I am as tall as a tower and as brave as a lion, etc.)

## Questions

1. How would you describe Lily's Grandma in the story? Say what she looks like and what she is like as a person.

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2. What does Lily's great Uncle Frederick think about the stories that Lily's Grandma tells her?

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3. List three of the things that Great Uncle Frederick says whales were used for in the old days.

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4. What does Lily drop into the water from the end of the old pier? Why does she do that?

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5. What does Great Uncle Frederick say to Lily when he comes down to collect her from the pier at the end of the day?

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6. Do you think Lily really saw the whales or was it all just a dream she had? Explain why you think that.

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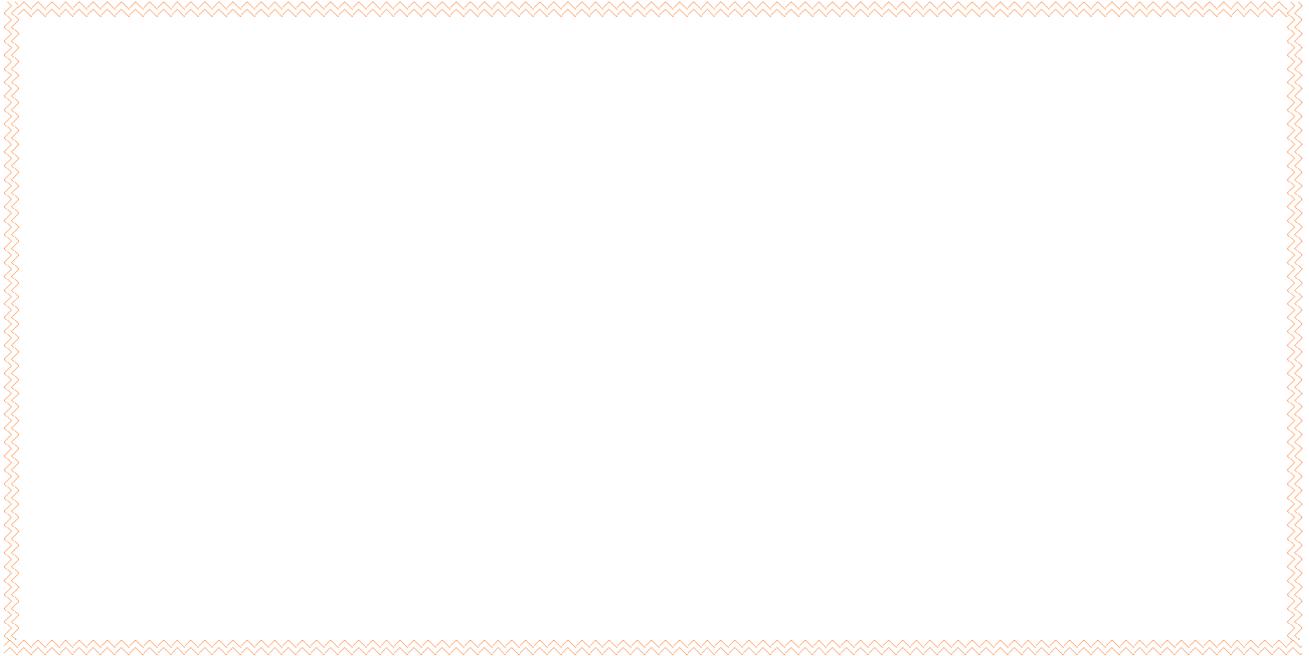
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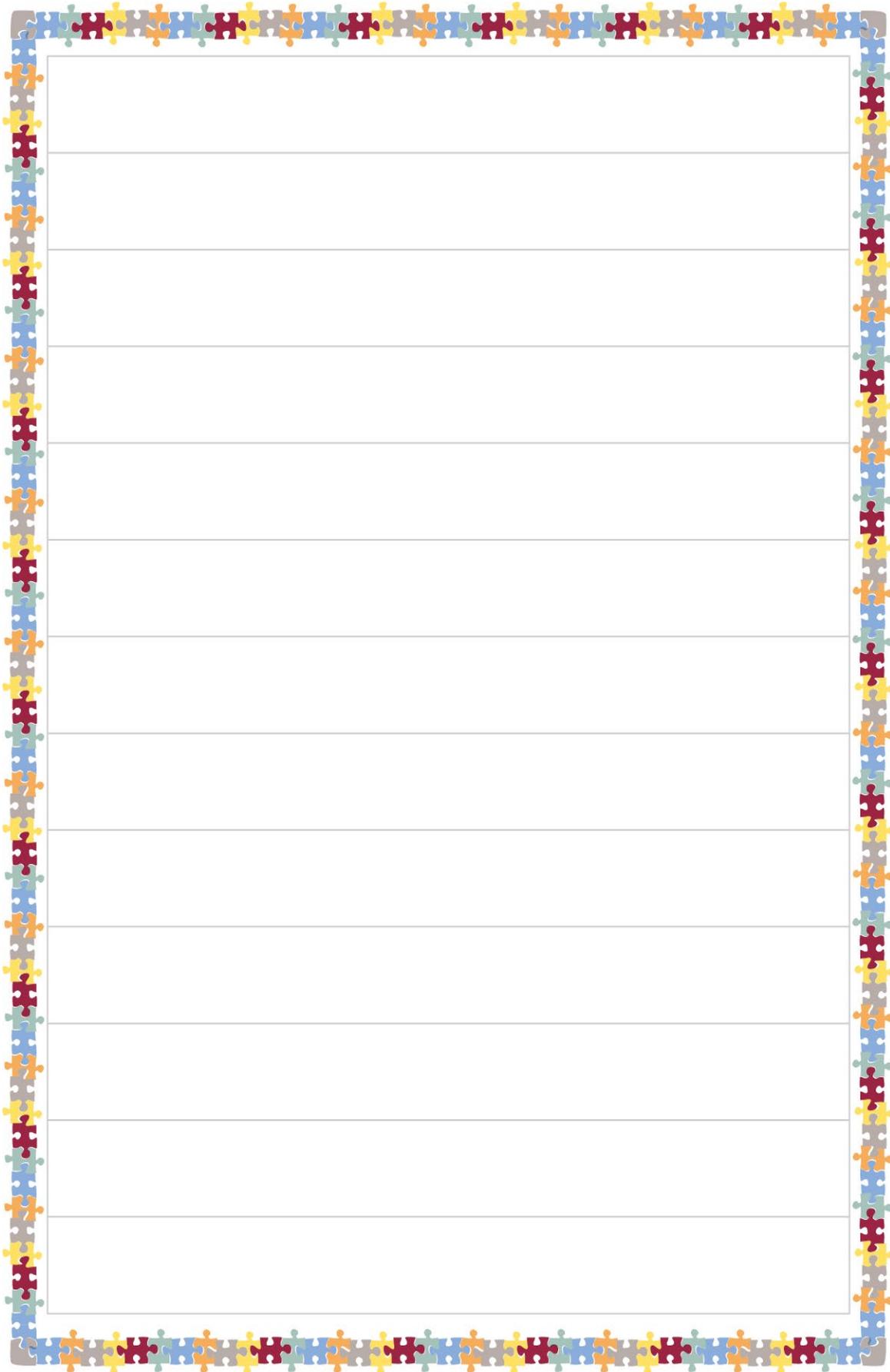
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## My Perfect Gift

- Draw and colour in your special present.
- Use full sentences to describe it and say why it is so special.
- Use your best handwriting and word spacing. Remember to use capital letters and full stops in your writing.

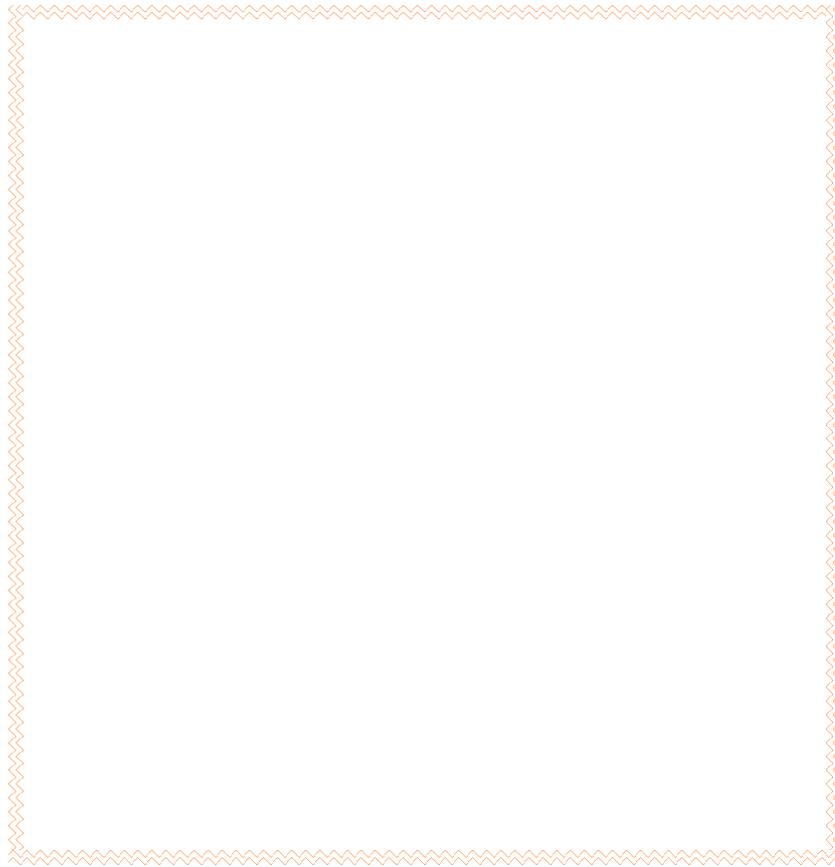


## Fun things I like to do with my grandparents and other relatives



A large white rectangular area with horizontal lines, framed by a decorative border of colorful puzzle pieces. The puzzle pieces are in shades of blue, yellow, red, and grey, arranged in a repeating pattern around the perimeter of the writing area.

## Similes to Describe Me!

A writing area with a colorful puzzle-piece border. The border is composed of interlocking puzzle pieces in shades of blue, yellow, red, and green. Inside the border, there are eight horizontal lines for writing.