

# **Inky's Amazing Escape**

## **By: Sy Montgomery**

### **Illustrated: Amy Schimler-Safford**

**Synopsis:** Inky had been at the New Zealand aquarium since 2014 after being taken in by a fisherman who found him at sea. Inky had been getting used to his new environment, but the staff quickly figured out that he had to be kept amused or he would get bored. Then one night in 2016 Inky, about the size of a basketball, decided he'd had enough. He slithered eight feet across the floor and down a drainpipe more than 160 feet long to his home in the sea.

**Suggested Reading Date:** World Octopus Day – October 8.

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Read an actual news article about inky (primary source). See which facts the author used in the story. (see related websites for links)
- Watch the Seattle Aquarium's Octopus Cam (on 9a-6p, feeding @ 12 & 4p) (link below)
- Create a "KWL" Chart about the Pacific Octopus and then look for information from Seattle Aquarium's Pacific Octopus fact sheet to learn some new things. (link below).

#### **Related Websites:**

- NY Times News Article: <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/14/world/asia/inky-octopus-new-zealand-aquarium.html>
- National Geographic Article: <https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/04/160414-inky-octopus-escapes-intelligence/>
- Guardian Video about Inky: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/video/2016/apr/13/inky-octopus-escapes-tank-video>
- Seattle Aquarium Octopus Cam: <https://www.seattleaquarium.org/live-cams/octopus-cam>
- Aquarium of the Pacific Tentacles and Ink Cam (Long Beach,CA): <https://explore.org/livecams/aquarium-of-the-pacific/tentacles-and-ink>
- Seattle Aquarium Pacific Octopus Fact Sheet: <https://www.seattleaquarium.org/animals/giant-pacific-octopus>

#### **Text to Text Connections:**

*Sea Otter* by Suzi Eszterhas

*Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas* by Lynne Cox

*Star of the Sea* by Janet Halfmann

*Lifesize Ocean* by Anita Ganeri

**Created By: Dave Sonnen**