

# The Rainbow Fish

Far out in the sea lived a fish. No ordinary 10  
fish, however. He was the most beautiful fish in 19  
the entire ocean. His scales shimmered with all 27  
the colors of the rainbow. 32

The other fish liked his colorful scales and 40  
called him Rainbow Fish. "Come on, play with us, 49  
Rainbow Fish!" But Rainbow Fish was proud and 57  
swam past them. 60

A little blue fish swam along behind him. 68  
"Rainbow Fish, wait for me! Please give me one of 78  
your glittering scales. They are so beautiful, and 86  
you have got so many!" 91

"Give you one of my scales? What are you	100
thinking of? cried Rainbow Fish. "Get away from	108
me!"	109
Shocked, the little blue fish swam away.	116
Still excited, he told his friends about it.	124
From then on nobody wanted any more to do with	134
Rainbow Fish. They turned away when he swam	142
past them.	144
What use were Rainbow Fish's beautiful	150
scales if they were no longer admired by anyone?	159
Now he was the loneliest fish in the entire ocean!	169
"I'm so beautiful. Why doesn't anyone like me?"	177
"In a cave behind the coral reef lives the	186
wise octopus. Perhaps he can help you," said the	195

starfish.	196
Rainbow Fish found the cave. It was very	204
dark here. He could hardly see anything. Then	212
suddenly he saw two glowing eyes.	218
"I have been expecting you," said the	225
octopus in a deep voice. Listen to my advice: give	235
every fish one of your glittering scales. Then you	244
may not be the most beautiful fish in the ocean,	254
but you will be happy again."	260
"Give away my scales? My beautiful	266
glittering scales?" thought Rainbow Fish,	271
horrified. "Never! No. How could I be happy	279
without them?"	281
Suddenly he felt the light touch of a fin.	290

The little blue fish was back! "Rainbow Fish, 298  
please don't be angry. Please give me one of your 308  
glittering scales, a small one." 313

Rainbow Fish hesitated. "A very, very small 320  
scale," he thought. "Why not, I will hardly miss 329  
it." 330

Rainbow Fish carefully pulled off the very 337  
smallest of his glittering scales. "Here, I'll give 345  
you this one! But now leave me in peace!" 354

"Thank you, thank you very much!" burred 361  
the little blue fish excitedly. "You are kind, 369  
Rainbow Fish." Rainbow Fish felt quite strange. 376

The little blue fish darted through the 383  
water with his glittering scale. Soon Rainbow Fish 391

was surrounded by other fish. All of them wanted 400

to have a glittering scale. Rainbow Fish shared 408

out his scales and felt very happy. 415

“Come on, Rainbow Fish, come and play with 423

us!” called the others. 427

“I’m coming!” said Rainbow Fish and went 434

happily with the other fish. 439

## Directions:

Set a timer for one minute and read as much of the story as you can, including the title. Stop when the timer goes off and make a mark where you ended. Count and record the number of words you read. Reset the timer and go back to the beginning and read it again, marking the spot where you ended this time. Count and record the total again. Repeat this timed fluency activity four times and you'll be surprised at how much your fluency increases!

Number of words read correctly:

1	2	3	4