

Marlie Blue

A Little Marlin with a Big Dream



Big dreams begin with one little try.

A story for little dreamers and their grown-ups



Hello, Marlie!

A big, splashy dream

In a bright blue ocean lived a little marlin
named Marlie Blue.

She had a shiny blue tail, a long, pointy nose,
and a very pink bow.

And she had a dream.

A big, splashy dream.



One little try.

Over the waves!

“I want to jump over the waves!” said Marlie.

“Over them?” asked Coco the Crab.

“OVER them!”

Tilly the Turtle smiled. “Let’s start with one little try.”

Swish. Whoosh. ZOOM!



PLOP!

A very soggy bow

Marlie wiggled her tail.
She zipped toward the sunshine.

Swish. Whoosh.

PLOP!

One tiny splash. One very soggy bow.

“That was more of a plop,” said Coco.

Marlie giggled. Then she sighed.



Little tries help us learn.

Try a little kindness

“Maybe I’m too little,” whispered Marlie.

Tilly paddled close.

“Little tries help us learn.”

“And I liked your plop,” said Coco.

Marlie’s smile came back.



Push. Puff. Phew!

Coco's little problem

Then Coco gave a little grunt.

His favorite empty shell was stuck in a dip in
the sand.

He pushed. He puffed.

It would not budge.

“May I help?” asked Marlie.



A little help. A big smile.

Better together

Marlie swam beside Coco.
Together, they nudged the shell.

A little push.
A little wiggle.

POP!

The shell slid free.

**“Little things can do big things!”
cheered Coco.**



Down... down... down...

One more little try

Marlie looked up at the waves.
Her tummy felt fluttery.

“I can try again,” she said.

She swam down...
down...
down...

Just a little deeper.



SWISH. WHOOSH.

Ready, steady...

Marlie wiggled her tail.

Swish.

She followed a trail of bubbles.

Whoosh.

“Go, Marlie!” called her friends.

Ready... steady...



ZOOM!

Her very first leap

ZOOM!

Up went Marlie!
Past the bubbles.
Over a little wave.
Into the bright, pink sky!

Then... SPLASH!

“I did it!” she cheered.



Good night, little dreamer.

A little brave heart

It was not the biggest jump in the ocean.

It was Marlie's first.

Coco clicked his claws.

Tilly twirled.

As the sky turned soft and sleepy, Marlie
snuggled near her friends.

One little try. One big, happy heart.

Your little brave moment

What is one thing you would like to try?

Who could you help along the way?

Can you make your very best...

Swish. Whoosh. ZOOM!

Big dreams can begin with one little try.

Be kind. Be brave. Be you.

The Real Marlie Blue[♥]

A true story from the ocean that inspired this book.

One day, while fishing offshore of Charleston, South Carolina, my boat encountered something incredibly rare — a baby blue marlin.

It was so small it fit in the palm of my hand, with its beautiful sail already showing. We carefully took a quick photo, admired this amazing little fish, and released it back into the ocean to grow up and chase big dreams.

This moment reminded me that even the biggest, strongest fish in the ocean once started out small. And just like Marlie Blue, big things really do begin with one little try.

Joey Cagle

JOEY CAGLE
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

The real Marlie Blue[♥]

*Same tiny fish.
Bigger dreams![♥]*





From a Tiny Fish to a Big Dream

The photo you see here is the real baby blue marlin that inspired Marlie Blue.

Encounters with baby blue marlin are extremely rare. Most people never get to see one in their lifetime.

This special moment off Charleston reminded us that something small today can grow into something extraordinary tomorrow.



The original photo taken offshore Charleston, SC

From this...



A tiny baby blue marlin (only a few inches long)



To a growing marlin (chasing bigger dreams)



To a powerful adult (up to 10 feet or more!)



Fun Facts About Blue Marlin



Super Fast!

Blue marlin can swim over 60 miles per hour!



Really Big!

They can grow over 10 feet long and weigh more than 1,000 pounds.



Live in Warm Oceans

Blue marlin are found around the world in tropical and subtropical waters.



Amazing Jumpers

They can leap high out of the water — sometimes over 20 feet!

"Something small today can grow into something extraordinary." ♥