

A Fish Out Of Water by Helen Palmer: Storybook

Video: https://youtu.be/yR_mkg_Vxlo

Quizlet: https://quizlet.com/_8ayeok?x=1qqt&i=fo89z

How to use:

Step 1: Look at [the vocabulary on page 1](#). Are there any words you don't know? Check your dictionary.

Step 2: Look at [the main idea question on page 1](#). Watch the video and answer the question. [Check your answer on page 2](#).

Step 3: Look at [the detail questions on page 3](#). Watch the video and answer the questions. [Check your answers on page 4](#). Did you get anything wrong? Re-watch the video and check again if you had any wrong answers.

Step 4: [Practice the vocabulary on Quizlet](#).

Step 5: [Look at the text on page 5](#). Read the text, and write in the missing words. (Guess.) If you need extra help, you can use [the word bank on page 8](#). Listen to the video again to check your answer. Look at [the answers on page 9](#) as a final check. If you got anything wrong, listen again.

Step 6: Search for "[A Fish Out of Water by Helen Palmer](#)" on Youtube.com. There are many different videos of different people reading this book. Each person will have a different voice and a different accent. Listen to several different people to get used to different voices and accents.

Step 7: Buy a copy of this book. Read this book aloud to a child that you know. Practice reading aloud many times.

Vocabulary

all right, at all, at last, at once, box, bowl, call, cellar, crash, dear, door, downtown, fast, fed, feed, fire, fire truck, fireman, fish, flower, from now on, funny, grab, grow, hurry, jump, just the thing, oh dear, once, phone, policeman, pool, poor, pot, radio, ride, so much, splash, spot, tail, too bad, tub, truck, uptown, very well, yell

Names: Mr. Carp (person), Otto (fish)

Main Idea Question:

[Watch the video](#).

What problem did the boy have? How did he solve his problem in the end?

Answer (Main idea question)

What problem did the boy have? *His fish kept growing bigger and bigger.*

How did he solve his problem in the end? *He called Mr. Carp on the phone.*

Detail Questions:

[Watch the video.](#)

1. What did Mr. Carp tell the boy not to do?
2. After the fish bowl, where did the boy put Otto?
3. Where did the boy grab Otto by when he was running up to the tub?
4. After the door crashed open, where did Otto go?
5. Who did the boy call for help first?
6. Who did the policeman call for help?
7. Where did the firemen bring Otto?
8. How did the people feel about Otto being in the pool?
9. When Mr. Carp came to the pool, what did he have in his hand?
10. When Mr. Carp jumped out of the pool, what did he have in his hand?

Answers (Detail Questions):

1. What did Mr. Carp tell the boy not to do?
Not to feed the fish too much.
2. After the fish bowl, where did the boy put Otto?
The flower bowl
3. Where did the boy grab Otto by when he was running up to the tub?
He grabbed him by the tail.
4. After the door crashed open, where did Otto go?
Into the cellar
5. Who did the boy call for help first?
He called a policeman.
6. Who did the policeman call for help?
The firemen
7. Where did the firemen bring Otto?
To the pool.
8. How did the people feel about Otto being in the pool?
They didn't like Otto in the pool.
9. When Mr. Carp came to the pool, what did he have in his hand?
A black box
10. When Mr. Carp jumped out of the pool, what did he have in his hand?
A little fish bowl

Write in the missing words. [Watch the video.](#)

A Fish Out Of Water by Helen Palmer

“This little fish,” I said to Mr. Carp, “I want him. I like him. And he likes me. I will call him Otto.”

“Very well,” said Mr. Carp. “Now I will tell you how to feed (1)_____.”

Then Mr. Carp told me: “When you feed a fish, never feed him a lot. So much and no more! Never more than a spot, or something may happen! You never know

(2)_____.”

So I took Otto home.

I gave him some (3)_____.

I did not give him much. Just one little (4)_____!

But this did not make Otto happy.

He wanted more food.

He had to have (5)_____.

Poor Otto!

He just HAD to have more!

I knew what Mr. Carp had told me: “Never feed him a lot. Never more than a spot! Or something may happen. You never know what.”

But I gave Otto all the food in the (6)_____.

Then something DID happen.

My little Otto began to (7)_____.

I saw him grow.

I saw him grow and grow.

Soon he was too big for his little fish (8)_____.

There was just one thing to do.

I put Otto into the flower bowl.

“There, Otto,” I said. “This will hold you.”

But, no!

The flower bowl did not hold him.

Otto went right on (9)_____!

This was not funny.

Not funny at all!

His tail was growing right out of the (10)_____.

I grabbed the flower bowl.

I ran with it.

“Otto,” I said, “I know just where to put you. Then you will be all right.”

I put him in a big (11)_____.

But Otto was not all right.

I saw him grow some more.

Very soon he was too big for the pot.

I put him in pot after pot.

He was growing so (12)_____.

Poor Otto!

My poor little fish!

Oh, why did I feed him so much?

“Otto,” I said, “stop growing!

(13)_____!”

But Otto could not stop growing.

He was growing all the (14)_____.

Very soon I ran out of pots.

Otto had to have (15)_____.

There was just one thing to do.

I did it.

I grabbed him.

I grabbed him by the (16)_____.

I ran with him.

Up to the tub!

The tub is big.

It can hold lots of (17)_____.

At last!

“There, Otto,” I said. “This tub holds my father. This tub holds my mother. So, it will hold you.”

But the tub did not hold him at all.

He went right on (18)_____.

“Oh, Otto,” I said, “what can I do now?”
 Then--crash!
 The door went down.
 Crash!
 Otto went down.
 I went down, too.
 Oh, what a (19)_____!
 Down went the water into the cellar.
 And down went Otto, too.
 I had to do something fast.
 I grabbed the (20)_____.
 I called a policeman.
 “Help! Help!” I said. “I fed my fish too much. Mr. Carp told me not to. But I did!”
 “What?” said the policeman. “Mr. Carp told you not to but you did? Too bad! I will come at once.”
 The policeman (21)_____.
 “My fish went that way,” I said. “He is down in the (22)_____.”
 The policeman ran down with me.
 “What a fish!” he said. “He is much too big to keep in a cellar. We will have to get him out.”
 We had to work and work to get Otto out.
 Poor Otto!
 Oh, why did I feed him too much?
 Mr. Carp told me something would happen.
 And it did. It did!
 Now we had Otto out of the cellar.
 But now Otto had no (23)_____.
 No water at all!
 “A fish has to have water,” I said to the policeman. “We must take him to water. Get help! Call for help on the (24)_____.”
 The policeman called on the radio.
 He called for the (25)_____.

“Help! Help!” he said. “A boy has fed a fish too much!”
 “A boy has fed a fish too much? We will come at once.”
 The fireman came.
 They all helped to get Otto up.
 “But where can we take him?” I asked.
 “Uptown? (26)_____?”
 “To the pool!” yelled the fireman.
 “To the pool!” I yelled. “And please hurry!”
 They did (27)_____.
 The fire truck with Otto came right up to the (28)_____.
 The fireman yelled, “Every one get out of the pool! This fish is going in.”
 Down into the pool went Otto.
 Into the pool with a big, big splash!
 Now I was (29)_____.
 Now, at last, my Otto had water.
 Lots of water!
 This big pool was just the thing.
 This big pool would hold him.
 But Otto went right on (30)_____.
 And no one wanted Otto in the pool.
 They did not like Otto at all.
 “You take that fish out of here!” they yelled.
 There was just one thing to do.
 I did it. I ran to the (31)_____.
 I called Mr. Carp.
 “Please, please help me!” I said. “I fed Otto too much.”
 “Oh dear!” said Mr. Carp. “So you fed him too much! I knew you would. I always say ‘don’t’ but you boys always do. Yes, I will (32)_____.”
 Then Mr. Carp came.
 He had a black box in his (33)_____.
 he had a lot of other things, too.

“What are you going to do, Mr. Carp?” I
 asked him.
 But Mr. Carp said (34)_____.
 He just went right up to the pool.
 He took his black box with him and all the
 other things, too.
 SPLASH!
 Mr. Carp jumped into the
 (35)_____.
 SPLASH!
 Now Otto went down, too!
 All I could see was his (36)_____.
 I could not see Mr. Carp at all.
 What was going on down there?
 Where were they doing down there in the
 water?
 Now I could see (37)_____.
 Not Otto.
 Not Mr. Carp.
 Nothing at all.

Would I see my Otto again?
 Would I see Mr. Carp again?
 “Mr. Carp, Mr. Carp!” I yelled. “What are
 you doing? Are you all right?”
 Then up jumped Mr. Carp.
 In his hand there was a little fish
 (38)_____.
 In the bowl was my Otto!
 Mr. Carp had made him little again.
 “Don’t ask me how I did it,” he said. “But
 here is your (39)_____.”
 “And please, from now on,” said Mr. Carp,
 “PLEASE don’t feed him too much. Just so
 much, and no more!”
 Now that is what I always do.
 Now I feed Otto so much and no more.
 Never more than a spot or something may
 happen.
 And now I know (40)_____!

Word bank (some words may be used more than once)

box, bowl, came, come, cellar, downtown, fast, fireman, food, grow, growing, hand, happy,
him, hurry, more, nothing, phone, please, pool, pot, radio, ride, spot, tail, time, top, water, what

Answers (Write in the words)

A Fish Out Of Water by Helen Palmer

“This little fish,” I said to Mr. Carp, “I want him. I like him. And he likes me. I will call him Otto.”

“Very well,” said Mr. Carp. “Now I will tell you how to feed (1)him.”

Then Mr. Carp told me: “When you feed a fish, never feed him a lot. So much and no more! Never more than a spot, or something may happen! You never know (2)what.”

So I took Otto home.

I gave him some (3)food.

I did not give him much. Just one little (4)spot!

But this did not make Otto happy.

He wanted more food.

He had to have (5)more.

Poor Otto!

He just HAD to have more!

I knew what Mr. Carp had told me: “Never feed him a lot. Never more than a spot! Or something may happen. You never know what.”

But I gave Otto all the food in the (6)box.

Then something DID happen.

My little Otto began to (7)grow.

I saw him grow.

I saw him grow and grow.

Soon he was too big for his little fish (8)bowl.

There was just one thing to do.

I put Otto into the flower bowl.

“There, Otto,” I said. “This will hold you.”

But, no!

The flower bowl did not hold him.

Otto went right on (9)growing!

This was not funny.

Not funny at all!

His tail was growing right out of the (10)top.

I grabbed the flower bowl.

I ran with it.

“Otto,” I said, “I know just where to put you. Then you will be all right.”

I put him in a big (11)pot.

But Otto was not all right.

I saw him grow some more.

Very soon he was too big for the pot.

I put him in pot after pot.

He was growing so (12)fast.

Poor Otto!

My poor little fish!

Oh, why did I feed him so much?

“Otto,” I said, “stop growing! (13)Please!”

But Otto could not stop growing.

He was growing all the (14)time.

Very soon I ran out of pots.

Otto had to have (15)water.

There was just one thing to do.

I did it.

I grabbed him.

I grabbed him by the (16)tail.

I ran with him.

Up to the tub!

The tub is big.

It can hold lots of (17)water.

At last!

“There, Otto,” I said. “This tub holds my father. This tub holds my mother. So, it will hold you.”

But the tub did not hold him at all.

He went right on (18)growing.

“Oh, Otto,” I said, “what can I do now?”

Then--crash!

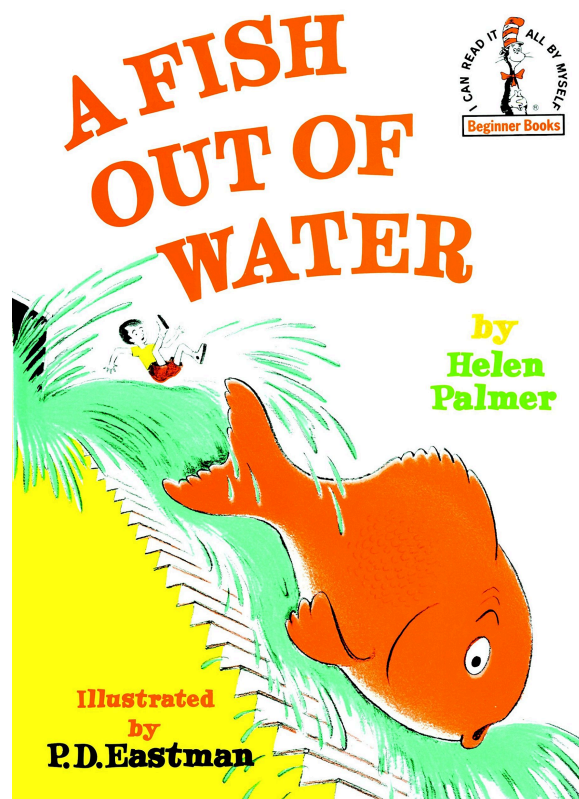
The door went down.

Crash!

Otto went down.
 I went down, too.
 Oh, what a (19)ride!
 Down went the water into the cellar.
 And down went Otto, too.
 I had to do something fast.
 I grabbed the (20)phone.
 I called a policeman.
 "Help! Help!" I said. "I fed my fish too much. Mr. Carp told me not to. But I did!"
 "What?" said the policeman. "Mr. Carp told you not to but you did? Too bad! I will come at once."
 The policeman (21)came.
 "My fish went that way," I said. "He is down in the (22)cellar."
 The policeman ran down with me.
 "What a fish!" he said. "He is much too big to keep in a cellar. We will have to get him out."
 We had to work and work to get Otto out.
 Poor Otto!
 Oh, why did I feed him too much?
 Mr. Carp told me something would happen.
 And it did. It did!
 Now we had Otto out of the cellar.
 But now Otto had no (23)water.
 No water at all!
 "A fish has to have water," I said to the policeman. "We must take him to water. Get help! Call for help on the (24)radio."
 The policeman called on the radio.
 He called for the (25)firemen.
 "Help! Help!" he said. "A boy has fed a fish too much!"
 "A boy has fed a fish too much? We will come at once."
 The fireman came.
 They all helped to get Otto up.

"But where can we take him?" I asked.
 "Uptown? (26)Downtown?"
 "To the pool!" yelled the fireman.
 "To the pool!" I yelled. "And please hurry!"
 They did (27)hurry.
 The fire truck with Otto came right up to the (28)pool.
 The fireman yelled, "Every one get out of the pool! This fish is going in."
 Down into the pool went Otto.
 Into the pool with a big, big splash!
 Now I was (29)happy.
 Now, at last, my Otto had water.
 Lots of water!
 This big pool was just the thing.
 This big pool would hold him.
 But Otto went right on (30)growing.
 And no one wanted Otto in the pool.
 They did not like Otto at all.
 "You take that fish out of here!" they yelled.
 There was just one thing to do.
 I did it. I ran to the (31)phone.
 I called Mr. Carp.
 "Please, please help me!" I said. "I fed Otto too much."
 "Oh dear!" said Mr. Carp. "So you fed him too much! I knew you would. I always say 'don't' but you boys always do. Yes, I will (32)come."
 Then Mr. Carp came.
 He had a black box in his (33)hand.
 he had a lot of other things, too.
 "What are you going to do, Mr. Carp?" I asked him.
 But Mr. Carp said (34)nothing.
 He just went right up to the pool.
 He took his black box with him and all the other things, too.
 SPLASH!

Mr. Carp jumped into the (35)pool.
 SPLASH!
 Now Otto went down, too!
 All I could see was his (36)tail.
 I could not see Mr. Carp at all.
 What was going on down there?
 Where were they doing down there in the water?
 Now I could see (37)nothing.
 Not Otto.
 Not Mr. Carp.
 Nothing at all.
 Would I see my Otto again?
 Would I see Mr. Carp again?
 “Mr. Carp, Mr. Carp!” I yelled. “What are you doing? Are you all right?”
 Then up jumped Mr. Carp.
 In his hand there was a little fish (38)bowl.
 In the bowl was my Otto!
 Mr. Carp had made him little again.
 “Don’t ask me how I did it,” he said. “But here is your (39)fish.”
 “And please, from now on,” said Mr. Carp, “PLEASE don’t feed him too much. Just so much, and no more!”
 Now that is what I always do.
 Now I feed Otto so much and no more.
 Never more than a spot or something may happen.
 And now I know (40)what!



Vocabulary

all right - safe or well:

I'm all right, thanks. How are you

at all - in any way:

He hasn't changed at all.

at last - finally:

At last, I've found a pair of jeans that actually fit.

at once - immediately:

I knew at once that I would like it here.

box - a square or rectangular container:

This is a cardboard box.

bowl - a round, deep dish used for holding soup and other food:

This is a bowl of soup.

call - to give someone or something a particular name:

I want to call the baby Alex.

call - to telephone someone:

He called me every night while he was away.

cellar - a room under the floor of a building

crash - a sudden, loud noise made when something falls or breaks:

I heard a crash and hurried into the kitchen.

dear - A dear person is someone who you know and like very much:

my dear Peter

door - the part of a building, room, vehicle, or piece of furniture that you open or close to get inside it or out of it:

Please shut the door behind you.

downtown - in or to the central part or main business area of a city:

Let's go to downtown Chicago.

fed - past (V2) and past participle (V3) of feed:

I feed my fish every day. Yesterday, I fed my fish. I have fed my fish for a long time.

feed - to give food to a person, group, or animal:

I will feed Simone's cat while she is away.

fast - moving or happening quickly:

We ran as fast as we could.

fire - heat, light, and flames that are produced when something burns:

Fire is one of the main dangers of smoking in the home.

fire truck - a vehicle for carrying firemen and equipment for stopping large fires

fireman - a man whose job is to stop fires burning

fish - an animal that lives only in water and swims using its tail and fins (= thin, triangular parts):

Are there any fish in the pond?

flower - the attractive, coloured part of a plant where the seeds grow:

This is a pretty pink flower.

from now on - starting now and continuing into the future:

We will be good friends from now on.

funny - making you smile or laugh:

It's not funny. Don't laugh!

grab - to take hold of something or someone suddenly:

He grabbed my arm and pulled me away.

grow - to develop and become bigger or taller as time passes:

Children grow very quickly.

hurry - to move or do things more quickly than normal or to make someone do this:

Please hurry, the train is about to leave.

jump - to push your body up and away from the ground using your feet and legs:

The children were jumping up and down with excitement.

just the thing - exactly what is needed:

A week's rest would be just the thing for her.

Oh dear - used to express surprise and disappointment:

Oh dear! I forgot my keys!

once - one time:

It's only snowed once or twice this year.

phone - a piece of equipment that is used to talk to someone who is in another place:

Would someone please answer the phone?

policeman - a man who is a member of the police

pool - an area of water that has been made for people to swim in:

The hotel has two outdoor pools.

poor - used to show sympathy for someone:

That cold sounds terrible, you poor thing.

pot - a round container, usually used for storing things or cooking:

These are pots and pans.

radio - a piece of equipment for sending and receiving messages by sound

ride - a journey riding a bicycle, motorcycle, or horse or something else:

He's gone out for a ride on his bike.

so much - an amount that you do not state exactly:

By the time you've paid so much for the ferry and so much for the train fare, it would be cheaper to go by plane.

splash - the sound of something falling into or moving in water:

They sat listening to the splash of raindrops on the lake.

spot - a small amount of something:

We went for a spot of lunch.

tail - the long, narrow part that sticks out at the back of an animal's body:

The dog's pleased to see you - he's wagging his tail.

too bad - used to say that you are sorry about a situation:

"He didn't get the job." "Oh, that's too bad."

tub - a large container that you fill with water and sit in to wash

truck - a large road vehicle for carrying goods from place to place:

The truck jerked forward.

uptown - in or to the northern part of a city:
She lives uptown.

very well - a way of saying yes to someone or of agreeing to do what someone asks:

"Can't I stay for five minutes longer?" "Oh, very well."

yell - to shout something very loudly:

The policeman yelled at them to stop.