

Contact: Katherine Miller
Sylvan Dell Publishing
(877) 958-2600
KatherineMiller@SylvanDellPublishing.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New SeaWorld Orca Creates National Interest in Marine Mammals

Mt. Pleasant, S.C. (Sept. 20, 2006) – At 3:23 p.m. on September 18, 2006, SeaWorld welcomed the newest member of its orca family to Orlando, causing interest in marine mammals to peak across the country.

“Although the sex—and name—of the baby orca are not yet determined, I’m very excited to welcome the new little one, and I hope that families looking for information about marine mammals can find the best resources available.” explains marine mammal expert Loran Wlodarski.

Wlodarski has written six educational books for SeaWorld and has been published in “Grolier’s Encyclopedia for Children” and “The Marine Mammal Encyclopedia.” He believes his latest picture book, “If a Dolphin Were a Fish,” will help children understand how special marine mammals are.

Written for children ages four through eight, “Dolphin” is illustrated by Florida artist Laurie Allen Klein and tells the story of Delphina the dolphin as she imagines that she is a fish, a turtle, a bird, an octopus, a shark and even a manatee. The picture book has also been vetted for scientific by the South Carolina Aquarium and is part of the Accelerated Reader program used in over 50,000 schools and libraries.

“Another good picture book families can share is ‘Water Beds: Sleeping in the Ocean’ by Gail Langer Karwoski,” Wlodarski continues. “Gail studied the sleeping habits of marine mammals for six years before writing her book, and SeaWorld has verified that it is scientifically accurate.”

“Water Beds,” also published by Sylvan Dell Publishing, is part of the Accelerated Reader program and has just received a *Learning Magazine* 2007 Teacher’s Choice Award. It is also part of the Accelerated Reader program, has received a 2005 Mom’s Choice Award and has been reviewed by *School Library Journal*, *Science Books & Films* and *NSTA Recommends*.

Readers can ask for “If a Dolphin Were a Fish,” “Water Beds” or any other Sylvan Dell title at their favorite local or online bookstore. For more information about Sylvan Dell or Loran Wlodarski, please call Katherine Miller at (877) 958-2600 or visit www.SylvanDellPublishing.com.

#

Contact: Katherine Miller
Sylvan Dell Publishing
(877) 958-2600
KatherineMiller@SylvanDellPublishing.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New SeaWorld Orca Creates National Interest

Mt. Pleasant, S.C. (Sept. 20, 2006) – At 3:23 pm on September 18, 2006, SeaWorld welcomed the newest member of its orca family to Orlando, causing interest in marine mammals to peak across the country.

“Although the sex—and name—of the baby orca are not yet determined, I’m very excited to welcome the new little one, and I hope that families looking for information about marine mammals can find the best resources available.” explains marine mammal expert Loran Wlodarski.

Wlodarski has written six educational books for SeaWorld and has been published in “Grolier’s Encyclopedia for Children” and “The Marine Mammal Encyclopedia.” He believes his latest picture book, “If a Dolphin Were a Fish,” will help children understand how special marine mammals are.

In honor of this momentous birth, Wlodarski has listed some killer facts on these amazing marine mammals:

- All dolphins, porpoises and whales make up the scientific order Cetacea, which means “whale.”
- Dolphins are in the Delphinidae family, which is part of the order Cetacea. Killer whales are the largest member of this family. Because dolphins are still in the Cetacea order, killer whales are both whales and dolphins at the same time!
- Because they hunt and kill other types of whales, they are called killer whales.
- Killer whales eat just about anything found in the ocean, from different types of fish to penguins to walrus and even blue whales, the largest animal in the ocean today. In fact, a moose was once found in the stomach contents of a killer whale!
- Killer whales are also called orcas. This name comes from their scientific name, *Orcinus orca*. *Orcinus* refers to a mythological god of the underworld while *orca* is Latin for the shape of a barrel or cask, a reference to the shape of their bodies.
- Killer whales have between 40 to 56 teeth that are shaped like ice cream cones. They use their teeth to rip and tear apart their prey—not to chew—but only grow one set, so if a tooth falls out it is irreplaceable.

MEDIA ALERT: The following information is supplied from Sylvan Dell Publishing—not SeaWorld—for use in any radio format, whether it is read on-air or announced as a “quiz.” Complimentary copies of “If a Dolphin Were a Fish” are available as promotional give-aways upon request. Please contact Katherine Miller at (877) 958-2600 or KatherineMiller@SylvanDellPublishing.com.

#