

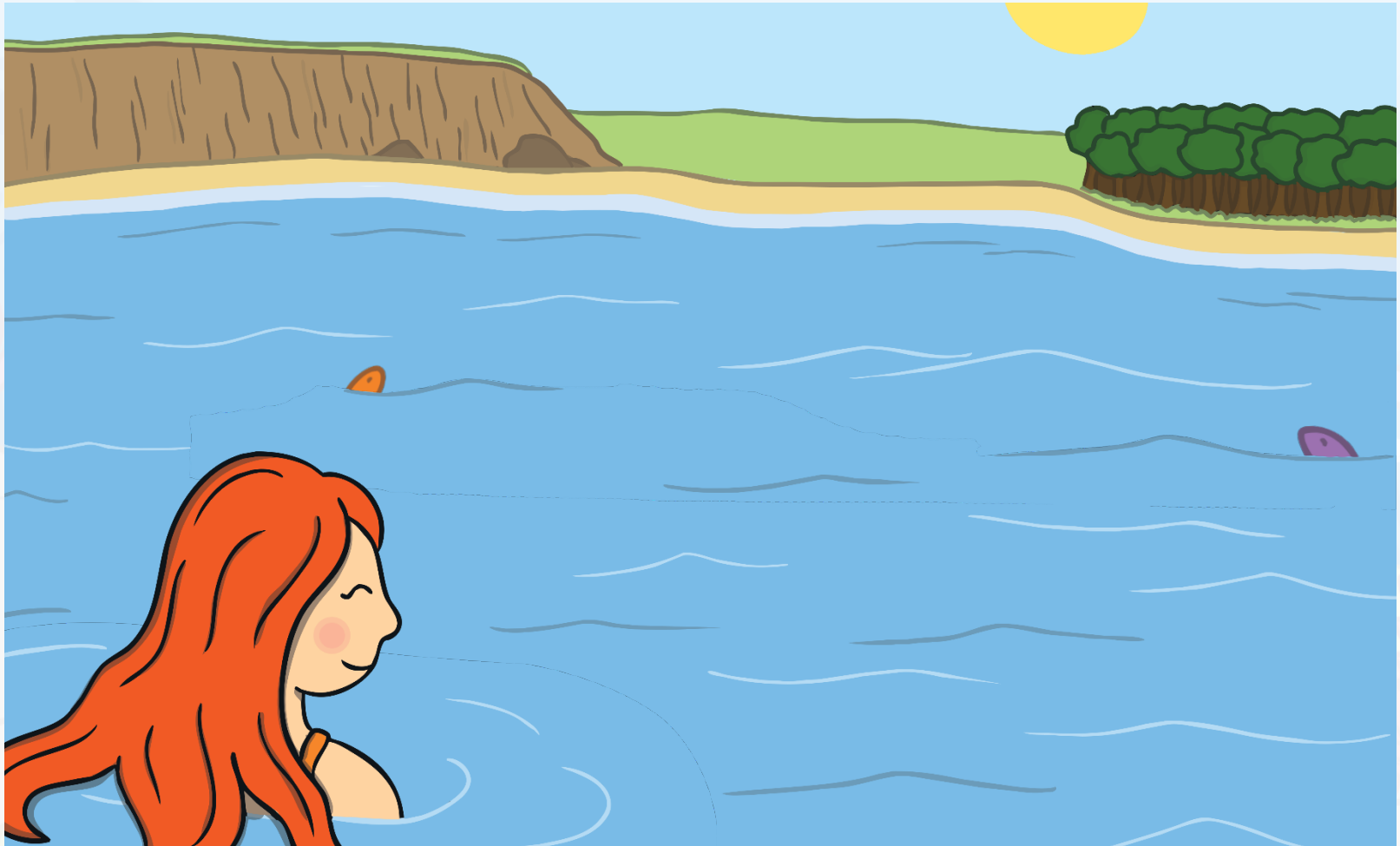
The Little Mermaid



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Long ago there lived a sea king in a coral palace at the bottom of the sea. He had six mermaid daughters. While five of them were happy, his youngest daughter Ariel, wasn't very happy.

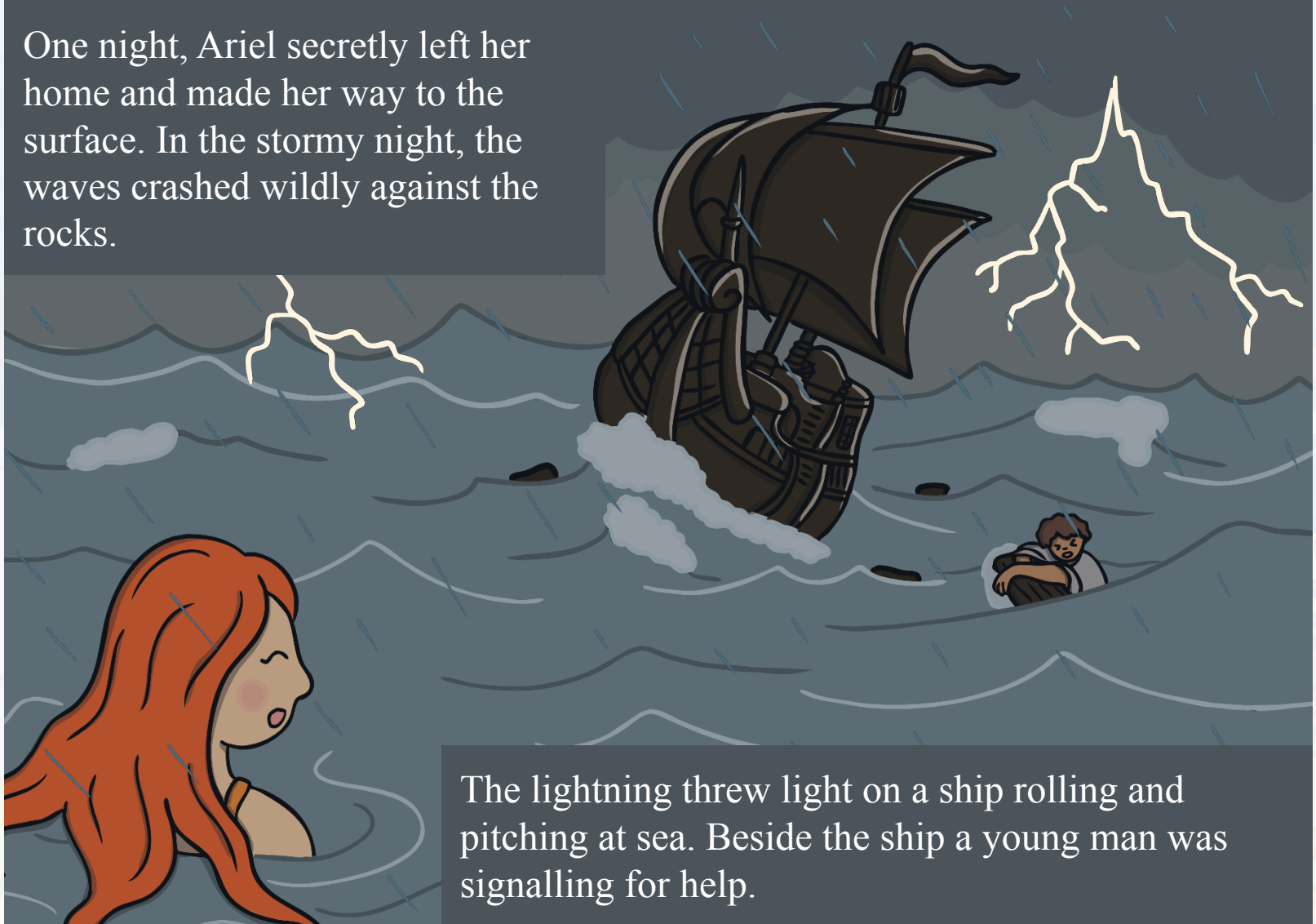


Ariel loved going up to the surface of the water. She would often swim up to see the blue sky, and the green trees on the land.



The beautiful fish and pretty shells didn't seem to make her smile. Even stories told by her father failed to make her happy.

One night, Ariel secretly left her home and made her way to the surface. In the stormy night, the waves crashed wildly against the rocks.



The lightning threw light on a ship rolling and pitching at sea. Beside the ship a young man was signalling for help.

Ariel immediately saw him and swam to rescue him. She brought him to the shore and rested him gently against a rock. This young man made her smile. A beautiful young girl approached, so Ariel left the surface and headed back to the sea palace.



The first thing the young man saw when he opened his eyes was the beautiful girl. He was very happy as he thought she was the one who rescued him. The beautiful girl was a princess.

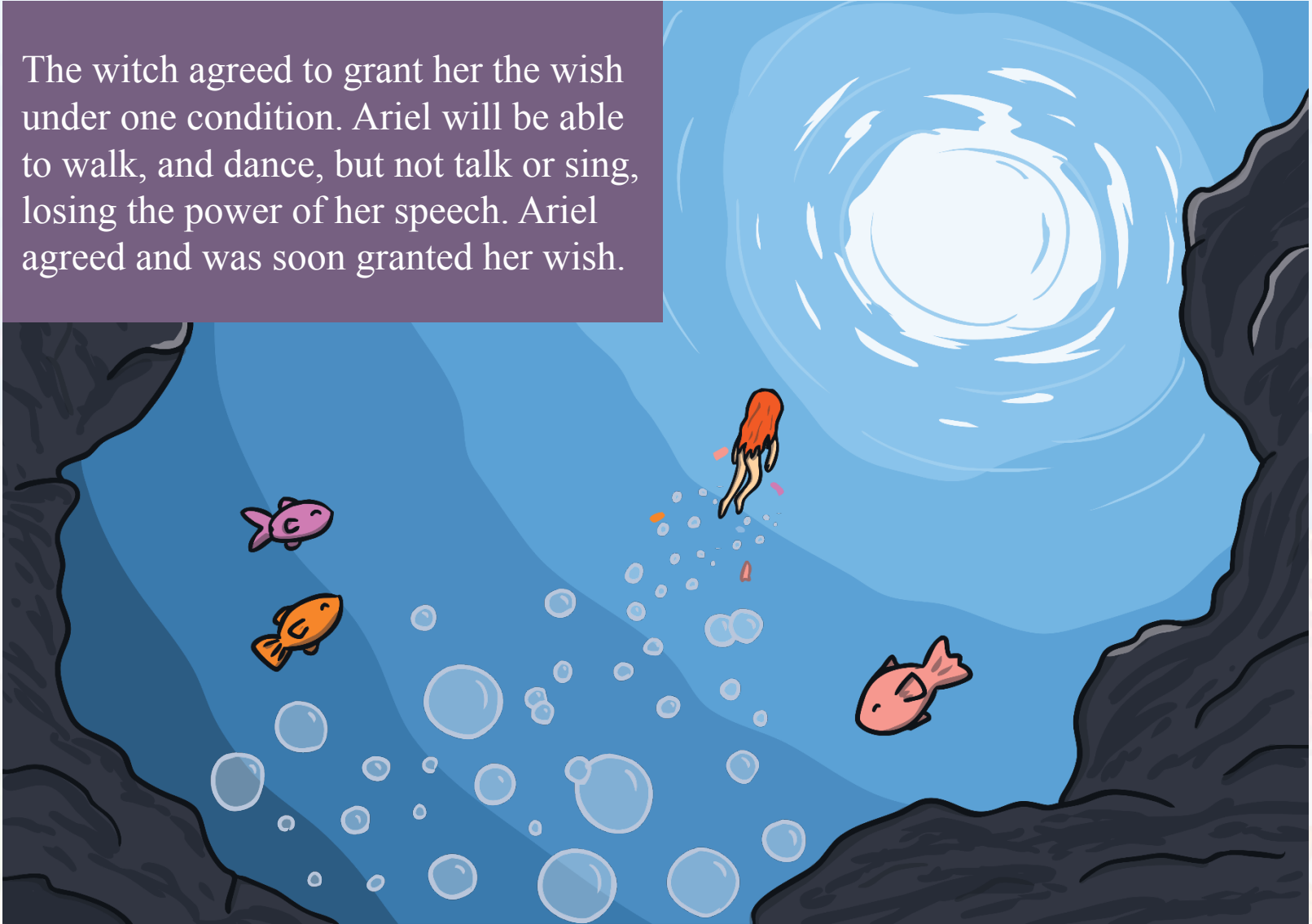


Ariel always thought of the young man. One day she visited Ursula The Witch and asked her to grant her a wish.



She wanted to go to the surface and visit the land. The witch listened, stirring her potion while chanting.

The witch agreed to grant her the wish under one condition. Ariel will be able to walk, and dance, but not talk or sing, losing the power of her speech. Ariel agreed and was soon granted her wish.



Once her wish was granted, Ariel made her way to the royal palace hoping the prince would remember her. A grand ball was being held in the palace.

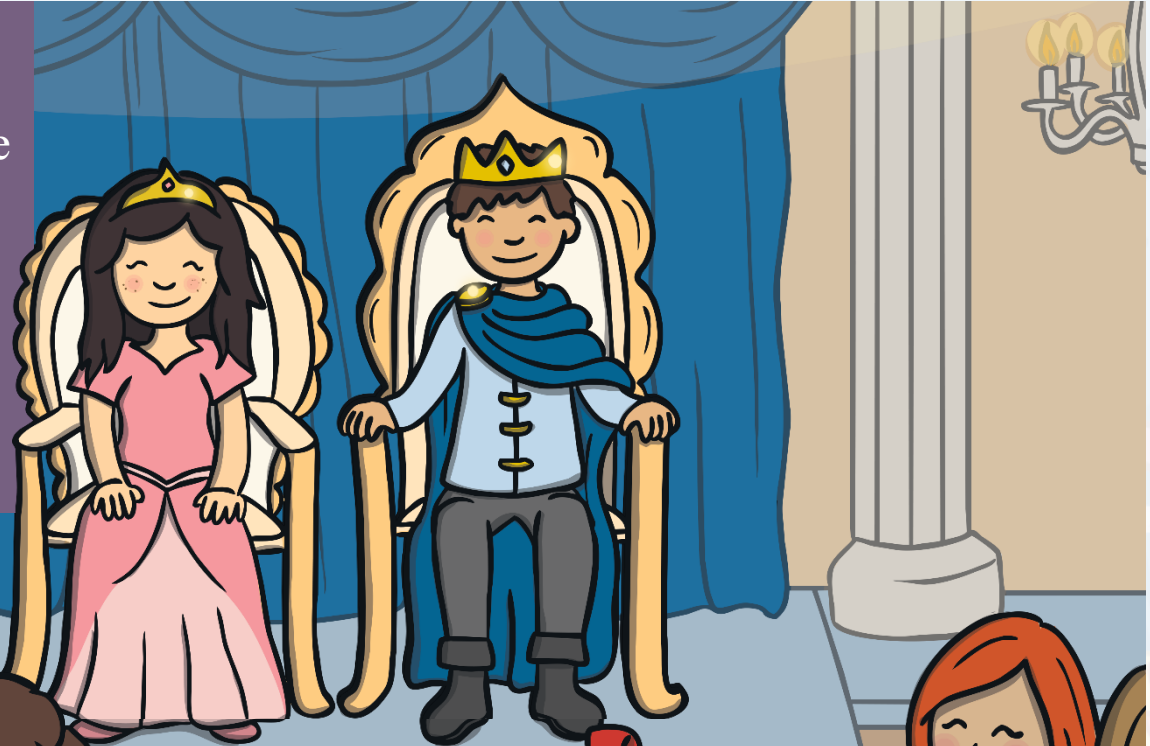


Not knowing Ariel, the palace guards refused to let her inside.

Listening to the music coming from the palace, Ariel started dancing merrily. Seeing her beautiful dance, the guards allowed her to enter the palace.



There were beautiful bright lamps lit and the air was filled with music and laughter. Ariel finally found the prince, sitting on his throne.

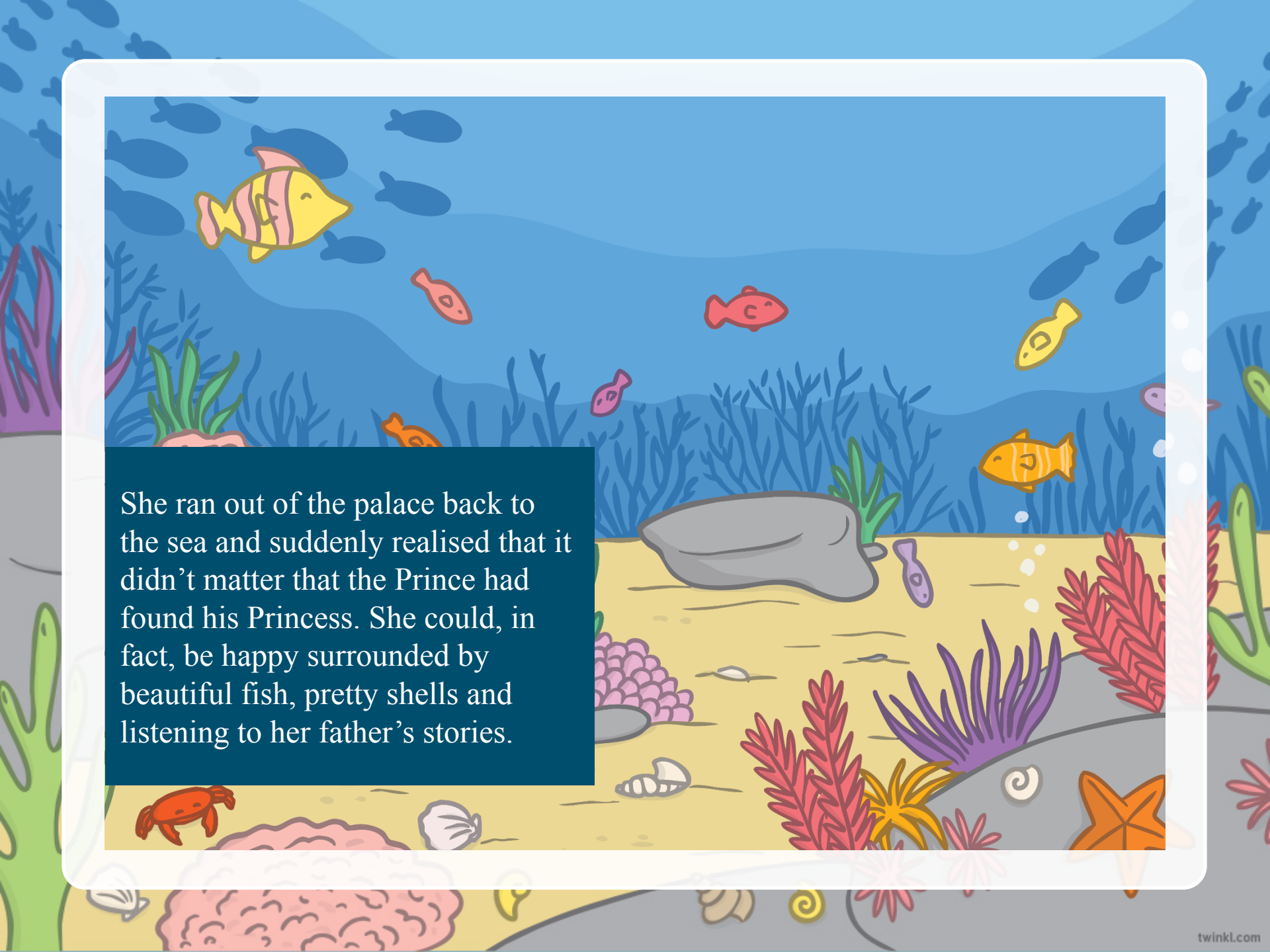


Beside him, sat a beautiful princess. The Prince did not realise that Ariel was the one who rescued him.

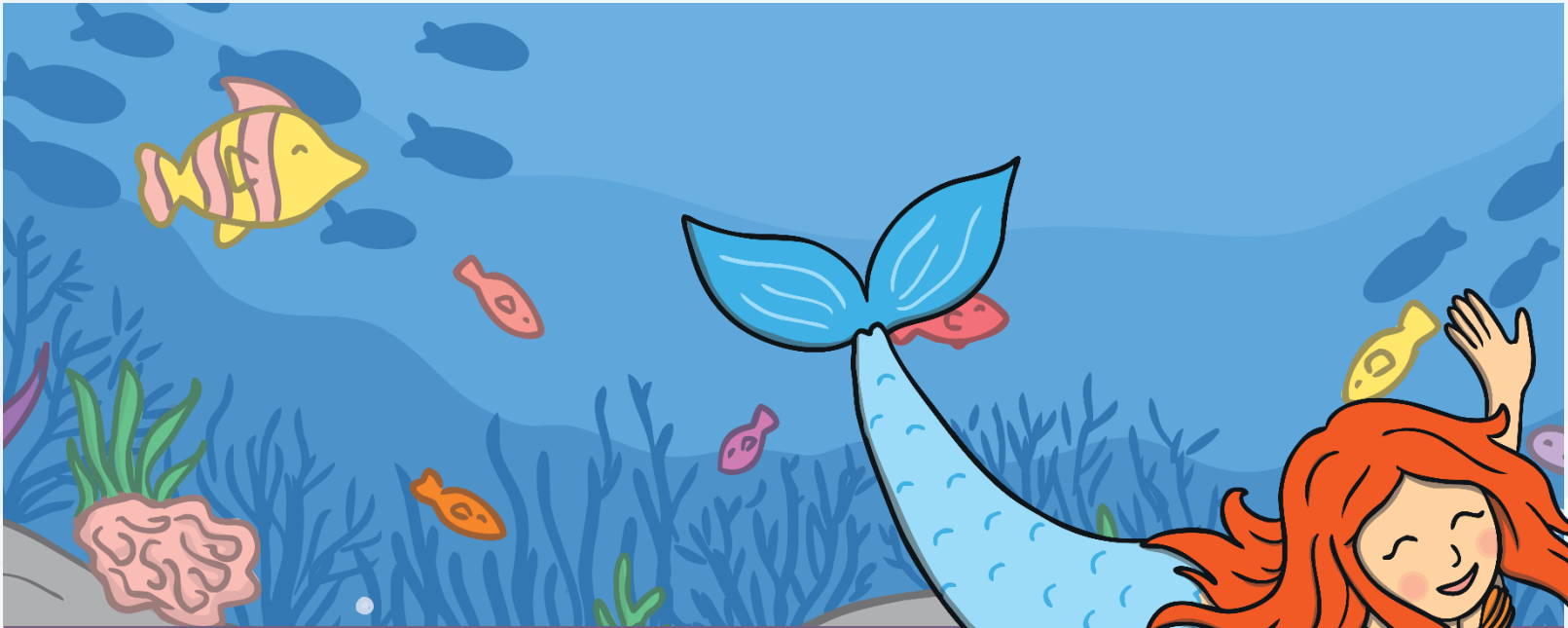




The Prince announced the princess as his future bride and princess of the kingdom. That announcement left Ariel in tears.



She ran out of the palace back to the sea and suddenly realised that it didn't matter that the Prince had found his Princess. She could, in fact, be happy surrounded by beautiful fish, pretty shells and listening to her father's stories.



Draw your own Little Mermaid picture.

Give your Little Mermaid a name.

List four things that would make your Little Mermaid happy.

If you were Ariel what would you wish for?



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