



## Samantha Miles and Rachel Falber, Uh-Oh! Books

Hello, welcome to the '*Uh-Oh!*' said Flo interactive workshop with Storyteller Festival.

RACHEL FALBER: Hi, I'm Rachel. I do the illustrations for Uh-Oh! Books and I'm really into nature.

SAMANTHA MILES: And I'm Sam. I wrote the story '*Uh-Oh!*' said Flo, and I really love animals.

RF: We want to hear about you guys too. Who's joining in today? Let us know your first name and your age, so we know who we have here today. Post or tag us in - Uh-oh! Books - on social media throughout today's workshop. One of the team will be on hand to answer any of your questions.

SM: Today we're going to read you the story all about a little turtle called Flo and her challenges with plastic, pollution and global warming as she takes a journey across the ocean.

RF: We will stop and take activity breaks during the reading for you to complete the relevant activities that you will have downloaded and printed already. You will need the activity sheets, colouring pencils and something to write with, if you want to join in at home.

SM: Okay, so let's get started!

**Out of a shell, on a warm sunny day, popped a teeny tiny sea turtle.**

**Turn left, turn right.**

**All around her little hatchlings arriving with a pop, a snap and a crack. Out of the sand they arrive, ready to embark on their epic journey to the sea.**

**But wait, what can they see in the way of the sea?**

RF: It's time for the first activity. Find Worksheet 1, and find the hazards on the beach. You will need to circle all the litter and things that you might think would be dangerous for Flo on her journey to the sea. When you think you've found some hazards and dangers, text in your answers or send pictures of your sheets to us on social media.

[pause]



You can start to fill in your activity sheets here as we go. If you don't finish them now, don't worry. You can carry on after the session or continue colouring and doing the activity sheets as Sam reads.

[pause]

Here's some I've found. Can you find all of them?

SM: 'Uh-oh!' said Flo. 'That's a big scary gull! Quick! To the water! We'll be safe in the deep blue ocean.'

Around the bottle. Avoid the wrapper. Watch out for the hazards! There's no time to stop.

With a splash, Flo is into the water and almost to safety.

Just a little further now. Into the depths away, from the prying beaks and snapping jaws.

With a sigh of relief, Flo looks around.

'Phew! One of the lucky ones!' she whispers as she relaxes, floating into the ocean currents.

No, Flo! Don't eat that!

What can you see mixed in with the shrimp?

RF: Next is Worksheet 2. For this activity sheet, you need to find all the shrimp. Count up all the shrimp, and count up all the straws and litter. Can you colour them in, too? The worksheet looks like this. Can you find all the shrimp on the worksheet?

[pause]

How many shrimp have you found? How many straws have you found? Let us know on Twitter or social media how you've gotten on. Okay, I'm going to give you some lovely facts about straws and shrimps. Eight million tonnes of plastic reach our oceans each year. In the USA alone, they use 390 million plastic straws a year. Here are some things you can do to help: say no to plastic straws whenever possible, and use alternatives like paper bamboo or metal straws. Shrimp facts: shrimps are small shellfish. They don't have a skeleton like you and I. There are over 2,000 different types of shrimp and they all live all over the world. There are some so small you can't see them, and others grow to as big as 12 inches long.

SM: 'Uh-oh,' said Flo. 'That food is not safe.'

And off she floats in search of a meal else where. Flo dives deep down down down into the depths to feed on the bottom-dwelling crustaceans.

Snap!

'Uh-oh!' said Flo. 'Those pincers look sharp!'

'Uh-oh!' said Flo. 'That shell looks tough!'

Quick! Turn around! With a swish and a huff, Flo swims back through the deep blue.

'Oh, oh no! Oh dear!' said a tiny scared voice. Who can we see looking so sad and scared, so far from home? It's Molly the narwhal! But what are you doing so far from home, Molly?



'I ran away from all the oil, but I got so lost and now I don't know how to get home!' cries Molly.

Well, there's no time to waste, it's off to Canada we go.

'Hello,' spoke a voice out of nowhere.

Who was that? Where did that voice come from?

Flo looks at Molly, and Molly looks at Flo.

'Well, if it wasn't you, and it wasn't me, who could it be?'

'It's me!' shouts Colin the crab, as he appears from his house. But wait, can that really be a house? That's not a home, a bottle cap can't be a house.

'It's rubbish!' exclaims Flo in surprise.

'Excuse me. How dare you call my house rubbish?' shouts Colin in a teeny voice.

'Uh-oh!' said Flo. 'I didn't mean to offend you.'

It's a lovely bottle cap, don't you think? But wouldn't a crab like Colin be happier in a shell?

RF: For this next worksheet, turn to number 3. You see a very busy underwater scene. You need to find Colin. Can you find him? Have a little look.

[pause]

Now I have some hermit crab facts for you. There are around 1,100 species of hermit crab that can be found all over the world. Hermit crabs use different types of abandoned shells, usually sea snails, to protect its soft body and provide a moist environment for its gills. They can reach .5 inches to 16 inches in length, depending on the species.

SM:

'What's all that white stuff?' asked Molly.

Let's go and see.

'It's the coral,' explains Flo in dismay. 'But why is it all white? What has happened? Shouldn't coral be beautiful bright colours?'

'Our coral is stressed because it's getting too hot,' explains Alfred the manta ray, as he swims alongside the white reef. 'It means that they've been losing the algae they need for food. Without this they can't grow, so they've ended up ghostly, clear and white. It's called coral bleaching.'

Suddenly, it's getting darker, darker, darker, black!

'Uh-oh!' said Flo, looking into the darkness. 'Why is it so dark suddenly? What could be casting such a massive shadow?'

Well, it must be Wendy, of course! Here she comes, spinning around.

But why are you spinning, Wendy? What could be wrong?

'Ouch, ouch, oh help!' explains Wendy the whale shark, as she crashes into Flo and Molly.

'My tail! The boat got my tail. Now I can't find my friends!' she wails.



'It's okay, Wendy. We'll help you find your friends.'

How hard can it be to find a herd of whale sharks? Can you spot them?

RF: Using the same worksheet, number 3, see how many sea creatures you can find in total on the worksheet. Can you count all of them? Keep on looking. There should be 20 creatures to find. What do you think the biggest creature is? Don't forget to post in your answers and have a little think about what it could be.

[pause]

For those of you who guessed 'whale shark', you are correct! Here are some facts about whale sharks: they're not actually whales, but the world's largest fish. These huge creatures can grow up to 12 metres long, and despite their size whale sharks are often referred to as gentle giants. Although its mouth can stretch to four feet wide, a whale shark's teeth are so tiny that they can only eat small shrimp, fish and plankton. Whale sharks can live up to 150 years.

SM: 'Thank you!' bellows Wendy as she swims into the deep with her reunited friends. 'Now we better get going. We still need to get Molly home.'

What's that, floating and bobbing over that?

Wibble wobble wibble wobble. It's a swarm of jellyfish!

Here's a lovely snack, Flo! But wait...

'Uh-oh,' said Flo. 'Are we sure those are jellyfish? Can we spot which are safe to eat?'

RF: For the next activity sheet, look at number 4. You'll see lots of jellyfish. Can you see what else is in the picture?

[pause]

How many jellyfish can you count? Can you colour the sheet in, too? That's right, there's also plastic bags. Can you count how many? Can you spot the difference? It's hard, isn't it? They look very similar. Turtles accidentally mistake plastic bags for jellyfish, which makes them very poorly.

SM: 'What's that piece of land over there?'

'Well, it's Canada, of course!' And what a lovely surprise.

'Oh yay, I'm home!' squeals Molly with joy, 'and all the oil's finally gone!'

With a wave goodbye off swims Molly back to her friends and her family, and to her newly cleaned home.

Now it's time for Flo to get home.



'If only my beach could be as clean as Molly's home has become,' Flo wishes to herself. 'But wait, it doesn't look so good. That beach over there is still covered in plastic. Well, we'd better get back quick and see Flo's beach.'

But suddenly it's getting darker, darker, darker, black!

'Uh-oh!' said Flo, looking into the darkness. 'There's movement all around 'Wendy, is that you? Look up! There's whale sharks everywhere!'

Wendy laughs with joy. 'How lovely to see you again!' she exclaims.

What is different about Wendy and her friends. Well, they're so happy and with no poorly heads or tails this time.

Round a corner we go - and wow! How many bright colours can you see?

RF: Now turn back to worksheet 3 and find worksheet 5. What colours can you see in the right beautiful picture? Now colour in your own corals using the blank sheet we've provided for you. Don't forget to post in your answers of what your favourite colours might be. Sharing your pictures of your coral reef and colour in with your favourite colours.

SM: Red, orange, yellow, it's all come back. Isn't it wonderful?

'It started to recover a couple of years ago and now look at it. It's almost back to normal,' explains Alfred, spinning with joy above the brightly coloured reef.

Now there's only one friend left to see on our way home. Do you remember who?

But where is the bottle cap? Where could Colin have gone? His home is nowhere to be seen.

'Hello! How nice to see you again!' says a teeny voice out of nowhere.

Well, it must be Colin But where could he be?

There he is! Under that lovely shell!

'Do you like my new home?' he asks. 'Less plastic has been appearing recently so I switched to a shell. I think it's rather lovely.'

'It's beautiful,' replied Flo. 'I'm so glad you found a better home, Colin. Now I just have to find one to.'

So off we go. Heading back home, picturing a beautiful white beach.

'Uh-oh!' said Flo. 'All I remember is the rubbish and the plastic.'

Swimming sadly to the shore, waiting to find a rubbish beach once more, so sad Flo doesn't even notice the clear waters all around.

With a splash she emerges out of the water.

'Wow!' Flo can't believe her eyes. 'Where is all the rubbish? Where is all the plastic? Who are all these people?'

'Hello!' said a child. Flo inched away, wary of the stranger.

'It's okay,' said the child. 'We won't hurt you. We're here to help. We're picking up all the rubbish so you can come home. Do you like it? I really hope so. I'd love to see all the baby turtles. They sound so cute. My mummy told me about them being on this beach when she



was little just like me. And off they ran with a burst of giggles picking up rubbish as they went.

So Flo found a lovely quiet spot on the clean sand to make her nest. She laid her eggs, said goodbye and with a splash, she was gone into the deep blue sea.

Out of a shell on a warm sunny beach popped a teeny tiny sea turtle. Turn left, turn right. All around there are little hatchlings arriving with a pop, snap and a crack. Out of the sand they arrive, ready to embark on an epic journey to the sea. But wait, what can you see in the way of the sea?

No rubbish.

The end.

RF: We hope you enjoyed the story. We have two more activities for you - one you can do after the event, and one to do now. Fill in worksheet number six and the feedback sheet. Send in a picture of your answers on social media. You need to think of three things that you could do to help save the oceans and protect the environment. Tell us what you thought of today's workshop as well. Send us your answers or a picture of the completed sheet to receive your certificate to say you completed the '*Uh-Oh!* said Flo' interactive Big Book Weekend workshop. Worksheet six is an activity you can do anytime.

SM: Thank you for joining in the '*Uh-oh!* said Flo' interactive workshop with Storyteller Festival. We really hope you enjoyed it today. '*Uh-oh!* said Flo' is the first book from Uh-oh Books, due to be launched via crowdfunding later this year. We've also launched the Uh-oh!s Activity Club, providing educational, fun and interactive resources, activities and downloads. This club is free to join during the lockdown via the mailing list on [www.uhohbooks.com](http://www.uhohbooks.com). To keep up to date with when we'll be launching the book, how you can support the project, and receive your copy of the book, follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or join our mailing list for updates.

RF: Thank you for joining us. Enjoy the rest of the festival. If you have any questions, you can contact us at [uhohbooks@gmail.com](mailto:uhohbooks@gmail.com), or on social media. We'd love to see all of your activities from today. Please keep sharing them with us on social media, too.

SM and RF: Thank you! Bye!