



Face to Face with Manatees

Brian Skerry

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Everything you need to know about the manatee (the “sea cow”) can be found in this guide by photojournalist Brian Skerry. Skerry describes the human connection with manatees, as well as their behavior in the wild. Readers learn that manatees only have molars for teeth, that they prefer shallow water, and even that they have fingernails! Maps and bulleted sidebars for quick facts are included, like “How is a Manatee like a Mermaid?” This book is also a plea for children and adults alike to admire them and to conserve their natural habitats. Skerry explains human-created risks to the animals, such as motorboat collisions and harassment. In a manner that is easy for children to understand and enjoy, Skerry depicts and details the lives of manatees, and he shows us that they are curious, benign creatures that deserve attention and respect. For ages nine to twelve.

LYDIA BELANGER (July / August 2010)

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