



**[Sea Horse: The Shyest Fish in the Sea](#) by Chris Butterworth, illustrated by John Lawrence**

ISBN: 9780763641405 (Paperback)

Candlewick Press, 2006

\*Age Range: 5–8 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: Preschool–Grade 3 (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

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**Discover the secrets of the endangered sea horse—one of nature’s most mysterious fish—through Chris Butterworth’s clear, engaging text and the intricate engravings of award-winning illustrator John Lawrence.**

Dive into the warm ocean and swim around amid the coral and waving sea grass. Do you see an eye like a small black bead peering out at you? Linger for a while and discover the secrets of the sea horse—one of the shyest fish in the sea. With a head like a horse, a tail like a monkey, and a pouch like a kangaroo, the sea horse acts like a chameleon, changing color to ward off danger or to show that he and his mate are a lifelong pair. Watch their fascinating mating dance, as the two of them twine their tails together and twirl, before she places her eggs in his pouch to be born. Could there be a more intriguing creature of the sea? Back matter includes an index, and a note about sea horses.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

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★ “Stunning pictures and engaging words. . . . An accomplished entrée to early science topics.” —[Booklist](#), **starred review**

★ “Thoroughly engaging, this is a brilliant marriage of art and science.” —*School Library Journal*, **starred review**

★ “With its involvingly detailed illustrations and a text perfectly attuned to the early elementary set, this is an exemplary introduction to the fish.” —*Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books*, **starred review**

“This compact book is sure to fascinate.” —[Publishers Weekly](#)

“An absorbing look at these unusual fish.” —[Kirkus Reviews](#)

“Engaging. . . . Text and illustrations work together to accurately portray the graceful appeal of the ‘shy,’ gentle sea horses.” —*The Horn Book*

“Lively text. . . . Lawrence is a superb book designer.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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- A Cooperative Children’s Book Center Choices List Selection
- A *Booklist* Editors’ Choice
- A *Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books* Blue Ribbon Winner

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Candlewick Press  
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- A US Board on Books for Young People Outstanding International Book
- A Center for Children’s Books Gryphon Award Honor Book
- A Texas Library Association 2 x 2 Reading List Selection

## **MEDIA AND RESOURCES**

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- [TeachingBooks Resources](#)

## **\*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

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A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book’s intended use.