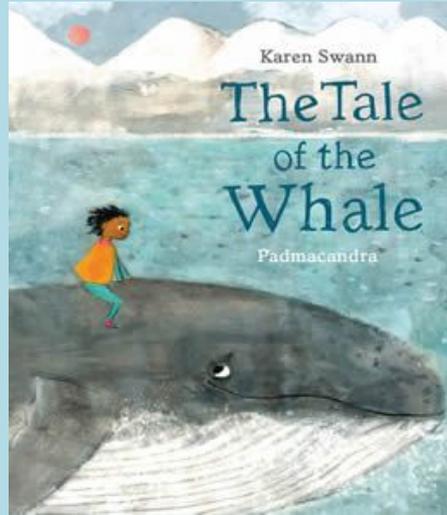


# KAREN SWANN



*Karen Swann is an author based in Nottingham. She trained as a physiotherapist in a small town by the sea, and has always been a writer and storyteller. Her debut picture book, *The Tale of the Whale*, invites children to consider their responsibilities the environment, with a direct plea to end plastic pollution.*

## EVENTS

*Karen offers events both on her own, and with Padmacandra, the illustrator of *The Tale of the Whale*.*

### **Solo events - virtual only:**

Karen will soon be offering a video package to schools and libraries, suitable for both Key Stage One and Key Stage Two, to deliver events virtually in a way which allows teachers/librarians to access and use recordings within a set timeframe. These will include activities around *The Tale of the Whale* with creative writing and subjects specific to the story. There is also the option of running a live Q&A with Karen via Zoom.

**Please contact Karen directly for more information on this, including costs:**

**Email:** [hello@karenswann.com](mailto:hello@karenswann.com).

**Visit:** <https://karenswann.com>



# KAREN SWANN & PADMACANDRA



## **Virtual Author/Illustrator Event with both Karen Swann and Padmacandra - 'The Message of the Whale'**

**Fee:** £150

**Duration:** 1 hour (can be reduced for younger groups)

**Participants:** Max 30 Children, Key Stage One and Lower Key Stage Two (ages 5 to 8)

**Covers:** Visual and Word Literacy; Mindfulness; Environment, Global Goals, Sustainability, Art, Mark making, Writing (STEAM).

**Equipment:** Projector + craft supplies for each child including:

- at least 2 pieces of A4 paper/card, folded in quarters;
- crayons (the softer the better) or oil pastels (including at least one black, dark blue or dark green oil pastel or soft crayon each
- something to scratch with such as a bic pen lid (depending on age), a very hard (H) pencil sharpened, or ballpoint pen that has run out of ink (advice can be given)
- child friendly scissors and glue
- black felt tip or sharpie.

Karen and Padmacandra have designed an exciting, integrated and flexible session using *The Tale of the Whale*, which includes:

- a) An introduction to the role of the writer, leading to a reading of the story
- b) An introduction to the role of the illustrator leading to...
- c) Detective Seagull 1: an interactive deeper look at the visual narrative in "detective mode" – and with the help of the seagull - to find clues to the message the whale might be trying to communicate.
- d) Brief Meditation/ Visualisation using the senses to imagine being within the ocean. For smaller children this could include seated movement. Cultivating kindness to ourselves and the ocean creatures.
- e) Drawing Activities – Drawing the whale, and drawing a sea for the whale.
- f) Detective Seagull 2– looking for the most common plastics the Whale encounters.
- g) Writing Activity (adapted for age appropriateness) – Drawing out the idea of passing on the whale's message. Both the Drawing Activity and the Writing Activity will create a card that the group can use in their own way to pass on the message.
- h) Questions and Answers at the end if time.

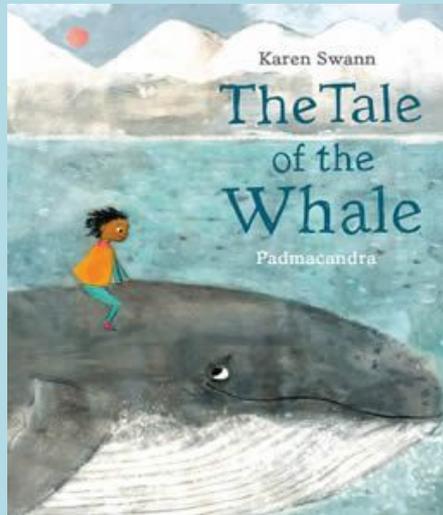
***Events for adults also available - talking about the process of creating a picture book or Mindful Drawing Days***

Please contact: [padmacandra@gmail.com](mailto:padmacandra@gmail.com)

<https://linktr.ee/padmacandra>

[www.scallywagpress.com](http://www.scallywagpress.com)





### **Praise for *The Tale of the Whale***

'A rolling, rhyming text that scans and richly textured images celebrate the sea through a child's lyrical journey on the back of a whale. With a concluding call to arms about clearing the 'plastic soup'.'

***The Sunday Times Culture Magazine***

'Not since *The Snowman* has a journey conjured so much sheer joy, connection and imagination... empowering and positive, a book that explores our connection with the natural world, text and images working beautifully together.'

***Books for Keeps***

'The combination of the melodic text, imagery and emotion make a strong connection so that when the call to action is given at the end of the tale, and the reader is invited to help the girl make a difference, it is fully likely that the audience will be 100% on board.'

***Just Imagine***

**Watch Karen Swann and Padmacandra in a virtual event together with Chicken & Frog bookshop:**

[The Tale of the Whale - YouTube](#)

**Please contact Scallywag Press on [publisher@scallywagpress.com](mailto:publisher@scallywagpress.com) for more information.**

[www.scallywagpress.com](http://www.scallywagpress.com)

