



# Padmacandra

## The Tale of the Whale

£12.99 HB | £7.99 PB

Padmacandra is an illustrator based in Norfolk, (regularly visiting London, Cambridge, Norwich, Brighton, The Malverns, Edinburgh and Dundee).

As an experienced & creative workshop leader in mindfulness & poetry, she is keen to increase her experience leading events with children, helping to enable doorways into imagination, and new possibilities.

Her debut book invites children to imagine the beauty of the sea, and consider their responsibilities to the environment, with a direct plea to end plastic pollution.



### Shortlisted for the North Somerset Teachers' Book Award 2021 - Picture Book

'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*

Watch Karen Swann and Padmacandra in a virtual event together with Chicken & Frog bookshop: [The Tale of the Whale - YouTube](#)



**Padmacandra offers events both on her own (virtual or in-person) and with *The Tale of the Whale* author Karen Swann (virtual only). Events are themed around the magic of the ocean, and the peril of plastic pollution.**

### **Solo Reading & Art/Craft Workshop - In Person or Live Virtual**

After a reading of the book, Padmacandra will lead an interactive session bringing out the message that the Whale is trying to communicate: the beauty of the ocean, and the peril of plastic pollution.

This is followed by a craft activity where the group can create a shoal of colourful fish! This shoal can be suspended as a mobile from a library or classroom ceiling, or the individual child can suspend their fish in their home.

Equipment needed: Toilet rolls (Padmacandra can bring these if it is an in-person event), child friendly scissors, card, staplers, black sharpie or equivalent, something to decorate the fish with – ideally paint, or marker pens, or sticky spots, wool or string.

For older children, there is the possibility of an alternative art activity, learning to draw a whale, and then to create a sea for them to swim in, replicating mark making techniques, as used in the book.

Equipment needed for this includes: 2 pieces of A4 paper or card folded in quarters in advance; soft crayons or oil pastels (including at least one black, dark blue or dark green oil pastel or very soft crayon each); a bic pen with lid (not suitable for younger children), a very hard (H) pencil sharpened or ballpoint pen that has run out of ink, child-friendly scissors, glue, black felt tip or sharpie.

**Duration: 1 hour | Max. 30 Children | Ages 5 to 8 - Key Stage One and Lower Key Stage Two | Fee: In person £150 plus travel expenses. Virtual: £75**



**Photos:** Sara-Louise Bowrey (Taken at Hastings Storytelling Festival 2021)





## Virtual Author/Illustrator Event with Karen Swann & Padmacandra: The Message of the Whale

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.

Duration: 1 hour | Age range: 5 to 8 (Key Stage One and Lower Key Stage Two) | Group Size: Max. 30 children | Covers: Visual & Word Literacy; Mindfulness, Environment, Global Goals, Sustainability, Art, Mark making, Writing (STEAM) | Cost: £150

Equipment needed: Projector + craft supplies for each child including:  
2 pieces of A4 paper/card, folded in quarters | crayons or oil pastels (including at least one black, dark blue or dark green) | 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 | glue | black felt tip or sharpie.

**Events for adults also available - talking about the process of creating a picture book or Mindful Drawing Days. For more information please contact [publisher@scallywagpress.com](mailto:publisher@scallywagpress.com) or [padmacandra@gmail.com](mailto:padmacandra@gmail.com)**

