

Fish Is Fish Script

A script based off of Leo Lionni's book
Fish Is Fish

Script created by: Shannon Bradford

Fish

Frog

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Note: When using with lesson, the student who reads for "fish" is also "narrator 1," and the student who reads for "frog" is also "narrator 2."

Narrator 1: At the edge of the woods there was a pond, and there a minnow and a tadpole swam among the weeds. They were inseparable friends. One morning the tadpole discovered that during the night he had grown two little legs.

Frog: (with excitement) Look! Look! I am a frog!

Fish: Nonsense! How could you be a frog if only last night you were a little fish, just like me?!

Frog: Well...frogs are frogs and fish is fish, and that's that!

Narrator 1: In the weeks that followed, the tadpole grew tiny front legs and his tail got smaller and smaller. And then one fine day, a real frog now, he climbed out of the water and onto the grassy bank.

Narrator 2: The minnow too had grown and become a full-fledged fish. He often wondered where his four-footed friend had gone.

Fish: I wonder where my four-footed friend went. I am so lonely down here in the pond all by myself. Why did he leave me? What's so good about being out of the pond anyway? It's been days and weeks and my friend has still not returned! Where could he possibly be?!

Narrator 2: Then one day, with a happy splash that shook the weeds, the frog jumped into the pond.

Fish: (with excitement) WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!

Fish Is Fish Script (*Continued*)

Frog: I have been about the world—hopping here and there—and I have seen extraordinary things!



Fish: (with jealousy) Humph...like what?

Frog: (mysteriously) Birds...I have seen birds! They have wings and can fly about! Birds have two legs and are many, many beautiful colors.

Narrator 1: As the frog talked, his friend the fish saw the birds fly through his mind like large-feathered fish.

Frog: Birds are amazing creatures!

Fish: (impatiently) What else?!

Frog: Well...there were cows!

Fish: Cows???

Frog: Yes, cows! They have four legs—like me! They even have horns, and they eat grass and carry pink bags of milk! Oh! And people! Men, women, and children! They have two legs and two eyes and can WALK on LAND! They wear funny things on their bodies, and some even wear things on their heads! It's so very interesting out there!

Narrator 1: Frog talked and talked until it was dark in the pond. But the pictures in fish's mind were full of lights and colors and marvelous things.

Frog: Well, Fish, it's time for me to go to bed. Good night!

Fish: Good night, Frog, my friend! Oh my, how am I going to sleep? It sounds amazing out there! If only I could jump about like my friend, Frog, and see that wonderful world. Oh my, oh my, oh my...

Narrator 2: That night, when Fish did fall asleep, he dreamed of marvelous flying feathered fish, cow fish with horns and two eyes and pink bags of milk, and men, women, and children fish that could walk upright and wear interesting things on their bodies and heads.

Fish Is Fish Script (*Continued*)

Narrator 1: And so the days went by. The frog had gone and the fish just lay there dreaming about birds in flight, grazing cows, and those strange animals, all dressed up, that his friend called people.

Narrator 2: One day he finally decided that come what may, he too must see them. And so with a mighty whack of the tail he jumped clear out of the water onto the bank.

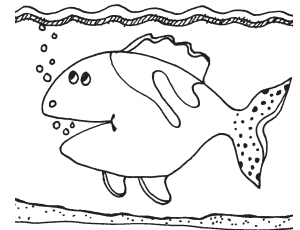
Fish: Here I go! I have to see all that my friend, Frog, told me! One...two...three!!!

Narrator 2: He landed in the dry, warm grass, and there he lay gasping for air, unable to breathe or to move.

Fish: (gasping, short of breath) Heeeeeeeelp! Huh, huh, huh heeeellllpppp!

Frog: Oh, silly fish, what happened? Here we go, back to the pond...one...two...THREE!

Narrator 1: Still stunned, the fish floated about for an instant. Then he breathed deeply, letting the clean cool water run through his gills. Now he felt weightless again and with an ever-so-slight motion of the tail he could move to and fro, up and down, as before.



Frog: Fish, are you okay?!

Narrator 1: The sunrays reached down within the weeds and gently shifted patches of luminous color. Fish sighed and smiled.

Frog: FISH! DID YOU HEAR ME?!

Fish: Yes, yes! You were right, Frog, my friend. Fish is fish!