

Book of the week: **Fins, Fluff and Other Stuff** Written by Bruno Merz and Dreda Blow. Published by QED Publishing



Story link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PnAelxgHrcA&t=126s>

This week's story is all about a little boy who imagines what it would be like to have scales like a fish or feathers like a bird. What if he was made of soap suds or cobwebs?

After you have listened to or read the book, if you have it, try some of the following to help with maths and literacy:

- Maths – If you were made of lollipops how many lollipops tall would you be? Lie on the floor and put something down to mark where your head and feet are then put lollipops down between the marks, you can make some paper lollipops if you don't have enough, you might need quite a lot. You could try with different things – how many teddies or bananas or books tall are you?
- Literacy – Fluff and stuff are words that rhyme. Can you find other words that rhyme, there are some on each page, can you think of any others? (The link at the bottom may also be useful so you can see the pages better)
- Explore different describing words. Can you describe your favourite thing with one, two, three or four describing words? Or maybe even more! That's not my.... Books are great for this, <https://usborne.com/browse-books/catalogue/series/1/200/thats-not-my/>, e.g. That's not my kitten it's ears are too soft.

Through the week you could also try some of the following ideas:

1. Let's Make

- Make a resource or object of reference for each page. Read one page at a time, gather materials and make something that helps you to share the story. Maybe you could try something sticky for the cobweb page, something that smells beautiful for the flower page, something spiky for the cactus page.
- What would happen if...? Is a great question. Try out some of these experiments and find out what happens if you add one thing to another!
 - Home made lava lamp <https://www.homesciencetools.com/article/how-to-make-a-homemade-lava-lamp-science-project/>
 - Foam https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Oh7_-E7UYa8
 - Sensory bottles <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=LBPkOsvJRzQ>
 - Vinegar and baking soda <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ORHnH9R2iac>

- Feely boxes: collect lots of different items from around the house, garden or your local park. Place them in a covered box and feel them. What do they feel like? Do they make a sound? Can you guess what is in the box? Is it something from the story? Is it something you like or don't like?

2. Let's get messy

- Can you make it look like you are made of something else, what can you think of to cover yourself or just part of yourself, maybe an arm or hand or face? It could be bubbles or mud or paint or something else.
- If there are any this week can you find some puddles to splash in, you're not made of metal so you won't rust.

3. Let's get moving

- You could play stuck in the mud with a sibling or parent.
- Make a course in the garden and play the floor is lava.

4. Let's take turns

- With your families can you each take a turn to choose your favourite page from the book and re-create it/ make a resource. For example my favourite page is when the boy is made from scales like a fish and lives underwater, you could run a bath or get a tub outside and put your favourite water toys inside.
- Taking turns with your families can you think of different things that you could be made from? An example would be toilet roll! Everyone would want to wipe their nose on you!!

Here are some links to songs or other resources that can also link into the story that you might want to look at:

Another read with close ups of the pages: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBLrmaPSFRI>