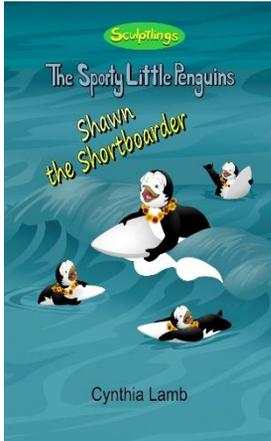


# Topic and Discussions with Q & A

**Sculptlings**

## The Sporty Little Penguins Series



## Shawn the Shortboarder

### Inspirational Book that Teaches The Value of Camaraderie with Surfing Tips

Shawn is a happy surfer who loves to ride the waves!

Every day, he smiles and surfs with courage and joy.

He teaches us that when life feels bumpy or scary—just like big waves—we can stay calm, think happy thoughts, and keep trying!

Shawn reminds us to enjoy each day, spend time with friends, and be brave even when things feel hard.

When we fall, we can get back up, smile, and keep going—just like Shawn!

### Book Topics

- Positivity and happiness
- Learning from mistakes
- Courage and confidence
- Enjoying the moment
- Friendship and fun

### Topics and Discussions for Younger Children

- Rhyme Time: Find rhyming words together. “Did you hear any words that sound the same?”
- Discuss how Shawn is feeling. Go through the pages and ask if Shawn is happy or frightened and discuss his facial expressions.

### Topics and Discussions for Advanced Readers For Kids For 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

- **Discuss what a metaphor is:** *When we use words to say something is like something else, even when it really isn't. (If we say, ‘You are my sunshine,’ we don't mean you're the sun in the sky. It means you make me feel warm and happy, just like sunshine)*
- **Discuss the metaphor for what the Author means by a “Wave.”** *(Shawn means Life)*  
*But when we say, “Life is a wave,” we don't mean we can surf on life!  
We mean that sometimes life goes up and down, just like waves do. (You have to interpret what the metaphor is trying to say.)*
- **Discuss what Shawn means when he says, “You can surf through each day”** *Shawn means that every day is like a wave sometimes it's calm and easy, and sometimes it's hard and bumpy. And to surf through each day means you can get through each day by going with the flow.*
- **Discuss What Shawn does when the waves get big or scary for him?** *(Shawn takes a deep breath, stays brave, and keeps trying. He doesn't give up!)*
- **How does Shawn stay so happy?** *(By thinking positive thoughts no matter what happens.)*



# The Sporty Little Penguin Series

## Topic and Discussions about the story

### Shawn the Shortboarder

These questions can be asked during or after reading to help them understand the metaphors and to encourage children to think, respond, and connect with Shawn's message.

**1. Shawn talks a lot about waves. What do you think the waves stand for in the story?**

*The waves are like problems or challenges in life. Sometimes things feel big and hard, just like tall waves.*

**2. How does Shawn act when something feels scary or hard?**

*He stays calm, takes a deep breath, and keeps trying! He doesn't give up, he stays brave.*

**3. Why do you think Shawn smiles when the waves go up and down?**

*He knows that smiling helps him feel better. He wants to stay happy even when things are tough.*

**4. What do you think The current represents in the story?**

The current represents the hard parts of life. The things that feel like they're pushing against you or making it tough to move forward. Just like an ocean current pulls you in a direction you don't want to go, sometimes life feels like that too.

**5. What do you think Shawn means when he says, "Don't fight it, just swim downstream"?**

*He means don't get upset or angry when things go wrong , go with the flow, stay calm, and try again.*

**6. How do Shawn's positive thoughts help him when the ocean gets rough?**

*His happy thoughts make him feel strong inside, so he can handle big waves (or big problems) better.*

**7. What is the most important lesson Shawn teaches us?**

*Always stay positive, be brave, and keep trying , even when life gets hard.*

**8. How can we "surf" through our days at school , even when things get tough?**

*We can smile, stay calm, ask for help, and try again if we make a mistake.*

**9. What are some ways you can show courage like Shawn?**

*By trying new things, speaking up in class, being kind, or doing something that feels scary but good.*



## The Sporty Little Penguin Series

### Topic and Discussions about the story

# Shawn the Shortboarder

**10. Can you think of a time you felt scared but kept trying anyway?**

*(Student answers will vary.) Example: "When I tried swimming for the first time," or "When I read out loud in class."*

**11. Shawn says smiling helps you feel better. What helps you feel better when you're having a hard day?**

*Talking to friends or family, taking deep breaths, drawing, or thinking of happy things.*

**12. Why is it important to spend time doing what you love and with friends who make you happy?**

*Doing what you love makes your heart happy, and friends make you laugh and feel cared for.*

**13. How can we help our classmates when they feel like they're "in a big wave"?**

*We can be kind, listen, say encouraging words, or help them when they need support.*

**14. The story uses a lot of metaphors about surfing. Why do you think the author chose the ocean to talk about life?**

*The ocean changes a lot just like life! Sometimes it's calm, sometimes it's wild, but you can always learn to ride the waves.*

**15. If your life were a wave, what kind of wave would it be, calm, splashy, twisty, or big and bold? Why?**

*(Student answers will vary.) Example: "My wave is big and bold because I like to try new things," or "My wave is calm because I like peace and quiet."*

**16. If your life were a wave, what kind of wave would it be, calm, splashy, twisty, or big and bold? Why?**

*(Student answers will vary.) Example: "My wave is big and bold because I like to try new things," or "My wave is calm because I like peace and quiet."*

**17. What do you think "living in the moment" means in your own life?**

*It means paying attention to what's happening right now. Having fun, learning, and not worrying about what might happen later.*



# The Sporty Little Penguin Series

## Metaphors for Shawn the Shortboarder

For 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

<u>What Shawn Says</u>	<u>What It Means</u>
"You can surf through each day as happy as me."	Every day is like a wave, enjoy it and stay happy!
"If you think positive thoughts, then happy is what you'll be!"	When you think happy thoughts, you start to feel happy inside.
"If you have a problem or a scary day that you need to get through."	Sometimes we all have hard days, and that's okay.
"Look at it like a wave and you're in the ocean, it is easy to do."	Think of your problem as a wave, you can ride through it calmly.
"When a wave has you going up and down, smile, you will be happier than if you frown."	Life has ups and downs. Smiling helps you feel better!
"The current can be tough and life can seem hard at times."	Sometimes life pushes you in hard directions, but you can stay strong.
"Don't fight it, just swim downstream, and you'll be fine."	Go with the flow and stay calm when things get tough.
"You may even fall and tumble around once or twice."	Everyone makes mistakes! You can always try again.
"This will be a good lesson. It will help you give good advice!"	When you learn from mistakes, you can help others too.
"Living in the moment means living day by day."	Enjoy today! Don't worry about tomorrow.
"You can't worry about the future, that's not the way."	Stay focused on now, not what might happen later.
"It is important to spend time doing what you love to do."	Doing what you love helps you feel happy inside.
"Spending time with your friends will make you happier too!"	Friends make life brighter and more fun.
"Shawn doesn't get scared when waves are over his head."	Even when something is scary, stay brave!
"He becomes courageous and he conquers his fears instead."	Courage means trying your best even when you're scared.



## The Sporty Little Penguin Series

# Metaphors for Shawn the Shortboarder

What Shawn Says	What It Means
“He takes a deep breath and says, ‘I won’t quit!’”	Take a breath, stay calm, and keep trying.
“Every wave can be different and it can grow tall.”	Every challenge is different, but you can handle them all.
“But it will only last a moment, you’ll get through it all.”	Hard times don’t last forever, you’ll be okay.
“Every time a wave crashes on down, you’ll be fine.”	Even when things go wrong, you can get back up.
“Trust me, don’t give up, be courageous each time.”	Keep believing in yourself and never quit!
“When you see a big wave that looks too big to conquer that day.”	When something feels too hard, take a breath, you can do it.
“If you can use courage, you will conquer each wave.”	Courage helps you face and beat challenges.
“You can stand up and ride it; don’t worry, just be brave!”	Believe in yourself and enjoy life’s adventure!



# The Sporty Little Penguin Series

## Quiz about the story

### Porter the Longboarder

Listen to each question carefully. Then circle the best answer.

**1. What does Shawn mean when he says, “You can surf through each day”?**

- A) You should practice surfing every day
- B) You can go through each day happily, even if it’s hard
- C) You need to ride waves every morning

**2. In the story, what does the “waves” represent?**

- A) Water at the beach
- B) Shawn’s surfboard
- C) Problems or challenges in life

**3. What does “the current” mean in the story?**

- A) The wind can be strong
- B) Hard parts of life that push you in a tough direction
- C) How fast the water goes in one direction

**4. Why does Shawn say to smile when the waves go up and down?**

- A) Smiling makes the waves go away
- B) Smiling helps you feel happier during ups and downs
- C) Smiling makes you surf faster

**5. What does Shawn do when he sees a big wave that looks too big?**

- A) He hides from the wave
- B) He takes a deep breath and stays brave
- C) He gives up and leaves the ocean



## The Sporty Little Penguin Series

### Quiz about the story

# Porter the Longboarder

**6. If Shawn falls off his board, what does it teach him?**

- A) That surfing is too hard
- B) That mistakes are a good way to learn
- C) That he should never try again

**7. What does “living in the moment” mean in the story?**

- A) Worrying about tomorrow
- B) Thinking about yesterday
- C) Paying attention to today and enjoying it

**8. Shawn says, “Don’t fight it, just swim downstream.” What does this mean?**

- A) Go with the flow when life is hard
- B) Stay in one place and wait
- C) Don’t try to do anything

**9. Why does the author use surfing as a metaphor in the story?**

- A) Because Shawn likes the beach
- B) Because surfing is fun
- C) Because riding waves is like handling life’s ups and downs

**10. How can kids be like Shawn when they face challenges?**

- A) Avoid every hard thing
- B) Give up when it gets hard
- C) Be brave, try their best, and stay positive



## The Sporty Litle Penguin Series

### Questions and Answers for Porter the Longboarder

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