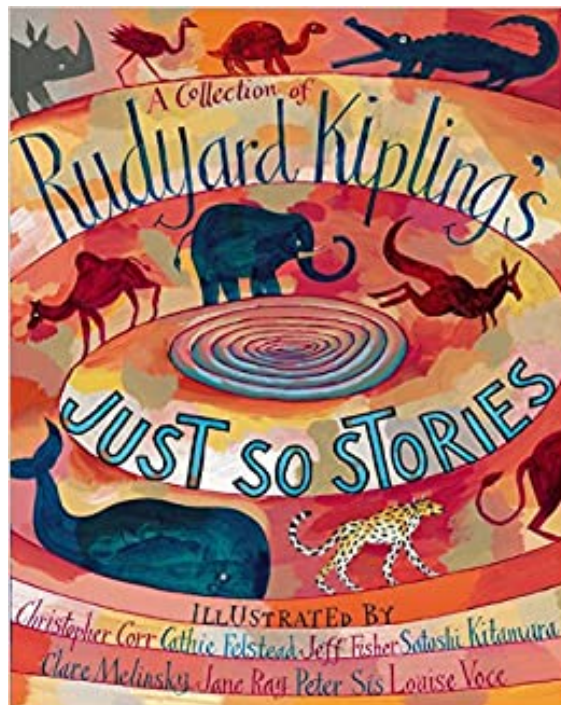


Monday 18th May 2020

LO: The author's style

This week, we are studying
Rudyard Kipling's *Just So Stories*...



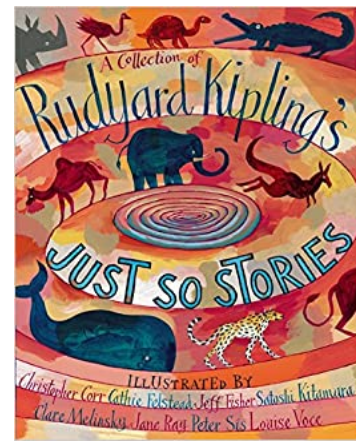
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The *Just So Stories* were published after *The Jungle Book* in 1902.

They are in the tradition of **origin stories**: fictional tales of how things came to be.

Let's read the preface...



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Preface

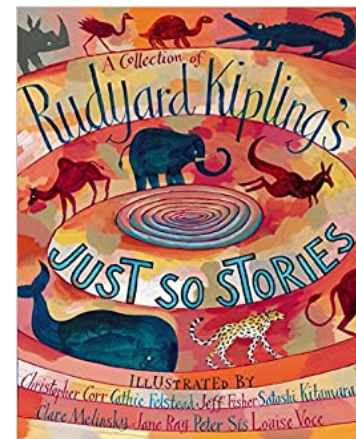
Some stories are meant to be read quietly and some stories are meant to be told aloud. Some stories are only proper for rainy mornings, and some for long hot afternoons when one is lying in the open, and some stories are bedtime stories...

...In the evening there were stories meant to put Effie to sleep, and you were not allowed to alter those by one single little word.

They had to be told just so; or Effie would wake up and put back the missing sentence. So at last they came to be like charms, all three of them, – the whale tale, the camel tale, and the rhinoceros tale.

Of course little people are not alike, but I think if you catch some Effie rather tired and rather sleepy at the end of the day, and if you begin in a low voice and tell the tales precisely as I have written them down, you will find that Effie will presently curl up and go to sleep.

Now, this is the first tale, and it tells how the whale got his tiny throat...



**Effie was
Kipling's
oldest
daughter
(aged 5 at
the time)**

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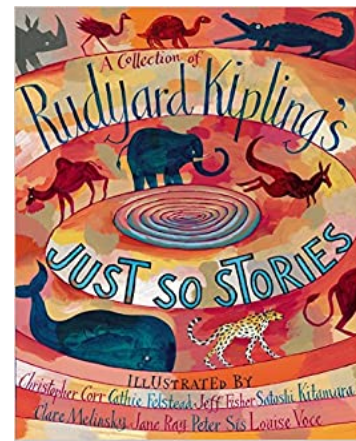
LO: The author's style

We are going to listen to some **Just So Stories** today.

While you listen to **How the Whale got his Throat**, **How the Camel got his Hump** and **How the Rhinoceros got his Skin**, think about Kipling's style:

- How does it differ to the style he uses in **The Jungle Books**?
- What type of language does he use?
- Is there a structure to the tales?
- What is the role of the human in each story?

(The following slides contain a glossary of words you may not know.)



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How the Whale got his Throat

Garfish – a fish: long, slender and silvery bodied

Dab – a fish: flat and brown

Pickereel – a young pike (fish)

Nubbly – rough texture

Cetacean – aquatic mammals

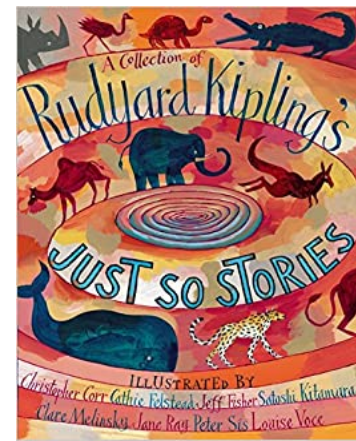
Suspenders – an American word for braces

Jaws-of-a-gaff – part of a sailing ship

Natal-shore – homeland

'Change here ... Fitchburg Road' – Railway stations in New Hampshire and Massachusetts in Kipling's time

Sloka – a form of poetry used in Sanskrit (the classical language of India)



Glossary

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LO: The author's style

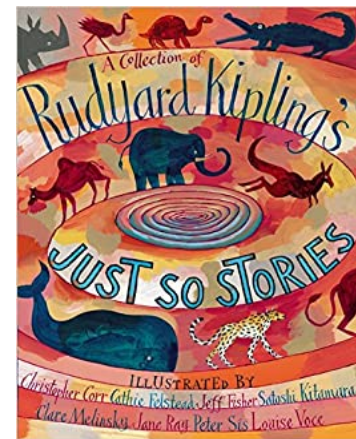
How the Camel got his Hump

Djinn – Arabic word for genie or wizard

Indaba – Zulu-Bantu word for an important meeting

Punchayet – from a Hindi word, meaning council meeting (originally of five people)

Pow-wow – a meeting of native Americans



Glossary

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How the Rhinoceros got his Skin

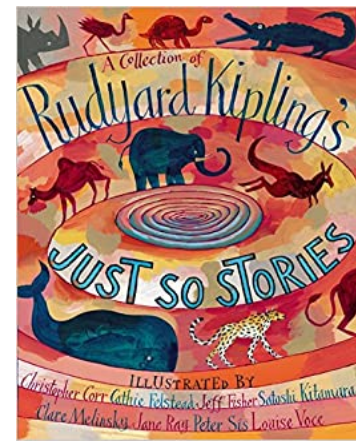
Parsee – descendant of refugees who settled in India after the Arab invasion of Persia in the 7th-8th centuries

Mazanderan – a province of Iran, lying between the Caspian Sea and the Elburz mountains

Socotra – an island in the Indian Ocean, off the Horn of Africa, about 150 miles east of Cape Gardafui

The Promontories of the Larger Equinox – a nonsense phrase

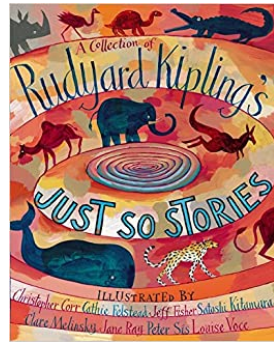
Oratavo and **Sonaput** – imaginary names of Indian villages but they are based on the names of real places: (Sonapur in India; Orotava, a port in Tenerife in the Canary Islands)



Glossary

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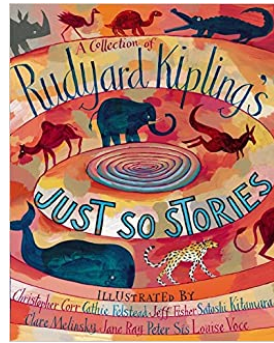


Look at the beginning of *How the Whale got his Throat*:

- Notice how Kipling repeats the phrase '**Best Beloved**': this is what he calls his reader/listener (Effie).
- Look at the **word play**: when he lists the different fish, he uses rhyme and rhythm to make it playful.
- His animal characters are **anthropomorphic**: this means he gives them human characteristics.

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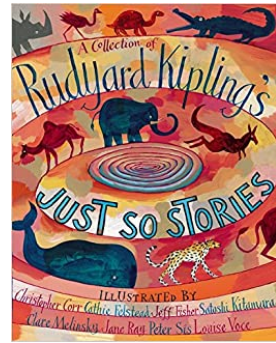
Your task is to **re-read** one of the stories you have listened to. Use the following prompts to create a '**concept map**' to help you think about Kipling's style. Include examples from the text to show what you mean:

- **Characters** and **setting**
- **Language** (think about rhyming, alliteration, onomatopoeia, repeated words and phrases, words imitating spoken language, nonsense words, extended sentences)
- **Themes** (think about moral lessons, magic and fantasy, humour, roles of humans and animals)
- **Narration style** (talking to reader, clues that designed to be read aloud, aimed at children)

I have given an example on the next slide.

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Example 'concept map'

