

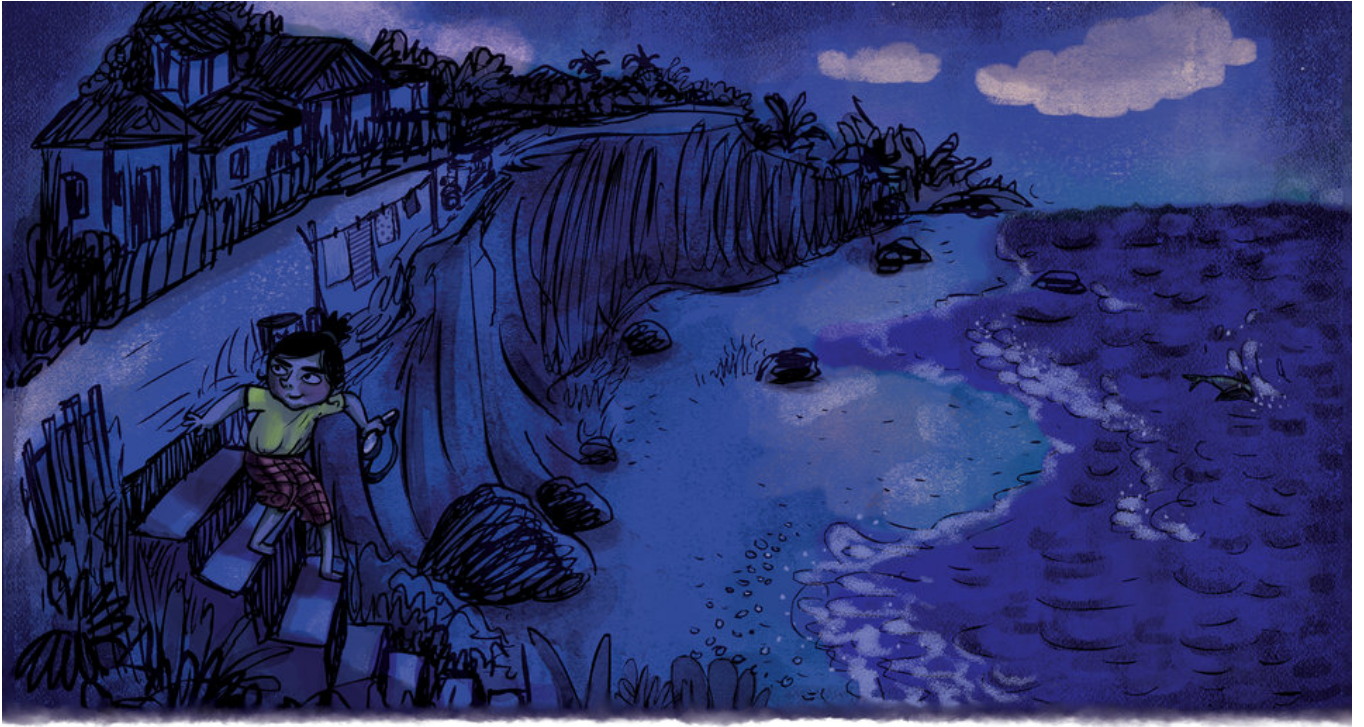
Lights in the Water

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Level 1

Lights in the Water
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It is late. Amma and Achan are asleep. Is Maisha asleep?
No! Maisha goes out. Where does she go?



Maisha goes to the beach.
She visits Uchli. Uchli is a flying fish.



Is Uchli happy?
No. Uchli is upset.
Why?
The moon is missing!



Last night the moon was up in the sky.
Tonight it is not.
Where is the moon?
The moon did not rise from the sea.
Is she lost under the sea?
We must find her!



We must look for the moon.
But how? How will we see?
How will we see when the moon is not up?
Then, Uchli sees a light in the water.
It glows and fades and glows again.



Uchli shouts:
"I have an idea! Get on my back.."
They swim to the lights.
Maisha takes a breath.
The go under the water.





Maisha gasps.
Tiny animals glow in the sea.
It is like a sky of stars.
Who are these tiny animals?



"It is plankton," Uchli says.

"Can the plankton help us?" Maisha asks.

"Can they help us see? We need light to find the moon."

The plankton say they will help.

The plankton give light to the sea.

Now, Maisha and Uchli can look for the moon.



Maisha hears a deep voice.
It is a firefly squid.
The squid has blue spots of light.
"I can help, too," says the squid.
"I saw the moon go this way!"



"Hold on tight!" says the squid.
The squid pulls Maisha through the water.



They all swim down.
Down, down, where it is very dark.
But the plankton and the squid give light.
Still, they see no moon.
They meet an anglerfish.
This fish has sharp teeth!
But Maisha feels brave.



"Hello," Maisha says. "Have you seen the moon?"
"Yes," says the fish. "She went this way!"



They all swim.



Maisha spots something!
It is the moon.
She is stuck under a rock!
The squid helps to lift the rock.
The moon slips out.



"How did you get stuck?" Uchli asks.
The moon answers:
"I came here to meet my cousins, the moonfish.
But my light faded and I got lost in the dark.
Thank you for finding me."



The moon jumps back in the sky.

Maisha is happy.

"So this is where the moon comes when she is not in the sky!"



Uchli and Maisha wave goodbye.
They swim back to the beach.
Maisha sees the moon and stars in the sky.
Now she knows there is also light in the sea!



MEET THE LIGHT-MAKERS

Many animals are able to make their own light.

Can you name some of them?



Plankton glow when there is movement in the water. This helps to scare away predators that might eat the plankton. Sometimes the movement of waves or boats can cause these sparks.

The firefly squid has special organs called photophores (fo-to-fours). The photophores make light to scare away the squid's predators, to attract food for the squid, or impress a mate.



Anglerfish make their light from the glowing bacteria inside them.
When a plant or animal makes light, that is called bioluminescence (bye-oh-loo-min-ess-ens).
Fireflies and glow-in-the-dark mushrooms make light above the water.



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Lights in the Water (English)

Maisha must swim deep in the sea to rescue the moon! What will she discover there? Animals that make light!

This is a Level 1 book for children who are eager to begin reading.