



## Level 2

<b>Suitable for:</b>	young learners who have completed up to 100 hours of study in English
<b>Type of English:</b>	American
<b>Headwords:</b>	400
<b>Key words:</b>	10 (see pages 2 and 5 of these Teacher's Notes)
<b>Key grammar:</b>	present simple, present continuous, <i>Wh-</i> questions, adjectives, prepositions

### Summary of the story

Ariel is a young mermaid. King Triton, her father, is angry because Ariel is more interested in human things than life under the sea.

One day, Ariel sees a boat sailing on the ocean. She sees Prince Eric on board. A storm arrives and lightning hits the boat. Prince Eric falls in the water and Ariel saves his life.

Ariel returns to her underwater world, but she can't stop thinking about the handsome prince. This makes her father very angry. Ariel ignores her father and sets out to find Eric.

### Summary of the film: *The Little Mermaid*

Ariel, a young mermaid princess, is interested in the human world. One day she sees a boat with Prince Eric on board. A storm destroys the boat. Ariel saves the prince and sings to him. Eric returns to his normal life, but can't forget Ariel's beautiful singing.

Ariel returns to her undersea world, but can't forget Prince Eric. She makes a deal with Ursula, the sea witch, to be transformed into a human in exchange for her voice. If Eric kisses her within three days she will remain human. Ursula puts Ariel's voice into the shell around her neck.

Ariel finds Prince Eric, but Ursula transforms herself into a beautiful human and enchants him so that they decide to marry. Ariel's friends break the shell containing Ariel's voice. The spell over Eric is broken.

Ursula then kidnaps Ariel. Triton exchanges his kingdom for Ariel's freedom. Eric defeats Ursula and order is restored. Triton allows Ariel to transform into a human and marry Eric.

### Background information

*The Little Mermaid* was released in 1989 and was the 28th Disney Animated Classic.

The movie is based on the fairy tale, *The Little Mermaid*, written by the Danish writer Hans Christian Anderson and published in 1836.

The movie won two Academy Awards® in 1990 for Best Score and Best Original Song (*Under the Sea*).

### Did you know ... ?

*The Little Mermaid* was the last Disney movie to use hand-painted pictures.

There is a famous statue of the Little Mermaid in Copenhagen, Denmark.

In Greek mythology, Triton was the son of the sea god, Poseidon.

## The characters

**Ariel** is a young mermaid. She loves human things.

**King Triton** is Ariel's father. He is king of the sea.

**Prince Eric** is a human prince. He is young and handsome.

## Topics and themes

**Life at sea** What is life like under the ocean? Have any students swum in the ocean? Has anyone been to an aquarium? What did the students see? What do they like about the ocean? What are the dangers to humans at sea? Why is the weather so important? What happened to Eric? (See also Activity 1 and Activity 4 on pages 3 and 4 of these Teacher's Notes.)

**Being human** Ariel loves human things and dreams of becoming human to join Prince Eric. How are humans different from Ariel? How are humans different from sea creatures and other animals in the real world? What can humans do that animals can't?

**Parents and children** Why does Triton get angry with Ariel? Is he right? Why does Ariel ignore her father? Should she always do what he says? Should the students always do what their parents tell them? (See also Activity 3 on page 3 of these Teacher's Notes.)

**Myths** Mermaids are mythical creatures. The names Ariel and Triton come from Greek mythology. Myths are traditional stories that explain things about our world. Do the students know any mythical stories? What mythical creatures do they know? (See also Activity 2 on page 3 of these Teacher's Notes.)

## Key words

(see page 5 of these Teacher's Notes for the Key words in context)

beach (n)	prince (n)
cloud (n)	secret (adj)
fall (v)	storm (n)
human (adj)	top (n)
mermaid (n)	toward (prep)

**Pastimes / activities** Ask the students what activities in the story can also be pastimes (singing, collecting things, swimming, sailing). Write the words on the board. Which of these activities do the students like doing? Can they tell you more about these activities?

**Love and romance** Ariel falls in love with Prince Eric. Can the students tell you why this happens. What happens when someone is in love? Have any students seen the film? Can they tell you what happens to Ariel and Eric in the end? (They defeat the wicked sea witch, Ariel becomes human, and they marry.)

## Notes on the photocopiable activities

**Page 5:** Students could paste the list of Key words into a notebook. You could ask students to learn this vocabulary as homework and then test them on it.

**Pages 8–9:** After-Reading activities, **Activity 2** You could also ask the students to make a chart comparing humans with an animal of their choice.

**Activity 4** Encourage the students to use the same colors as in the pictures in the book.

## Class Activities (After Reading)

Here are some activities to do with your class after reading *Ariel and the Prince*.

### 1. Game: On a boat

**Materials:** a captain's hat (optional)

- The students look at the pictures on pages 5–7 of the book. Ask them to imagine what life is like on a boat.
- Place a long bench down the middle of an empty classroom or gym.
- The students all stand on the bench.
- Put on the captain's hat (if used) and explain that you are the captain, that the bench is the boat and that they need to follow your instructions.
- Run through the instructions and the associated actions. You can use the following, or invent your own:
  - Swim to the beach! (jump off the bench, mime swimming to a wall of the classroom or gym)
  - Oh, no! It's windy! (mime being blown back by the wind)
  - Oh, no! It's a storm! (jump off the bench and lie down on the floor with arms over head)
  - Wash the floor! (mime mopping the deck)
  - Dance! (mime a sailor's dance)
  - Look out! A big wave! (jump off the bench as though hit by a big wave)
- Call out the instructions. Go slowly at first and then faster and faster.

### 2. Mythical creature pictures

**Materials:** pictures of mythical creatures; sheets of paper; colored markers; crayons; paints

- Explain to the students that Ariel is a mermaid and that mermaids are mythical creatures. She is half human and half fish.

- Ask the students if they know of any other mythical creatures.
- Show the students some pictures of mythical creatures downloaded from the internet.
- Give the materials to the students and explain that they are going to create their own mythical creature and draw it. It could be a combination of a human and another animal, or perhaps a combination of two or more animals.
- Tell the students to think of a name for their creature.
- The students show their finished pictures and talk about them. What is the name of their creature? What does it look like? What body parts does it have? What color is it? What can it do?
- The students could write a few sentences about their picture.
- Display the pictures in the classroom.

### 3. Role-play: Ariel and Triton

- Talk with the students about the relationship between Ariel and Triton. Is Ariel wrong to be interested in human things? Is Triton right to be angry with her?
- Divide the students into pairs. The students decide who will play Ariel and who will play Triton.
- The students read pages 3, 13, and 14, then create their own dialogue / role-play.
- They practice their role-plays. Go round the class and help the students as required.
- Ask some students to perform their role-plays in front of the class.

#### 4. Scratchboard undersea picture

**Materials:** a piece of thick paper or card per student; colored wax crayons; black paint; dishwashing soap; paint brushes; a tool for scratching (e.g. nails or bent paperclips)

- Before the session make your own scratchboard undersea picture:
  - Take a piece of thick paper or card and use the crayons to draw a colorful pattern all over it.
  - Mix a little dishwashing soap into some black paint. Paint a layer of black over the pattern.
  - When the paint has dried, scratch a picture of a mermaid / some fish / a shipwreck into the surface so it reveals the colors beneath.
- Give a piece of thick paper or card to each student. Place crayons, paint (with dishwashing soap added), brushes, and scratching tools on each table.
- Show the students your scratchboard undersea picture. Explain to them how to make it.
- The students make their own scratchboard pictures. They could copy one of the pictures from the book, if they want to.
- Display the finished pictures in the classroom.

## Key words



**beach** ..... Ariel takes Prince Eric to the beach. (p. 9)

**cloud** ..... Look at the dark clouds. (p. 7)

**fall** ..... Prince Eric falls in the water. (p. 8)

**human** ..... Stop playing with human things! (p. 3)

**mermaid** ..... You are a mermaid! (p. 3)

**prince** ..... Ariel sees Prince Eric. (p. 6)

**secret** ..... This is her secret place. (p. 4)

**storm** ..... It is a storm. (p. 7)

**top** ..... Ariel swims to the top of the water. (p. 5)

**toward** ..... She swims toward Prince Eric. (p. 14)



**beach** ..... Ariel takes Prince Eric to the beach. (p. 9)

**cloud** ..... Look at the dark clouds. (p. 7)

**fall** ..... Prince Eric falls in the water. (p. 8)

**human** ..... Stop playing with human things! (p. 3)

**mermaid** ..... You are a mermaid! (p. 3)

**prince** ..... Ariel sees Prince Eric. (p. 6)

**secret** ..... This is her secret place. (p. 4)

**storm** ..... It is a storm. (p. 7)

**top** ..... Ariel swims to the top of the water. (p. 5)

**toward** ..... She swims toward Prince Eric. (p. 14)



## While-Reading activities

### Activity 1 (pages 1–4)

Circle the right answers.

1 It is time to sing. Who is ready?

**Ariel / King Triton / the mermaids**

2 Who is in an old boat?

**Ariel / King Triton / the mermaids**

3 Who is angry?

**Ariel / King Triton / the mermaids**

4 Who loves human things?

**Ariel / King Triton / the mermaids**

### Activity 2 (pages 5–7)

Match.

1 Ariel

**a** has four legs.

2 The dog

**b** swims toward a big boat.

3 Prince Eric

**c** the dark clouds.

4 Look at

**d** has two legs.

### Activity 3 (pages 8–10)

Order the sentences.

- a Ariel takes Prince Eric to the beach. ☐
- b Prince Eric opens his eyes. ☐
- c Prince Eric falls in the water. ☐
- d Ariel leaves the beach. ☐
- e Ariel holds Prince Eric. ☐

### Activity 4 (pages 11–14)

Write the words.

leaves loves says swims thinks

- 1 Ariel \_\_\_\_\_ back to her home in the ocean.
- 2 Ariel \_\_\_\_\_ about Prince Eric.
- 3 Ariel \_\_\_\_\_ Prince Eric.
- 4 “You are a mermaid,” \_\_\_\_\_ King Triton.
- 5 Ariel \_\_\_\_\_ her father.



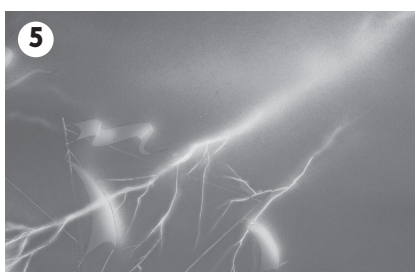


## After-Reading activities

### Activity 1

Write the words.

beach boat dog human mermaid storm



### Activity 2

What can they do? Check (✓).

	mermaids	humans
sing		
swim		
run		
jump		
play		
talk		
fly		



### Activity 3

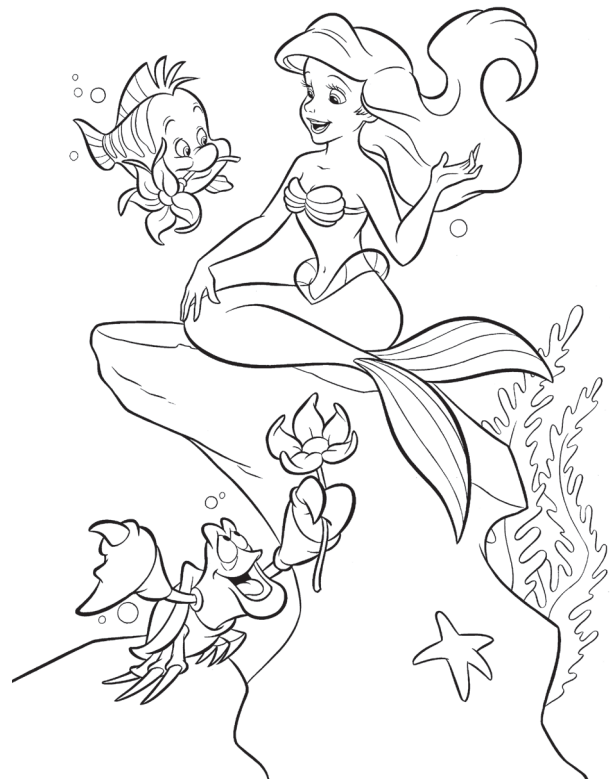
Circle the words.

cloud fall king prince secret top toward

l	o	t	o	p	s	t	m
c	s	o	w	f	a	l	l
i	e	h	j	k	u	c	i
a	c	e	v	l	o	l	m
p	r	i	n	c	e	o	k
r	e	y	o	y	m	u	i
n	t	o	w	a	r	d	n
t	o	s	e	c	c	l	g

### Activity 4

Color Ariel and her friends.



## Answer Key

### In the back of the Reader

#### Before You Read



#### After You Read

- 1 ☒ **N** Ariel is human.  
☒ **Y** Ariel loves Prince Eric.  
☒ **N** Triton is Ariel's brother.  
☒ **N** Prince Eric is a mermaid.  
☒ **Y** Ariel lives in the ocean.
- 2 ☐ Ariel sings for Triton.  
☐ Ariel lives with Prince Eric as a pet mermaid.  
☒ Ariel grows legs and finds Prince Eric.  
☐ Prince Eric lives in the ocean with Ariel.  
☐ Ariel meets a nice fish.

### In these Teacher's Notes

#### While-Reading activities

##### Activity 1

- 1 King Triton, the mermaids 2 Ariel
- 3 King Triton 4 Ariel

10 www.pearsonenglishkidsreaders.com

##### Activity 2

1 b 2 a 3 d 4 c

##### Activity 3

The correct order is: c, e, a, b, d

##### Activity 4

1 swims 2 thinks 3 loves 4 says 5 leaves

#### After-Reading activities

##### Activity 1

1 mermaid 2 human 3 dog 4 boat 5 storm  
6 beach

##### Activity 2

	mermaids	humans
sing	✓	✓
swim	✓	✓
run		✓
jump		✓
play	✓	✓
talk	✓	✓
fly		

##### Activity 3

l	o	t	o	p	s	t	m
c	s	o	w	f	a	l	l
i	e	h	j	k	u	c	i
a	c	e	v	l	o	l	m
p	r	i	n	c	e	o	k
r	e	y	o	y	m	u	i
n	t	o	w	a	r	d	n
t	o	s	e	c	c	l	g

THE LITTLE MERMAID LEVEL 2