



The Bravest Little Diver

A Storybook Reef original from Pediatric Dentistry of Florida



Pip was small. Small even for a sea turtle.
And tomorrow, Pip was going somewhere NEW.



New places made Pip's tummy feel like a washing machine full of minnows.

"What if I do not know what to do?" Pip whispered.



Shades heard. Shades always hears a worried whisper.
“Come,” he said. “I will teach you the Diver’s Way.”



"Rule one: brave does not mean not scared.
Brave means scared AND going anyway.
Even the biggest divers started small."



"Rule two: go slow like sea grass.
Breathe in... and out...
Big slow breaths make big brave hearts."



"Rule three: hold a friend's fin.

New places are half as new when someone you love is beside you."



"Rule four: ask every question you have.
Askers are the bravest explorers of all."



The next day, Pip went to the new place.
Pip breathed slow. Pip held a fin. Pip asked THREE questions.
And do you know what?



It was not so big after all.

Or maybe...

Pip had grown a little braver on the way through the door.



That night, Shades pinned a shiny badge on Pip's shell: JUNIOR DIVER.

“One small brave thing at a time,” said Shades.

“That is how oceans get explored.”



The Storybook Reef

Written and illustrated for the families of Southwest Florida by Pediatric Dentistry of Florida, Dr. Tim Verwest, DMD and Associates. Read all five books, and print the coloring pages too, any time you like.

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