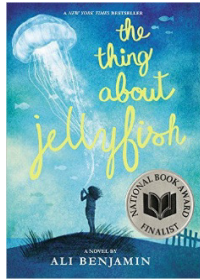


# *The Thing About Jellyfish*

By Ali Benjamin



## *Grade Levels:*

- Interest Level: 3-6
- Reading Level: 4.3

## *Synopsis:*

Suzy is trying to find answers to why her friend drowned even though she was such a strong swimmer and also deal with the fact she will never be able to apologize for what she did to her. After a museum class trip, she comes up with a theory and begins to explore how she can prove that a rare jellyfish sting was to blame for her friend's death. Through her journey of learning to deal with grief and forgiveness, Suzy uncovers a resilience she did not know she had and the power of friendship and new beginnings.

## *Author Website:*

<http://alibenjamin.com/site/>

Twitter: @AliBenj1

## *Book Trailer:*

<https://youtu.be/QnH7Rtysh7o>

## *Lesson Ideas:*

- *Teachingbooks.net* has links to author interviews, book guides, and lesson plans.
- <http://www.teachingbooks.net/media/pdf/LittleBrown/ThingAboutJellyfish.pdf>

## *Common Core Standards:*

- [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.3](#)  
Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.

- [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.5](#)  
Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot.

*Suggested Companion Titles:*

- *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- *Lost in the Sun* by Lisa Graff
- *Fuzzy Mud* by Louis Sachar
- *The Honest Truth* by Dan Gemeinhart

*Professional Reviews:*

- *Booklist* starred 08/2015
- *Kirkus Review* starred 6/1/2015
- *Publishers Weekly* 6/8/2015
- *School Library Journal* 8/1/2015