

# Starry-Eyed Stan

Have you ever heard a starfish sing? I'm not sure if they can...  
Apart from one young boastful chap, a star whose name was Stan.

One day, he got up on the stage with fans all gathered round,  
And as he sang, they cheered and swooned,  
"Oh, what a gorgeous sound!"

But the smell of all the creatures  
who'd assembled in one spot  
Attracted quite a nasty crab whose  
name was Lancelot.



"Mmm," he said, "what have we here? A feast of fish galore!  
I'll eat my fill and then come back to munch on even more!"

Now, when the fish saw Lancelot, they all began to flee,  
But starfish find that tricky so they tend to freeze, you see.

Young Stan still hadn't noticed that his audience was gone.  
He was caught up in the moment so continued singing on!

Then, Lancelot approached him with a hungry-looking grin,  
But stopped and started shouting,  
"Oh, good gracious, what's that din?"

The tune was just too lovely  
for a grouchy crab to bear.  
"You did it!" all the starfish cried.  
"You saved us with your flair!"



“Please teach us all to sing as well, we need a new defence.”  
But Stan just laughed, “You’ll never learn, my talent’s too immense!”

The next day, Stan was singing to an audience of eels,  
When his show was interrupted by some not-too-distant squeals.

Then suddenly, there came a noise; a click! and then a clack!  
And everybody knew that grumpy Lancelot was back!

Stan stood strong and faced him as he sang with all his might,  
But Lancelot looked different and seemed far less full of fright.

Just as Stan had lost all hope, he heard a little yelp...  
It was Jay, the tiny starfish,  
who just knew she had to help.

Jay could hear her voice was wobbling  
as she struggled with the song,  
And she knew for it to work she’d  
need more friends to sing along.



So she hunted high and low, behind the rocks... and in the cave...  
And she begged the other starfish to join in and to be brave.

Then, one by one, each starfish stood until they formed a crowd,  
And the song began to grow as each one bellowed loud and proud.



Vibrations moved the water  
and soon rocked the ocean bed,  
And the sound waves blew the ear  
defenders off the big crab's head!



The crab just couldn't stand  
the noise and so he ran away.  
Then the singing turned to cheers of  
"Yes! We did it! Oh, hooray!"

Stan stood humbly on the stage to thank his tiny friend  
And all the other starfish who had helped him in the end.

He promised to make up for all the selfishness he'd shown,  
As he knew that he could not defeat old Lancelot alone.

He told them all to meet him in the morning by the stage,  
And to bring along their friends of any species, size or age.

For Stan had formed a plan to keep the nasty crab away...  
With some music and some teamwork and  
the best friends in the bay!



# Questions

1. Where does Stan live? Tick one.

under the sea

on a farm

in the jungle

2. What does Stan love to do? Tick one.

run

sing

sleep

3. What type of creature was Lancelot? Tick one.

a crab

a lobster

a shark

4. Who helps Stan to sing? Tick one.

Jill

Jess

Jay

5. What did Stan do to thank the other sea creatures for their help? Tick one.

he set up a singing school

he took them out for the day

he gave them a gift

# Answers

1. Where does Stan live? Tick one.

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**he set up a singing school**

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# Questions

1. What type of creature is Stan? Tick one.

a fish

a crab

a starfish

2. What attracted Lancelot the Crab to the gathering? Tick one.

the sound of the fish

the sight of the fish

the smell of the fish

3. What did the fish ask Stan to teach them?

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4. Draw a line to complete the sentences.

Then suddenly there came a noise;

And eagerly, he begged

“I’ll eat my fill and then come back

the other starfish to be brave.

to munch on even more!”

a click and then a clack.

5. Complete this sentence.

And the sound waves blew the ear defenders off the big  
crab’s \_\_\_\_\_!

tread

lead

head

# Answers

1. What type of creature is Stan? Tick one.

- a fish  
 a crab  
 **a starfish**

2. What attracted Lancelot the Crab to the gathering? Tick one.

- the sound of the fish  
 the sight of the fish  
 **the smell of the fish**

3. What did the fish ask Stan to teach them?

**The fish asked Stan to teach them how to sing.**

4. Draw a line to complete the sentences.

Then suddenly there came a noise;	the other starfish to be brave.
And eagerly, he begged	to munch on even more!"
"I'll eat my fill and then come back	a click and then a clack.

5. Complete this sentence.

And the sound waves blew the ear defenders off the big  
 crab's   **head**  !

# Questions

1. How was Stan described at the beginning of the story? Tick one.

friendly

boastful

grumpy

2. Why did Stan continue to sing when Lancelot appeared?

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3. Find three adjectives in the text used to describe Lancelot the crab.

1.

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2.

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3.

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4. Order these events from the story by writing the number 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the boxes below.

Bob and the other starfish sing loudly to scare Lancelot.	
Stan's singing scares Lancelot away.	
Stan starts a singing school for his friends.	
Lancelot's ear defenders stop him hearing the noise.	

5. Find a word in the story that means the same as **talent**.

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6. What did Stan learn by the end of the story?

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# Questions

1. How was Stan described at the beginning of the story? Tick one.

- friendly  
 boastful  
 grumpy

2. Why did Stan continue to sing when Lancelot appeared?

**Stan continued to sing because he was caught up in the moment and hadn't noticed Lancelot had appeared.**

3. Find three adjectives in the text used to describe Lancelot the crab.

**Adjectives may include: nasty, hungry-looking grin, grouchy, grumpy, big and old.**

4. Order these events from the story by writing the number 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the boxes below.

Bob and the other starfish sing loudly to scare Lancelot.	<b>3</b>
Stan's singing scares Lancelot away.	<b>1</b>
Stan starts a singing school for his friends.	<b>4</b>
Lancelot's ear defenders stop him hearing the noise.	<b>2</b>

5. Find a word in the story that means the same as **talent**.

**The word that means the same as talent is 'flair'.**

6. What did Stan learn by the end of the story?

**Accept answers that focus on Stan learning the importance of working together as a team. He realises the importance of friendship.**