
THE WAY TO HAVE A FRIEND

- 1 *Read the story **Opo The Dolphin** and answer the questions: Was the dolphin afraid of people? How do you know that?*

Opo The Dolphin

<p>Opo ['oupə], Opononi ['oupə'nounɪ], New Zealand ['nju: 'zi:lənd], Jill [dʒɪl]</p>
--

In New Zealand there was a quiet little village near the sea called Opononi. Fishermen tied up their boats in the harbour¹. Campers came in summer with tents and caravans². A few people spent their holidays in the only hotel.

Opononi was a quiet little place for fishing and swimming or playing on the sand. Hardly anyone outside New Zealand had ever heard of it.

Then came a dolphin. She was big and young and playful. She followed a fisherman one day when he was out at sea. She dived under his boat, she came up in front of it, then swam behind it. She followed it, followed, followed it all the way to the shore at Opononi.

In a few weeks all the fishermen knew the dolphin. She swam quite close to their boats. She liked the sounds of the motor boats. The fishermen began to watch for her. They rubbed her with their oars, and she seemed to like it. She followed the fishermen to the harbour. She swam in and out among the boats.

¹ **harbour** ['hɑ:bə] — гавань, порт

² **caravan** ['kærəvæn] — жилой автоприцеп



People stood on the shore and watched her. Then they gave her a name. They called her Opo because she seemed to belong to Opononi. Soon she became friendly not only with the fishermen, but also with other people. She swam right to the place where the waves met the sandy beach, where people were swimming and playing in the sea. There were men, women and children in the water, gay rubber rings and big coloured beach balls.

Swish! There was Opo the dolphin. She dived here. She came up there. She really seemed to want to play. Soon she came to the beach nearly every day. She let people pat her and stroke her¹.

She bounced their balls on her nose. She liked to join in the fun. Best of all she liked to play with children; and the children, of course, loved the great gentle dolphin.

Opononi had always been a quiet little village, but suddenly it was quiet no longer. Crowds of campers came with caravans and tents. Crowds of people came and wanted to stay in the only hotel. The beach was full of people. Everyone wanted to see Opo the dolphin. Everyone wanted to swim near her, to pat her and stroke her and play with her. Everyone wanted to go to Opononi just for this.

It was a hot, happy summer, and Opononi was full of fun and laughter. Opo the dolphin dived under the waves and came up where no one expected her. She played with the children day after day. Then after a while she chose her own special friend. This was a girl whose name was Jill.

Jill lived on the road behind the beach and she went swimming every day. Opo always knew when Jill was in the water and she left the other children and dashed

¹ **She let people pat her and stroke her.** — Она позволяла людям похлопывать себя и гладить.

through the waves to her. She swam beside her, she dived under her and came up in front of her. Sometimes she even let Jill ride on her back.

“Fancy!”¹ everyone said. “Fancy a wild dolphin from the sea that lets a child ride on her back.”

Jill felt very proud, for no one had ever seen a child riding on a dolphin’s back. Nothing like that had ever happened before.

Yet, perhaps it had happened before. Long, long, long ago, two thousand years ago there were coins and brooches² with pictures on them. The pictures showed a child on a dolphin’s back. Two thousand years ago the people of Greece and Rome told stories of boys who rode on dolphins’ backs. These stories have come down through the ages.

Do You Understand The Story?

2 *Number the facts below in the order in which they come in the story. You may look back at the story.*

- The dolphin let Jill ride on her back.
- The dolphin joined the people in the fun.
- The dolphin followed a fisherman one day when he was out at sea.
- The people gave the dolphin a name.
- Crowds of campers began to come to Opononi.

¹ **Fancy!** — Подумайте только!

² **brooch** [broutʃ] — брошь

3 *Number the following points in the order in which they come in the story. Then read the part of the text to which each point belongs.*

- The dolphin appears in Opononi.
- The dolphin chooses her own special friend.
- The dolphin becomes friendly with people.
- Opononi becomes popular with campers.

4 *Choose the correct ending to each sentence.*

- 1 Crowds of campers came to Opononi because:
 - it was a nice quiet place for a rest.
 - they wanted to see Opo the dolphin.
 - it was a fine place for fishing and boating.
- 2 Everyone wanted to swim beside the dolphin because:
 - people wanted to pat and stroke her.
 - they expected the dolphin to let them ride on her back.
 - they had never seen a dolphin before.
- 3 Jill felt very proud because:
 - the dolphin let no one else ride on her back.
 - the dolphin had chosen her as a special friend.
 - all the people looked at her in wonder.
- 4 The pictures on old Greek and Roman coins showed:
 - a child on a dolphin's back;
 - a wild dolphin in the waves;
 - a boy stroking a dolphin.

5 *Answer the questions.*

- 1 What kind of place was Opononi? Where was it situated?
- 2 How did the dolphin first appear there?
- 3 What did the dolphin enjoy doing?
- 4 Why did the people call the dolphin Opo?
- 5 Why did Opononi become a popular place for a holiday?
- 6 Whom did the dolphin choose as her own special friend?
- 7 How did the dolphin show her love for Jill?

6 *Describe:*

- the village;
- the dolphin;
- the fun the children and grown-ups had.

How Good Is Your English?

(see pp 32—33)



What Do You Think?

- 7 *The dolphin used to appear at Opononi every day. Why do you think she liked that place?*
- 8 *Why do you think the girl became the dolphin's special friend?*
- 9 *Do you know any story about dolphins? Can you tell it?*





How Good Is Your English?

10 Use the proper word from the box.

- 1 Could you turn the down on TV — it is very loud.
- 2 You shouldn't take what doesn't to you.
- 3 When we got to the party, there was quite a of people there already.
- 4 Don't talk with your mouth !
- 5 Is there anything that you'd like to do today?
- 6 The dinosaurs ['daɪnəsɔ:z] died out 65 million years
- 7 They stayed at a not far from the seaside.

hotel
belong
special
sound
crowd
full
ago

11 Choose and write what Opo the Dolphin: (a) let somebody do; (b) did not let everybody do.

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She let people pat and stroke her. • She let everybody ride on her back. • She let the fishermen rub her with their oars. • She let all the children play with her. • She let only children swim near her. |
|--|

- a She let
- b She did not let

12 Match the words in column A with the words in column B.

A	B
coloured	people
delightful	greetings
friendly	days
playful	pets
loud	balls
sandy	sounds
special	beaches
large	crowd

13 Use the correct preposition where necessary.

- 1 Nobody knew who the boat belonged
- 2 The pets are faithful friends who followtheir owners everywhere.
- 3 The village was situated quite the harbour.
- 4 The beach is always full..... campers on fine summer days.
- 5 The girl liked to swim the dolphin.
- 6 The boys used to dive the boats and come up in front of them.



14 Choose the words which you can use to describe:
(a) the village; (b) the dolphin (✓).

- a *the village* — quiet, full of fun, noisy, little, nice, a lot of tents and caravans, a lot of hotels, popular, dirty, a lot of shops, pleasant
- b *the dolphin* — friendly, playful, young, big, little, gentle, wild, aggressive, dangerous, faithful, frightened

15 *Past Indefinite? Past Perfect? Choose the correct form of the verb (✓).*

- 1 It was a quiet little place of which nobody (ever heard, had ever heard).
- 2 People called the dolphin Opo because she (seemed, had seemed) to belong to Opononi.
- 3 Crowds of campers with caravans and tents (came, had come) because they (wanted, had wanted) to see Opo the dolphin.
- 4 The girl (lived, had lived) on the road behind the beach and she (went, had gone) swimming every day.
- 5 Jill (felt, had felt) proud because no one (ever saw, had ever seen) a child riding on a dolphin's back.
- 6 It (happened, had happened) thousands of years ago.