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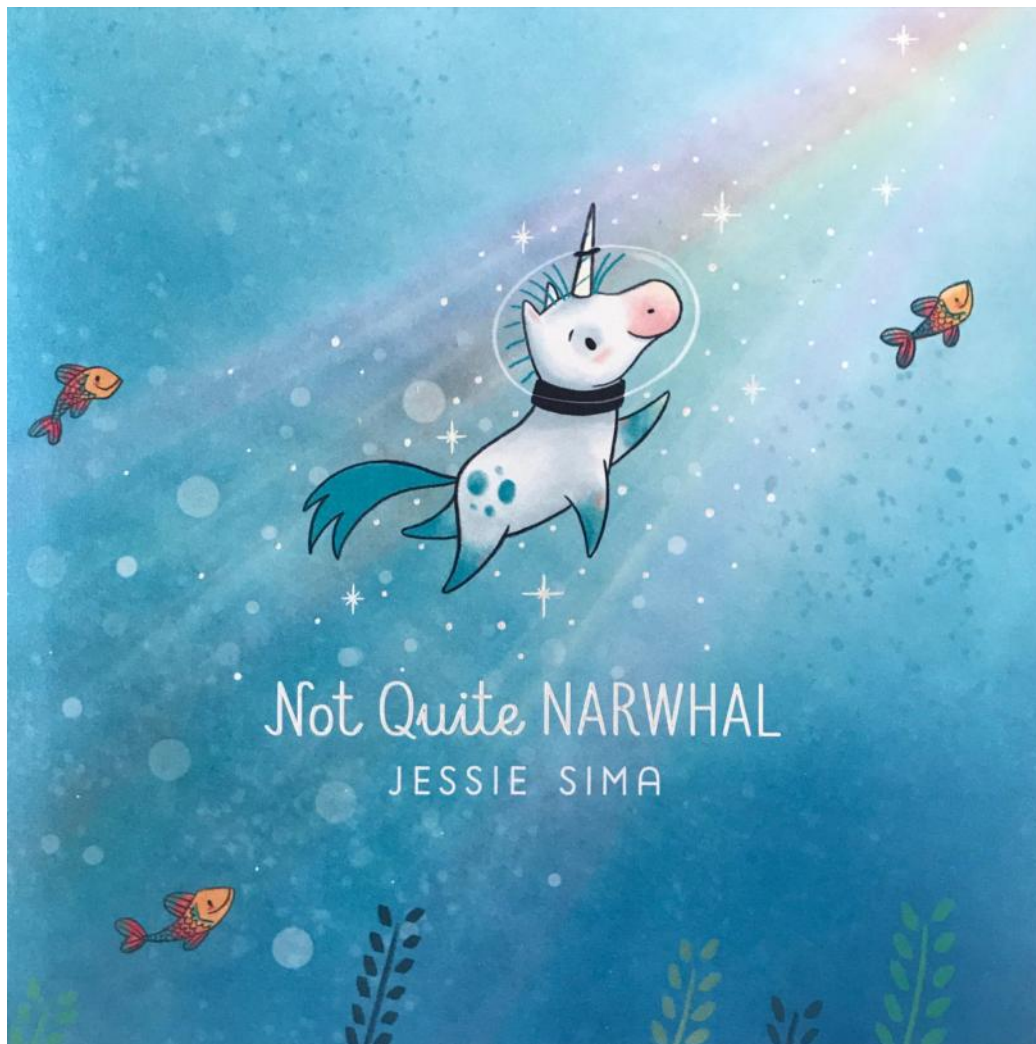
Myth and Magic!

Featured Story:

by Jessie Sima

Not Quite Narwhal

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Inspiration from WAM's Collection



Handle in the Shape of a Beast Mask with a Small Bear

Han Dynasty, Chinese, Bronze and gilt,
1955.2 ([eMuseum Link](#))

This handle was made of metal. We can see the beast's big eyes, protruding (sticking-out) nose, and decorative horns--or feathers--up top. There is a little fierce bear on top of the beast's head! What type of beast could this be? What magical talents could it have?

Gilt Hairpin with a Phoenix Finial and a Dangling Bat

19th century, Qing Dynasty, Chinese, gilt silver alloy, kingfisher feathers and glass beads, 1922.158 ([eMuseum Link](#))

This beautiful piece of jewelry is crafted in the shape of a phoenix; a magical bird that bursts into flames at the end of its life. The phoenix is on the filial--or top end--of the pin. From the ashes of the flame, a baby phoenix arises brand new!



Predella Panel Representing The Phoenix Rising From The Flames

1964, Clare Leighton,
graphite, india ink and colored
gouaches on cream laid paper,
1990.47 ([eMuseum Link](#))



Here we have the magical phoenix painted along with the flames that surround it at the end of its life. This was a color sketch for a stained glass artwork.

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My Own Mythic Beast

Supplies

- Paper
- Your Choice:
 - Drawing Materials like crayons, oil pastels, colored pencils, pencils, etc.
 - Paints such as tempera paints or watercolors, and painting materials like brushes, paint palette, water, and paper towels.



The Orchid Chicken was inspired by this orchid flower!

Create

Today you will draw or paint your favorite mythic animal, or design your very own new mythic beast!

1. Decide if you would like to draw a favorite mythical animal or make your own from your imagination.
2. On your paper, draw out your initial design.
 - If you are doing a favorite animal, think about the animal's body and special skills.
 - If you are creating a new mythic beast, what will you put together? What will inspire your beast? The example above was inspired by an orchid flower!
3. Erase any extra lines you will not need.
4. Start adding color! Don't forget to think about patterns you can include!
5. Have fun - you can make up a name for your creature and explain what special skills it has!

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My Mix and Match!

Supplies

- Printed Template (next page)
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Scissors
- Your choice of drawing materials: crayons, colored pencils, or markers.



Create

We are going to draw three fun creatures, and with just a couple snips of our scissors, we can mix-and-match to make new creatures!

1. First, print the template page.
2. Cut along the black lines on the template. Don't cut any further into the paper than the end of the black lines.
3. Fold the tabs in toward the center so that the three tabs from the right section and the three tabs from the left section overlap the middle section of the paper.
4. On each set of three tabs draw one creature in pencil. Draw the head in the top tab, the body in the middle tab, and the feet (or bottom part of the animal) in the bottom tab.
5. Once drawn in pencil, flip the tabs to see if your heads, bodies, and feet match up near each other; make any necessary fixes.
6. Lastly, color your creations in and have fun mixing and matching to make mythic creatures!

Draw on the middle section here



Draw on the other side of the paper on these three sections.

Cut along this line

Draw on the other side of the paper on these three sections.

Cut along this line

Cut along this line

Cut along this line