

Text of 'The Lost Thing' by Shaun Tan

So you want to hear a story? Well, I used to know a whole lot of pretty interesting ones. Some of them so funny you'd laugh yourself unconscious, others so terrible you'd never want to repeat them. But I can't remember any of those. So I'll just tell you about the time I found that lost thing.

This all happened a few summers ago, one rather ordinary day by the beach. Not much was going on. I was, as usual, working tirelessly on my bottle-top collection and stopped to look up for no particular reason. That's when I first saw the thing. I must have stared at it for a while. I mean, it had a really weird look about it – a sad, lost sort of look. Nobody else seemed to notice it was there. Too busy doing beach stuff, I guess. Naturally, I was intrigued. I decided to investigate.

Sure didn't do much. It just sat there, looking out of place. I was baffled. It was quite friendly though, once I started talking to it. I played with the thing for most of the afternoon. It was great fun, yet I couldn't help feeling that something wasn't quite right.

Activity 1) Draw what you think the 'Lost thing' looks like. As an extra challenge write some adjectives round the outside of your picture that helps describe the lost thing. E.g. playful

Now watch the video of part of the book: <https://vimeo.com/499225307/949e418d90>

Activity 2) Answer the following questions

- 1) What is the boy doing before he finds the lost thing?
- 2) Is this how you imagined the Lost Thing would look?
- 3) The boy says "it had a weird look about it – a sad lost sort of look." Is that what you thought when you saw it?
- 4) "It was quite friendly, once I started talking to it." How does he talk to it?
- 5) Why does everyone else ignore it?