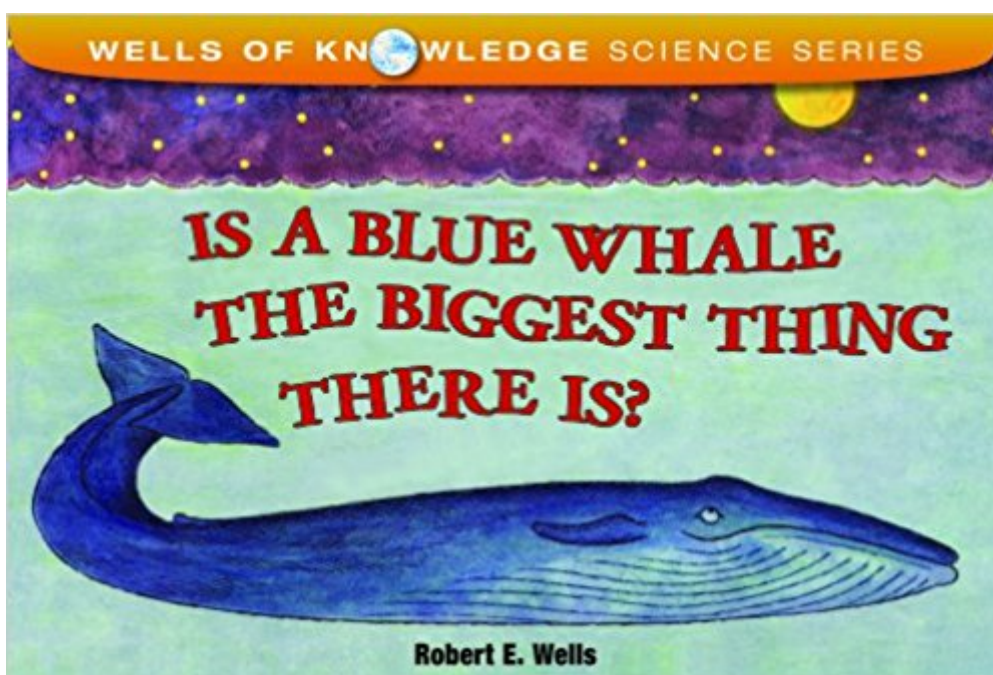


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# Is A Blue Whale The Biggest Thing There Is? (Wells Of Knowledge Science Series)



## Synopsis

The blue whale is the biggest creature on Earth. But a hollow Mount Everest could hold billions of whales! And though Mount Everest is enormous, it is pretty small compared to the Earth. This book is an innovative exploration of size and proportion.

## Book Information

Series: Wells of Knowledge Science Series

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Albert Whitman & Company (January 1, 1993)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 0.1 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #74,851 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > General](#) #371 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Math](#) #1318 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This raffish primer on the meaning of "big" delivers a healthy, age-appropriate jolt to common assumptions about proportion and numbers. Beginning with a blue whale's flukes ("the 'flipper' parts of the tail, all by themselves bigger than most of Earth's creatures"), Wells projects the relative sizes of Mount Everest (20 giant jars filled with 100 blue whales each), the earth, the sun, the Milky Way, right out to the universe itself. Child-friendly watercolors show a bag of 100 planet earths dwarfed by the sun, and a crate of 100 "sun-sized oranges" inconsequential atop Antares, "a red supergiant star." Somewhat understandably, Wells's pictures and analogies wither as he tackles the magnitude of galaxies and the universe. To prevent readers from choking on these perceptual mouthfuls, valuable introductory and final notes suggest a relatively concrete scale: for instance, counting to a thousand takes about 12 minutes, counting to a million takes 3 weeks at 10 hours per day, but counting to a billion takes a lifetime. Ages 6-11. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

--This text refers to the School & Library Binding edition.

Grade 2-3-With its bright primary colors; cartoon illustrations; and readable, conversational text, this picture book will find a niche in most collections. Not a story as such, it begins on the title page with the question, "Is a Blue Whale the Biggest Thing There Is?" and answers it in a series of cumulative examples. Millions of blue whales placed into enormous jars and stacked up don't begin to compare to the colossal size of Mt. Everest, just as even 100 Mt. Everests piled up only make up a whisker on the face of the Earth. Taking this comparison to the outer limits of the imagination, Wells ends up with the biggest thing there is-the universe. Librarians and teachers could use this book to introduce units on size, measuring, or relativity. And it would be useful to demonstrate how to make beginning graphs in a fun, accessible way. Jan Shephard Ross, Dixie Elementary Magnet School, Lexington, KY Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the School & Library Binding edition.

Great for kids to compare the size of the largest things in the universe including an elephant, a blue whale, mount Everest, the Earth, the Sun, Supergiant star, Milky Way, and the universe. It is done in a fun way that kids can understand. When applicable gave interesting scientific facts but not overly overwhelming. Glad I got it in a hardback for longevity. My only complaint is that I wish they started with an elephant next to a human then went to the blue whale. I also think they should have done our solar system before doing the entire Milky Way. Also might have been fun to have included Jupiter before doing the Sun then the solar system... just to show how big gas giants really are. ONE FACTUAL CORRECTION - It states there are nine planets in the solar system, but there is only 8 once Pluto was demoted to a dwarf planet. This is easy to clear up with kids... and you can even have a mock debate on whether Pluto should or should not be a planet...

I love this book - the illustrations do a wonderful job showing the relative sizes of things. It begins with the mighty Blue Whale (surely the largest thing in existence), and shows how this small majestic creature is against the backdrop of planets, stars and the universe. It's hard not to read - even as an adult - without stirring the imagination. Great for kids... definitely a keeper.

This is a great book to compare sizes. I needed it for a homework assignment and fell in love with it.

THIS BOOK IS AN AWESOME WAY TO TEACH CHILDREN AND ADULTS PERSPECTIVE ON

WHERE WE FIT INTO THE CREATION. THIS KINDLE EDITION HAS A FEW MISPELLED WORDS BUT THE STORY IS GREAT.

This little book brought so much wonder to my 4 year old. He literally said whoa. We love it and all of the Wells of knowledge books.

I love this book! It really gives a true perspective on how big (and small) we are...and how enormous the universe is...and does it in a way that is relatable to children. I bought this book based on the positive reviews here and I'm so glad I did! Not only does my son learn about Earth, the sun, and the universe, but so do I. I think this book is brilliant! Educational without being stuffy.

Our grandchildren like this book.

Such a cool book to give perspective to the world in which we live. Great for all ages!

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