

# *Astro: The Steller Sea Lion*

Written by Jeanne Walker Harvey

Illustrated by Shennen Bersani

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For Ages 4-9, Lexile: 790

## Swim Along With Astro...

Astro is a stellar Steller sea lion! When only a few days old, Astro is found orphaned on an island off the coast of California. The Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito, California helps raise and care for him while he grows up. When big enough, his friends at the Marine Mammal Center attempt to release him back to the wild where he needs to be, but Astro has other plans. Just like a lost dog finding his way home, Astro keeps swimming back towards the Center, crossing miles of open ocean water to do so. After several attempts, people realize that Astro is too accustomed to humans and will just keep coming back. Based on real events, this children's book will take readers on an exciting journey through some of Astro's travels that have now taken him across the U.S. to his current home at the Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut.



## “For Creative Minds”

Teachers and Parents will love the educational section, which includes the following educational activities:



- **Steller Sea Lions**
- **Steller Sea Lions Threatened and Endangered**
- **Where in the World? A Map Activity**
- **Steller Sea Lion Life Cycle**
- **Sea Lion or Seal? What's the Same? What's the Difference?**

There are also “**Related Websites,**” “**Interactive Math, Reading, and Comprehension Quizzes,**” and “**Teaching Activities**” on Sylvan Dell Publishing's website, <http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com>, to help parents and educators extend the learning possibilities. Thanks to Ann Bauer, Director of Education at The Marine Mammal Center, and the staff at Mystic Aquarium, a division of Sea Research Foundation, Inc., for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.



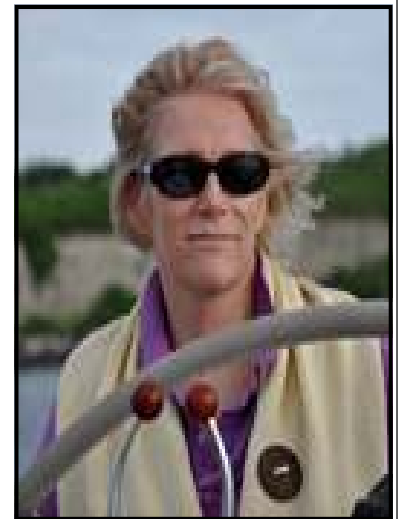
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## About the Author/Illustrator



**Jeanne Walker Harvey** grew up in Orange County, California and has always had a fascination with marine animals. She teaches Language Arts and a Writing Workshop at her local public middle school. Jeanne is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators with many magazine articles to her credit, including articles about nature and marine animals. She lives in Marin County, California with her husband, two teenage sons, and a black lab who sits at her feet when she writes. ***Astro: The Steller Sea Lion*** is her debut picture book.

Award-winning children's book illustrator **Shennen Bersani** has had two million copies of her illustrated books cherished and read by families throughout the world. She has been a freelance illustrator since 1989. She works primarily with colored pencils, sometimes using a mixed media technique of colored pencils, crayons, and paint. Her art delivers a unique blend of realism, heartfelt emotion, and life lessons for children of all ages. Shennen's long-time love of sea lions and their protection influenced this emotional and realistic portrayal of a sea lion hero in ***Astro: the Steller Sea Lion***. Her best selling books include: *Nana, What's Cancer?; Snakes: Long, Longer Longest; Ocean Counting: Odd Numbers;* and *My Sister, Alicia May*. Her art also appears in many magazines, newspapers, and publications. Shennen lives with her family near Boston, Massachusetts.



## Contact Information

For additional information on ***Astro: The Steller Sea Lion*** and other Sylvan Dell books, please contact our sales team at 877-958-2600 or [Info@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:Info@SylvanDellPublishing.com).

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