



## Stitched Sea Monkey

EEP! EEP! Those scurvy little Sea Monkeys from the amazing **Oliver and the Seawigs**, by scurvy scribbling seadogs Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre, have gone all woolly!

Stitch yourself a squishy little Sea Monkey and you too can pretend you are off to a magical place where islands wear hair pieces and the seaweed is oddly judgemental. But be warned: the more Stitched Sea Monkeys you make the more kelp-wrapped sea bananas you will need to grow.



### Stuff you need

- 4 or 5 4mm double pointed needles (or circular needle if using magic loop)
- Yarn: 50g black DK acrylic yarn
- Yarn: 10g pink/peach DK acrylic yarn
- Small amount grey DK acrylic yarn
- 20cm x 10cm white felt
- 10cm x 10cm grey felt
- Sewing needle and white thread
- 6 x 30cm (12n) black pipecleaners
- Tapestry needle
- Stuffing
- A good supply of kelp-wrapped sea bananas in case it gets hungry

### Size

30cm (12inches) approx.

**Gauge:** 22 sts and 30 rows = 10cm (4in) in st st.

### Skills you'll need

Knitting. Purling. Increasing. Decreasing. I-cord. Basic sewing and embroidery.

### Abbreviations

**K** = knit      **P** = purl      **Inc1** = increase one (knit into the front and back of a stitch to make an extra stitch)      **K2tog** = knit two stitches together

## Pattern

### Head

Cast on 6 sts in black yarn.

Divide sts between three or four needles, place marker at start of round and join to knit in the round (or divide stitches in half for magic loop).

Row 1. K around

Row 2. Inc1 around (12 sts)

Row 3 and all odd rows to Row 31. K around

Row 4. (K, inc1) around (18 sts)

Row 6. (K2, inc1) around (24 sts)

Row 8. (K3, inc1) around (30 sts)

Row 10. (K4, inc1) around (36 sts)

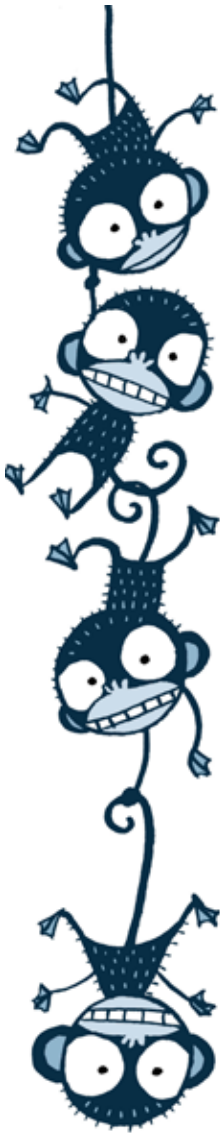
Row 12. (K5, inc1) around (42 sts)

Row 14. (K6, inc1) around (48 sts)

Row 16. (K7, inc1) around (54 sts)

1

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Row 18. (K8, inc1) around (60 sts)  
 Row 20. (K9, inc1) around (66 sts)  
 Row 22. (K10, inc1) around (72 sts)  
 Row 24. (K11, inc1) around (78 sts)  
 Row 26. (K12, inc1) around (84 sts)  
 Row 28. (K13, inc1) around (90 sts)  
 Row 30. (K14, inc1) around (96 sts)  
 Row 32. K around  
 Row 33. (K14, k2tog) around (90 sts)  
 Row 34. and all even rows to Row 58.  
 Knit around  
 Row 35. (K13, k2tog) around (84 sts)  
 Row 37. (K12, k2tog) around (78 sts)  
 Row 39. (K11, k2tog) around (72 sts)  
 Row 41. (K10, k2tog) around (66 sts)

### Body Top

Cast on 60 sts in black yarn.  
 Divide sts between three or four needles, place marker at start of round and join to knit in the round (or divide stitches in half for magic loop).  
 Row 1 to row 20. K around  
 Row 21. (K4, k2tog) around (50 sts)  
 Row 22. K around  
 Row 23. (K3, k2tog) around (40 sts)  
 Row 24. K around  
 Row 25. K around  
 Cast off and cut yarn leaving 15cm for sewing.

Row 43. (K9, k2tog) around (60 sts)  
 Row 45. (K8, k2tog) around (54 sts)  
 Row 47. (K7, k2tog) around (48 sts)  
 Row 49. (K6, k2tog) around (42 sts)  
 Row 51. (K5, k2tog) around (36 sts)  
 Row 53. (K4, k2tog) around (30 sts)  
 Row 55. (K3, k2tog) around (24 sts)  
 Stuff head  
 Row 57. (K2, k2tog) around (18 sts)  
 Row 59. (K, k2tog) around (12 sts)  
 Row 60. k2tog around (6 sts)

Cut yarn leaving a 12cm tail, thread through remaining stitches and pull tight and knot to close. Darn in ends.

### Body Bottom

Cast on 15 sts in black yarn.  
 Knit 25 rows in garter stitch (knit row, knit row, knit row etc)  
 Cast off and cut yarn leaving 20cm tail for sewing. Darn in cast on end.

### Tail

Cast on 8 sts in black yarn leaving 15cm (6 in) tail.  
 Knit 25cm (10 in) as i-cord  
 Cut yarn, thread through stitches and pull tight to close. Darn in cast off end tail.

### Ears

Cast on 15 sts in black yarn leaving 15cm (6 in) tail.  
 Knit 10 rows in stocking stitch starting with k row  
 Row 11. K, k2tog, k, k2tog, k3, k2tog, k, k2tog, k (11sts)  
 Row 12. P, p2tog, p2tog, p, p2tog, p2tog, p (7sts)  
 Row 13. K, k2tog, k, k2tog, k (5sts)  
 Row 14. P2tog, p, p2tog (3 sts)  
 Cut yarn, thread through stitches and pull tight to close. Darn in cast off end tail.

### Arms (make two)

Cast on 5 sts in black yarn leaving 15cm (6in) tail.  
 Knit 10cm (4in) as i-cord

Do not cast off yet. You will now need to knit the thumb and each finger separately by knitting some of the stitches and putting the rest of them on a holder.

#### Thumb

Knit 2 sts as i-cord and put the remaining 3 sts on a spare needle or holder or bit of spare yarn.  
 Knit 4 rows as i-cord  
 Cut yarn, thread through sts and pull tight to close.

### How to knit i-cord

Cast on stitches on DPN  
 Push stitches to opposite end of needle  
 Knit stitches  
 Push stitches to opposite end of needle  
 Knit stitches  
 Repeat to create i-cord

Knot and darn in end.

#### Fingers

Put the next st on the holder back onto a needle.  
 Inc1 then knit 4 rows as i-cord  
 Cut yarn, thread through sts and pull tight to close.  
 Knot and darn in end.  
 Repeat this for each remaining st to make the other fingers.

Cut yarn, thread through stitches and pull tight to close. Darn in cast off end tail.

## Legs (make two)

Cast on 6 sts in black yarn leaving 15cm (6in) tail.  
Knit 10cm (4in) as i-cord

Do not cast off yet. You will now need to knit each toe separately by knitting some of the stitches and putting the rest of them on a holder.

### Toes

Knit 2 sts as i-cord and put the remaining 4 sts on a spare needle or holder or bit of spare yarn.  
Knit 4 rows as i-cord

Cut yarn, thread through sts and pull tight to close.  
Knot and darn in end.

Put the next 2 sts on the holder back onto a needle.  
Knit 4 rows as i-cord  
Cut yarn, thread through sts and pull tight to close.  
Knot and darn in end.

Repeat the last part with the last 2 sts.



## Mouth

Cast on 3 sts in pink yarn leaving 20 cm (8 in) tail.  
Row 1. K across  
Row 2 and all even rows to Row 8. P across  
Row 3. K, inc1, k (4 sts)  
Row 5. K, inc1 twice, k (6 sts)  
Row 7. K2, inc1 twice, k2 (8 sts)  
Row 9. K3, inc1 twice, k3 (10 sts)  
Row 10 to 30. Knit in st st starting with a purl row  
Row 31. K3, k2tog twice, k3 (8 sts)  
Row 32 and all even rows to row 36. P across  
Row 33. K2, k2tog twice, k2 (6 sts)  
Row 35. K, k2tog twice, k (4 sts)  
Row 37. K, k2tog, k (3 sts)  
Row 38. P across

Cut yarn, thread through sts and pull tight to close.  
Darn in cast off end.

## Inner ears (make two)

Cast on 10 sts in pink yarn leaving 15cm (6 in) tail.  
Row 1 to 8. K across  
Row 9. K, k2tog, k4, k2tog, k (8 sts)  
Row 10. K, k2tog, k2, k2tog, k (6 sts)  
Row 11. K, k2tog twice, k (4 sts)  
Row 12. K across

Cut yarn, thread through sts and pull tight to close.  
Darn in ends.

## Finishing

1. Turn the Body Top inside out so the purl side is outside.
2. Mark four corners of wider end of the body with contrasting bits of yarn. Easiest way to do this is to fold it flat so the two sides touch and mark each end.
3. Sew body bottom to the wider end of the body with each corner sewn to the marked places.
4. Turn right side out so knit side is outside.
5. Stuff body. Try to make sure it has a squarish shape by shaping the stuffing before you put it in.
6. Sew top of main body to the bottom of the head.
7. Sew on ears either side of head.
8. Sew in inner ears.
9. Sew mouth across bottom of face between ears.
10. For arms and legs: Fold 4 pipecleaners in half. Make sure you fold the tips of each pipecleaner over just a tiny bit to make sure the pointy wire inside is tucked away. Insert the folded end into the cast on end of each appendage and push through to the hand/foot end without coming out of the end. It helps to hold the cord out straight as you're pushing the pipecleaner to stop it popping out of the side. Feed the bare end sticking out of the cast on end into the body where you want to arm/leg to stick out and use the yarn tail to sew it into place. With another piece of yarn sew through the pipecleaner at the hand/foot end



a few times to hold it in place. You should be able to get the needle through the middle of the pipecleaner and in and out a couple of times.

11. For tail: Twist together two pipecleaners. Make sure you fold the tips of each pipecleaner over just a tiny bit to make sure the pointy wire inside is tucked away. Leave a little loop at one end of the pipecleaners for you to sew through (as with the legs/arms) to secure the pipecleaner in place. Push the pipecleaners into the tail from the cast on end, making sure it doesn't come out of the tail end. Feed the bare ends sticking out of the cast on end into the body where you want the tail to stick out and use the yarn tail to sew it into place. With another piece of yarn sew through the pipecleaner at the tail end a few times to hold it in place. You should be able to get the needle through the middle of the pipecleaner and in and out a couple of times.

12. Cut 2 x 6cm circles in white felt to make the eyes. Sew them into place with white thread and a sewing needle.

13. Cut out small felt circles for pupils. You can sew these into place or use velcro to make them moveable.

14. Cut a small triangle about 2cm each side from grey felt. Cut a tiny bit off one point to make a webbed foot shape. Sew or stick the toes to this felt to make a webbed foot. Repeat for second foot.

15. Cut a small shell shape about 2cm by 3cm from grey felt. Sew or stick the fingers to this felt to make webbed hand. Repeat for second hand.

16. Embroider nose by sewing three right diagonal, three middle vertical and three left diagonal stitches in middle of mouth with pink yarn.

17. Embroider smiley mouth with black yarn. You can cut out other mouths in felt to put on top.

18. Embroider fur lines with grey yarn.

19. Greet your Stitched Sea Monkey with a hearty "EEP! EEP! EEEEEEP!". Go on.

## Your Stitched Sea Monkey lives!

### Having Fun with Your Sea Monkey chum

- You can use felt to make different mouths and eyes for your Sea Monkey and keep them in place by sticking the hook side of a bit of velcro on the backs of them. Take care taking them on and off to avoid pulling out threads .
- If you're a bit worried about little ones poking themselves with pipe cleaners you can leave them out. Your Sea Monkey will be safe but floppy.
- Make a giant seawig for your Sea Monkey from things you find around the house to get into the seawig spirit.
- Never leave groups of Sea Monkeys alone together. They will plan cheeky deeds. Don't say we didn't warn you!



A lesson in Sea Monkey communication:  
EEP! EEP! EEEEEEP! - Your albatross has eaten my last sea banana!

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*This Stitched Sea Monkey is a Whodunnit pattern by Lauren 'Deadly Knitshade' O'Farrell who was inspired by Sarah McIntyre's sea monkey scribbling. No real Sea Monkeys were harmed in the making of this pattern.*