

WALLY THE WALKING FISH

Meets Madison and Cooper



GARY LAMIT

Copyright © 2009 Louis Gary Lamit
All rights reserved.

ISBN: 1-4392-2541-9
EAN13: 9781439225417

Visit www.booksurge.com to order additional copies.
orders@booksurge.com
1-866-308-6235

WalkingFish Books
www.walkingfishbooks.com



Wally the WalkingFish™

Wally the WalkingFish
is owned by WalkingFish Books

See Wally the WalkingFish gear at:
www.walkingfishbooks/aStore



For our granddaughter Madison
and our dog Cooper who inspired this fish tail tale



Madison Cooper, the fish aren't biting today.

Cooper Let's go back to the cottage and eat, okay Madison?

Madison Not yet, something keeps nibbling on my worm.

Cooper Grumble-mumble-grumble... Okay.



Madison Cooper, I got a fish!

Cooper Can I eat it?

Madison Coop, you know I always catch and release!

Cooper Grumble-mumble-grumble... Not me!

Madison Keep your hungry chops away from him Cooper, and stop drooling!

Cooper Grumble-mumble-grumble... Okay! Okay!

Cooper is a **Yellow Labrador**. They love to swim and leap into water. "Lab's" are always hungry and will eat almost anything and do not ever seem to be full. Labradors are the most popular family dog since they are so easy going and friendly. They love anyone who loves them.



Madison Hey little fish, where are you going?

Wally Back to the pond of course!

Madison You can walk!

Wally Of course, I am a walking fish!

Madison What's your name?

Wally Wally. What's yours?

Madison I'm Madison and this is my best friend Cooper.

Cooper A walking fish, I suppose you can fly too!

Madison Coop, be nice!



Madison Wally, do you want to be friends
with Cooper and me?

Wally Yes! Let's all go swimming!

Cooper Hey look at me, Cooper the flying dog!

Wally is a **walking catfish**. Even though they are known for "walking on land", they really wiggle and can use their fins to assist with movement. Walking catfish can live out of water for several days as long as they stay moist. They can use their tails so vigorously that they hop like a one-legged frog!



Madison Wally, do you want to meet Betty the beaver?

Wally I guess, but my fish family and friends are scared of the beavers.

Madison Don't be afraid. Beavers only eat trees, twigs, and shrubs. Without the beavers there would be no pond.

Betty is a beaver. **Beavers** are known for building dams that create ponds and small lakes. Their homes are called lodges. Beavers use their big front teeth to cut trees and shrubs that they use for building and for food. When they sense danger they slap the water and make a loud sound to warn their family that something may be wrong



Madison Hi Betty, this is our new friend Wally.

Betty Hello, Wally. I see you can swim
and walk just like us beavers.

Wally Yes, but my fins hurt when I walk too much.
I need to get back in the water soon.

Madison I'll have my mom make you a pair of boots.

Wally That would be great Madison!
Bye Betty! Bye Coop! See you tomorrow!

Madison Bye Wally!



Madison Hi Wally, I brought your new boots.

Wally Wow! I love them!

Cooper They look a little goofy to me,
but kinda chewy and tasty!

Madison Coop, you stay away from the boots.
Remember what you did to mom's slippers,
dad's shoes, and my...

Cooper Grumble-mumble-grumble... Wasn't me!

Madison Then why were you put in the doghouse?

Cooper Grumble-mumble-grumble...

Mudskippers are the best land-adapted fish. They are a completely amphibious fish. They are able to spend days moving ("walking") about the ground and can even climb mangrove trees! Mudskippers are quite active when out of water, feeding and interacting with one another, including defending their territories.



Madison Wally, let's go play in the sand.

Wally Coop and I will bury you up to your neck!

Cooper I can dig faster than you, Wally!

Wally No you can't. I have flippers!

Cooper I have paws!

Madison Okay you two just don't cover my head!



Wally Cooper, you looked like you were flying yesterday.
My cousin Frankie can fly. He's a flying fish.

Cooper I'll bet he's tasty!

Madison Cooper! Why does everything remind you of food?

Cooper Grumble-mumble-grumble... I'm hungry.

Madison Cooper, let's take Wally into the forest.

Flying fish use their large pectoral fins to take short gliding flights a few feet above the surface of the water. They can stay in the air for 40 seconds or more! Flying fish are found in all oceans, usually in the warm tropical and subtropical waters.



Wally Wow! What are all of those things growing everywhere?

Madison Those are called mushrooms. Hey, don't eat any of the mushrooms Cooper!

Cooper Grumble-mumble-grumble... I'm starving!

Madison My Uncle Jamie, who's a mushroom expert, told us not to eat wild mushrooms.

Mushrooms are the fruit of a fungus that normally grows above ground. Many types of mushrooms appear almost overnight! They grow and expand very fast. Only a few types of mushrooms are poisonous. Because it is hard to tell the difference you should only look at mushrooms. Do not touch and never eat them unless they are from the store or collected by an expert.



Madison La...la...la...la...la... I love to sing in the forest when Coop and I come here.

Wally Hey Cooper, do you want to hear me sing?

Cooper Not really Wally, but listen to me!
Howl!!!...Howl!!!... Howl...

Madison Cooper, get your paw off Wally's head!

Cooper Grumble-mumble-grumble... Oops.



Wally Madison; I'm getting kind of dry.
I need to get back to the pond.

Madison Okay. Coop and I should head back home and eat lunch. He gets a little grumpy when he misses a meal.

Cooper Eat! Time to eat! Eat!
Bye Wally. Let's hurry Madison!

Madison We had a great time with you today Wally!

Wally Bye Madison. Bye Coop!
Tell your mom thanks for the boots!

Goodbye, Wally the walking fish.
See you soon...

