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Date

Editor's Name, Title (if any)  
Publishing House  
Address  
City, State and Zip

Dear Editor's Name: (No Mr. or Ms.)

What has jaws so strong that it can snap a wooden oar in two with just one bite, is as long as two school buses, and has the largest eyes of any creature on earth? The elusive giant squid!

Few people have ever seen this monster of the deep, and no one has ever captured a healthy, living specimen. Sailors told tall tales about the monster that chased ships, stretching its giant arms around the vessels and pulling them down into the sea. In fact, most people thought the giant squid was only a myth. But the giant squid is real, and researchers are actively pursuing the capture of a live one—using sperm whales and special cameras attached to the whales' backs.

Enclosed is my 900-word nonfiction manuscript about this elusive creature. I think it would be suitable as a level three reader for your Step into Reading line. Elementary students across the country study sea life each year as part of their science curriculum. This book would appeal to parents and teachers, as well as those youngsters interested in unique marine creatures. My information was obtained from Richard Ellis's book, *The Search for the Giant Squid*, and from Dr. Clyde Roper of the Smithsonian Institute, who received a National Geographic grant to search for the creature near Australia.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Signature