

HUMPF-SKUNK'S SWIM

Getting H-S bathed was a problem. The regular shower in the house took too long so the fire department was hired to come over on Saturday night and use several of their big fire hoses to wash him down. Sometimes they couldn't come because there was a big fire someplace so, once, when they had missed him for several weeks in a row, he decided to go for a swim. The regular lakes were too shallow and so he headed for the ocean. There was a storm when he arrived but he had a neat trick – he just blew the winds and clouds back where they came from so everything just seemed calm as could be.

He began wading out into the water farther and farther. Bu the time the water got up as high as his waist, he was out of sight of the land. A great big octopus wrapped himself around one of H-S's toes and took a big bite. H-S picked the octopus off and gave it a fling. Later, an airline pilot reported nearly crashing into a flying octopus and the people in Hawaii reported seeing a comet like object, with eight tails, shooting past them on its way towards the west.

H-S turned towards the north so as to keep the bright sunshine out of his eyes. The farther north he got, the colder it became. A large iceberg ran into his stomach and made him shiver. He stood there and enjoyed seeing the northern lights, which he had never seen before. By this time he was close to the North Pole. He must have caught cold, because he sneezed and blew much of the snow down over North America. The people there thought it was the first time that they had ever seen snow during the summer. Fortunately, the snow melted fast in warm places like Arizona. H-S knew he had better be getting home and so he started back south. The water got deeper and deeper until it got up to H-S's nose, so he had to walk on his tip toes some of the time. Once a shark was swimming by and actually swam right into H-S's nostril on the right and then out on the left side. It nearly made H-S sneeze again. By this time, H-S felt very clean. In fact, he was cleaner than he would have been by visiting the firemen with their firehoses, except for the seaweed that got stuck in one of his ears. That didn't look too appetizing. But then, not too many people ever got to look up high enough to see into H-S's ears.