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SEAL

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Seal
asleep
among the
rocks, resting
like a shaggy
sack, you're
rusty as an
ancient stone
a voice that's
cracked, all grunt
and moan. Yet if you
slip into the sea, you're
so graceful, soft and sleek
among the weeds your rust
turns gold and where you
dance, the waves unfold.
I wonder if you ever wish
you could sleep there like a fish.
On a pillow of salty green, the songs
of shells to fill your dreams.
But you must
lumber
filled
with lead
to slumber
on your rocky bed
picked on by the bully
gulls, glitter drying like
your soul.

enguins like to
stand together
keeping

warm by
sharing feather,
some in the centre
hug, some out, all
take their turn, and
turn about. Their layers
of feathers form a roof
to make them wind and
waterproof. They keep their
chicks warm on their feet, and
can recycle body heat, their
bills and flippers small in shape
to help stop any heat escape.
Penguins sound like trumpets
talking and look most comical
when walking, but on their
stomachs they can ski over
the ice fields to the sea,
and when they dive in,
'just like that', they

turn
clown to  **from**
acrobat.

Giraffe
Is made of
speckled light,
his head's a long
way
from
his
knees
and if
you
doubt
he
looks
quite
right,
it's
so his
tongue
can reach
the trees. At his
birth he drops six feet
and soon must balance
on his own four. I don't
suppose he gives much
thought, to all the stuff
that's on the floor.
The ant and gnat
are all you see
as far from him,
as star from sea.
So he looks up
as he goes by
and as he does
he sniffs the sky.
He has no time
to study toes and



she wanders in a ceaseless, starless night.

Deep undersea, a sea star sighs, no brain,

no breeze, no changing skies, no light,

no blood, no beating heart, no eyes

sea in her soul, its stroke her sight, no moon,

in the shallows, poised to seek a fishy treat with long black beak, on neck that curves as rivers flow, through feathered falls of soft white snow, the winding, slender silhouette, of the elegant

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SNOWY EGRET

by Liz Brownlee

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