



### **The young boy Shin wants to become a famous bridge builder.**

That's why he is studying in the Swiss city Neuenburg. His home is in the Japanese city of Shinshiro, which means Neuenburg in German. The cities of Shinshiro in Japan and Neuenburg in Switzerland are twinned.

One day Shin sees from a bridge something unusual in the Lake of Neuenburg. He runs down from the bridge to PookyMuh and Zwirbel, and together the three of them bring ashore a strange golden fish. The fish complains: «I'm not an ordinary fish, I am «Shachihoko», a golden Tigerfish.

In Japan, we live in palaces and castles to protect them from fire. I really must get back to Japan!».

This is a job for Zwirbel! Off they go! There's a long way ahead, and Zwirbel and «Shachihoko» are happy that Diana, the ticket collector, takes them on the train.

In Bern «Shachihoko» is transformed at the Glasbrunnen Fountain into a «Bearfisch», At the Bern Bear Pit, the Bärengaben, Zwirbel introduces his friend Bearfisch to his bear friends.

That night, Zwirbel's best friend, the little star bear, Ursa Minor, appears to tell them about the Teddy Bear Parade in Zurich. With the magic star they fly to Zurich.

When Bearfisch jumps, he lands into the arms of Heidi, and together they have much fun in Zurich! Heidi decides to come with them to Japan, but first Zwirbel wants to say goodbye to her parents in Leuk.

On the way they meet Diana, and together they ride through the old Lötschberg Tunnel to Wallis. In Goppenstein they stop for a snack at «Lötschi's Imbiss».

Lötschi complains that nowadays the tourists rush through the new tunnel under the old Lötschberg Tunnel. Zwirbel comforts him: «Oh Lötschi, anyone who knows you and the Lötschental valley, will go through the old tunnel just to visit you.»

Meanwhile Giannozzo has landed in Leuk with his balloon. He wants to take Bearfisch, Zwirbel and Heidi over the ocean. Together they fly over the Glass Dome of Leuk Castle and up over the Matterhorn to Italy.

Wilbert the magic pig conjures fins for Zwirbel and Heidi so they can swim, which isn't as easy as they thought. But the three have many exciting adventures.

When they reach the coast of Japan, they meet many «Shachihoko» and Japanese Akabeko cows who are surprised by the strange tourists.

(Baerfisch finds a fountain and transforms himself again into «Shachihoko», the golden Tigerfish.)

On the first of August, their Japanese friends give them a big party, that Zwirbel and Heidi will never forget... It is Zwirbel's (6 years) and Switzerland's birthday ...