

Preview Sample of Complete Book

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WE BOTH READ[®]

LEVEL

1-2

About the
Ocean

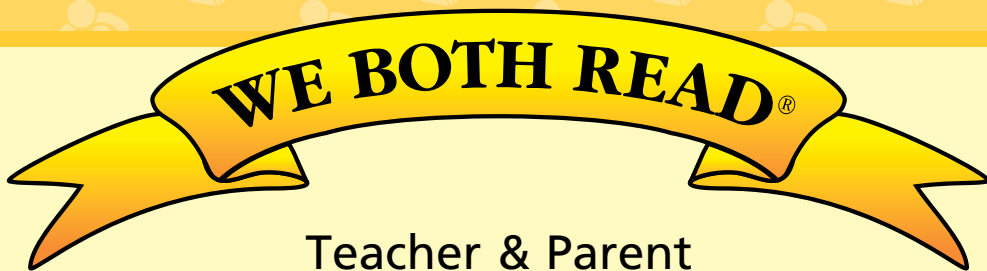
by **Sindy McKay**

Take turns reading!

☞ **Parent's Page** ➔





← **Child's Page** ☞



Teacher & Parent Introduction

We Both Read books offer an easy and enjoyable way to encourage and help children to read! The books feature a unique format with two alternating reading levels for readers with different abilities to take turns reading aloud. Research has shown that use of this series can significantly accelerate reading development for both reluctant and eager readers.

Typically, a parent or teacher reads the pages with higher level text, and a child reads the pages written at one of six early reading levels. However, many schools also use the books for buddy-reading between students with different reading skills (usually from different grades). Please note that an “adult talking” icon  precedes the higher level text, and a “child talking” icon  precedes the easier level text. This e-book edition can be used with two readers at a computer or with an entire class and a teacher using an interactive whiteboard.

This e-book is in PDF format, and we recommend viewing it in *Two Page View*. In most cases, you can do this by going to *View* in your top navigation bar, then selecting *Page Display > Two Page View* or *Two-Up Continuous*. If available, in *Page Display*, also click *Show Cover Page in Two-Page View*. This should set up the e-book so that this page is on the left side. If this page is on the right side in *Two Page View*, we recommend viewing the book in *Single Page View*.

Special Notes for Parent

You may find it helpful to read the entire book aloud yourself the first time, then invite your child to participate the second time. As you read, try to make the story come alive by reading with expression. This will help to model good fluency. It will also be helpful to stop at various points to discuss what you are reading. This will help to increase your child's understanding of what is being read. In some books, a few challenging words are introduced in the higher level text, distinguished with **bold** lettering. Pointing out and discussing these words will help to build your child's vocabulary.

If your child struggles with a word, you can encourage "sounding it out," but keep in mind that not all words can be sounded out. Your child might pick up clues about a word from the picture, other words in the sentence, or any rhyming patterns. If your child struggles with a word for more than five seconds, it is usually best to simply say the word.

Most of all, remember to praise your child's efforts and keep the reading fun. After you have finished the book, ask a few questions and discuss what you have read together. To help increase your child's comprehension and fluency, also consider rereading the book multiple times.

Try to keep these tips in mind as you read together, but don't worry about doing everything right. Simply sharing the enjoyment of reading together will increase your child's reading skills and help to start your child off on a lifetime of reading enjoyment!

About the Ocean

A We Both Read Book
Level 1–2

To Bonnie and Jeremy—and all who come after them.
— S. M.

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WE BOTH READ®

About the Ocean



TREASURE **BAY**

Earth from space

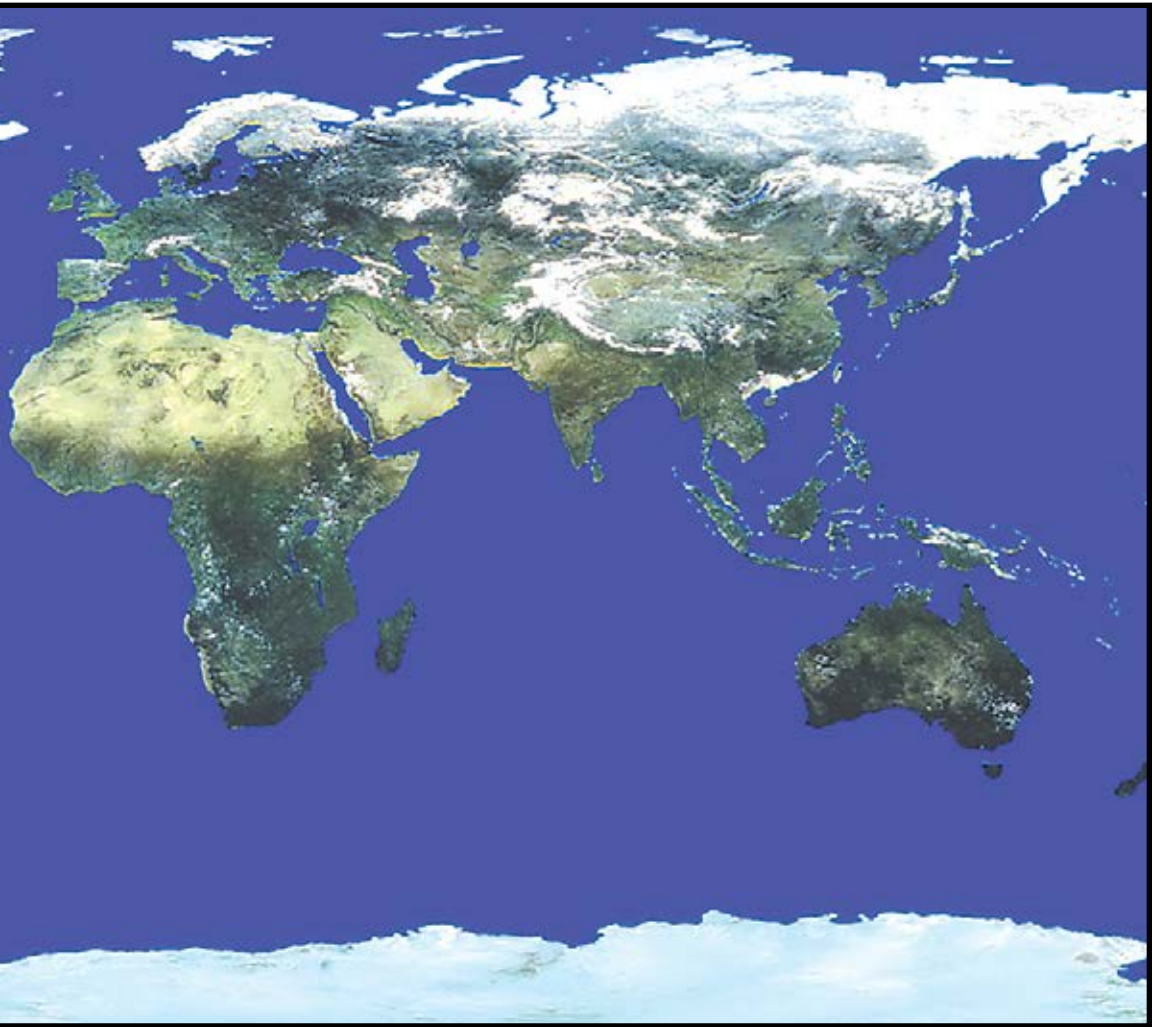


Map of Earth

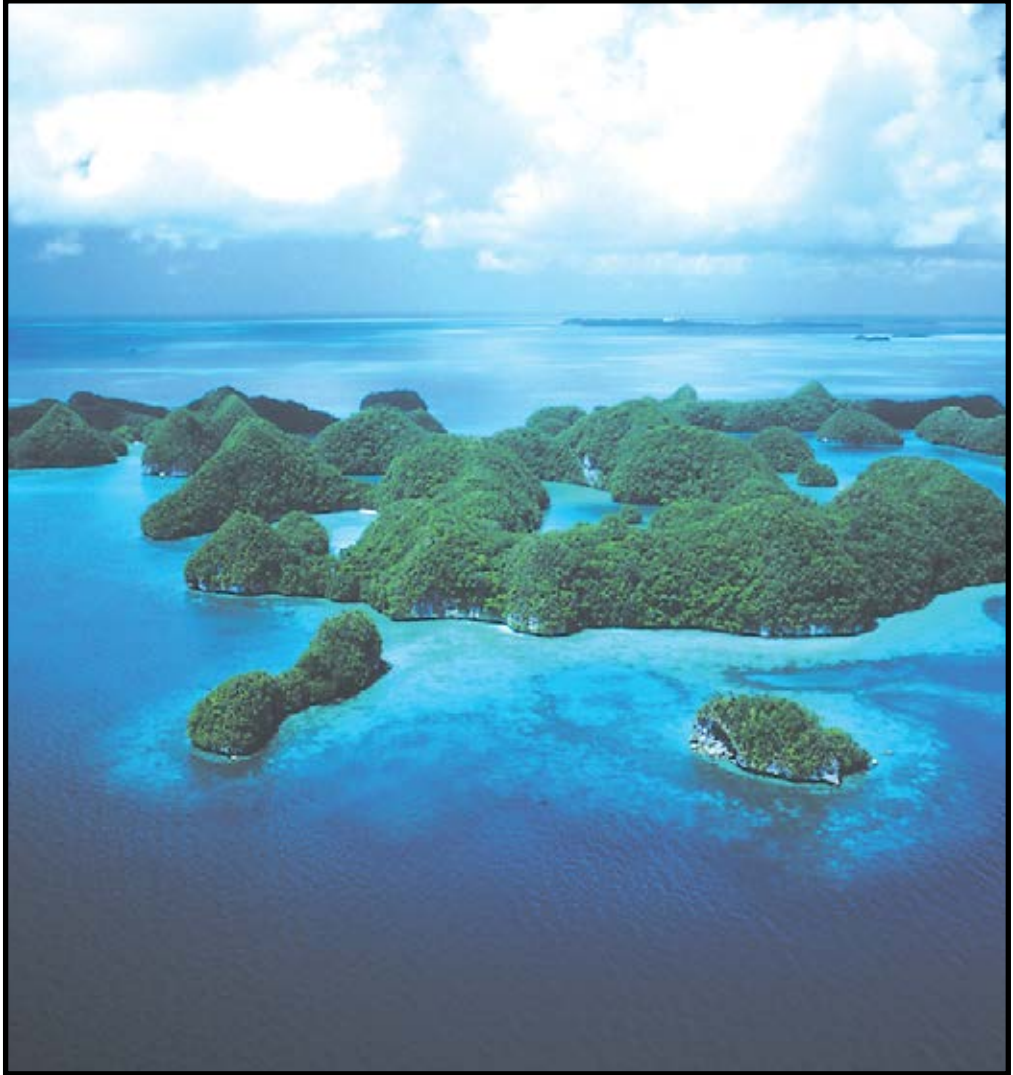


Imagine you are a space alien flying high above the earth. You look down at the beautiful planet below and what do you see?

Water! You see lots and lots of water. And most of that water is contained in the **oceans** of **earth**.



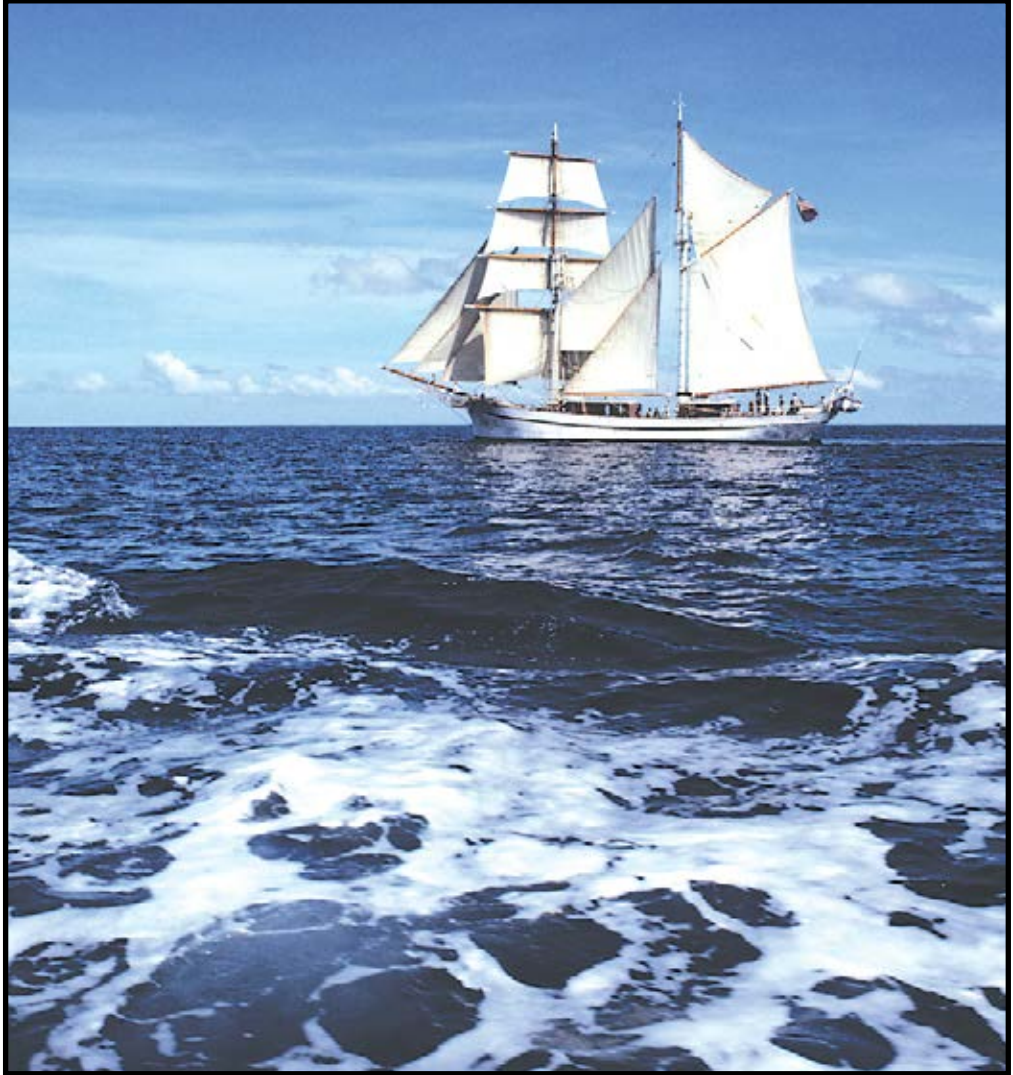
☺ The **earth** is covered by much more water than land. You could fit all the land on the earth into the **oceans** three times!



There are four major oceans on earth. They are the **Pacific**, the Atlantic, the Indian, and the Arctic. There are also many smaller seas.

These oceans and most seas are all really one large connected body of water broken up by big pieces of land we call continents.

Ship at sea



☺ The **Pacific** is the biggest ocean. You can sail on it for many days and never see land.



Humpback whale

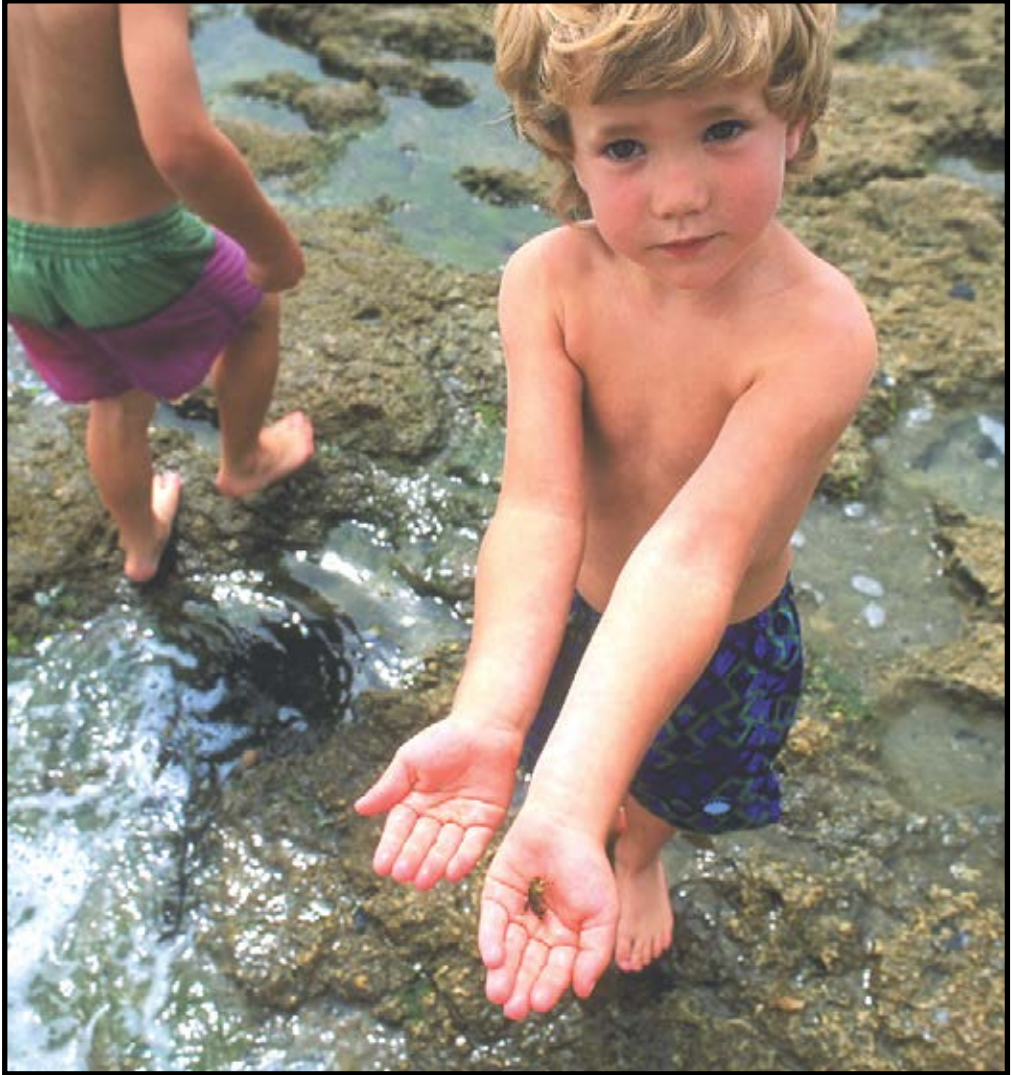


When we look out at the ocean we see a vast expanse of water. But when we look under the ocean's surface, we find an amazing world filled with deep trenches, high mountains, dark caves and colorful coral reefs. We also find an enormous variety of plants and **animals** from the tiny krill to the mighty **whale**.



- ☺ There are very small **animals** in the ocean.
They are so small you can't even see them.
- There are very big animals. **Whales** are some
of the biggest animals to ever live on earth!

Little boys playing in a tide pool

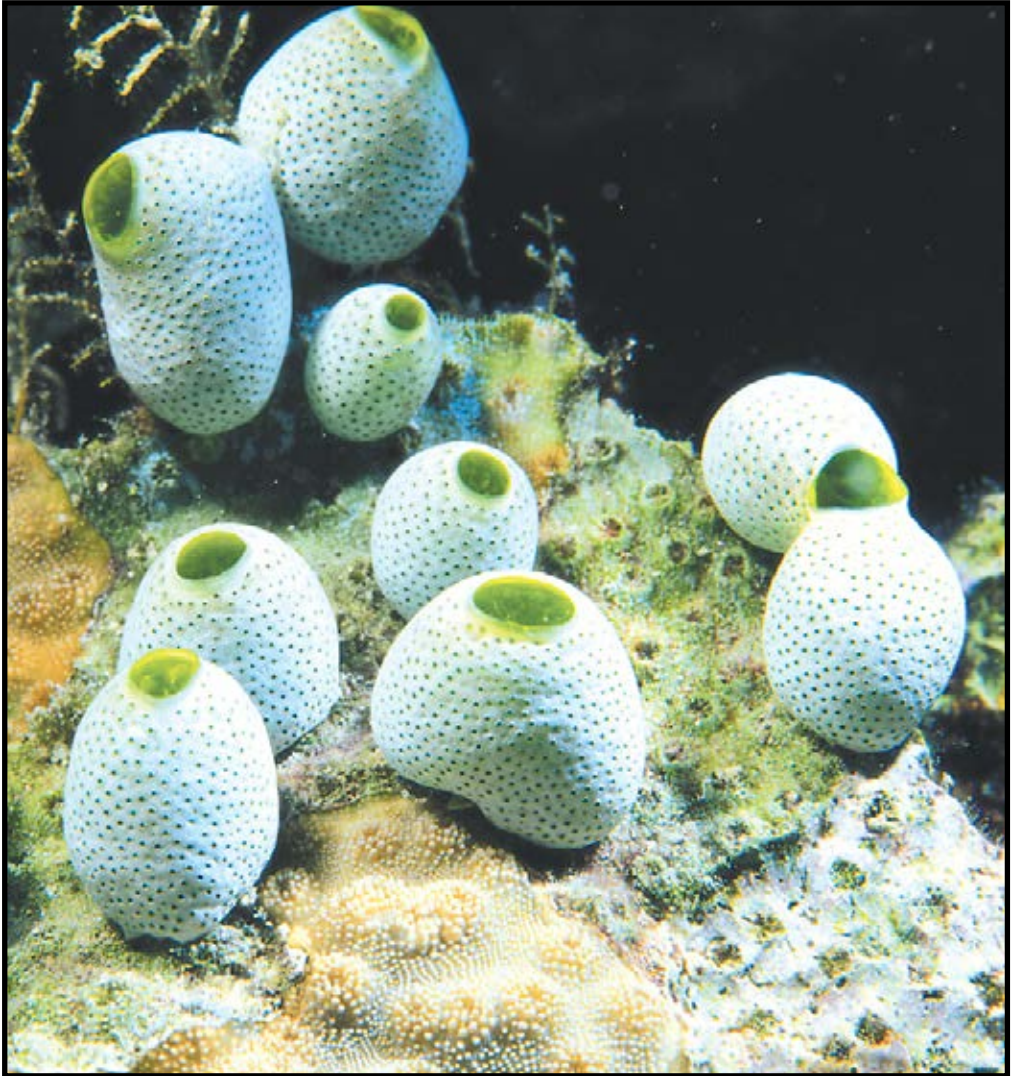


Life in the ocean can be divided into three major groups. The first group, called the plankton, includes the plants and animals that **move** and drift with the currents and tides.

Many of these life forms can be found in tide pools, but most are so tiny you need a **strong** microscope to see them.

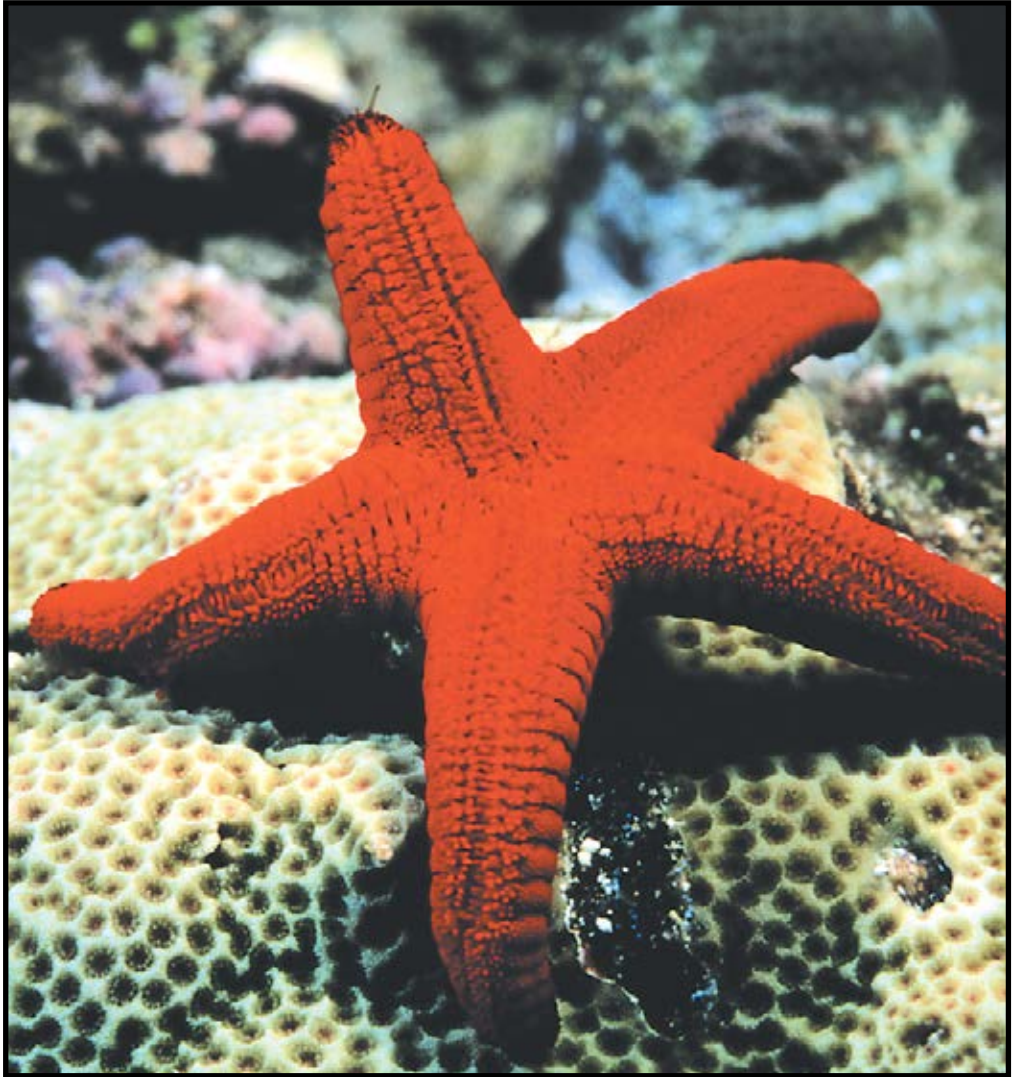


- ☹️ These kinds of animals are not very **strong**.
The water pushes them around. That is mainly
how they **move** from one place to the next.



A second group of plants and animals that live in the ocean, called the benthos, live on or in the ocean floor. They can be found throughout the ocean, from the shore to the greatest depths of the **sea**.

This group contains such unique life forms as coral, sponges, anemones, **sea** stars, crabs, clams, and sea squirts.



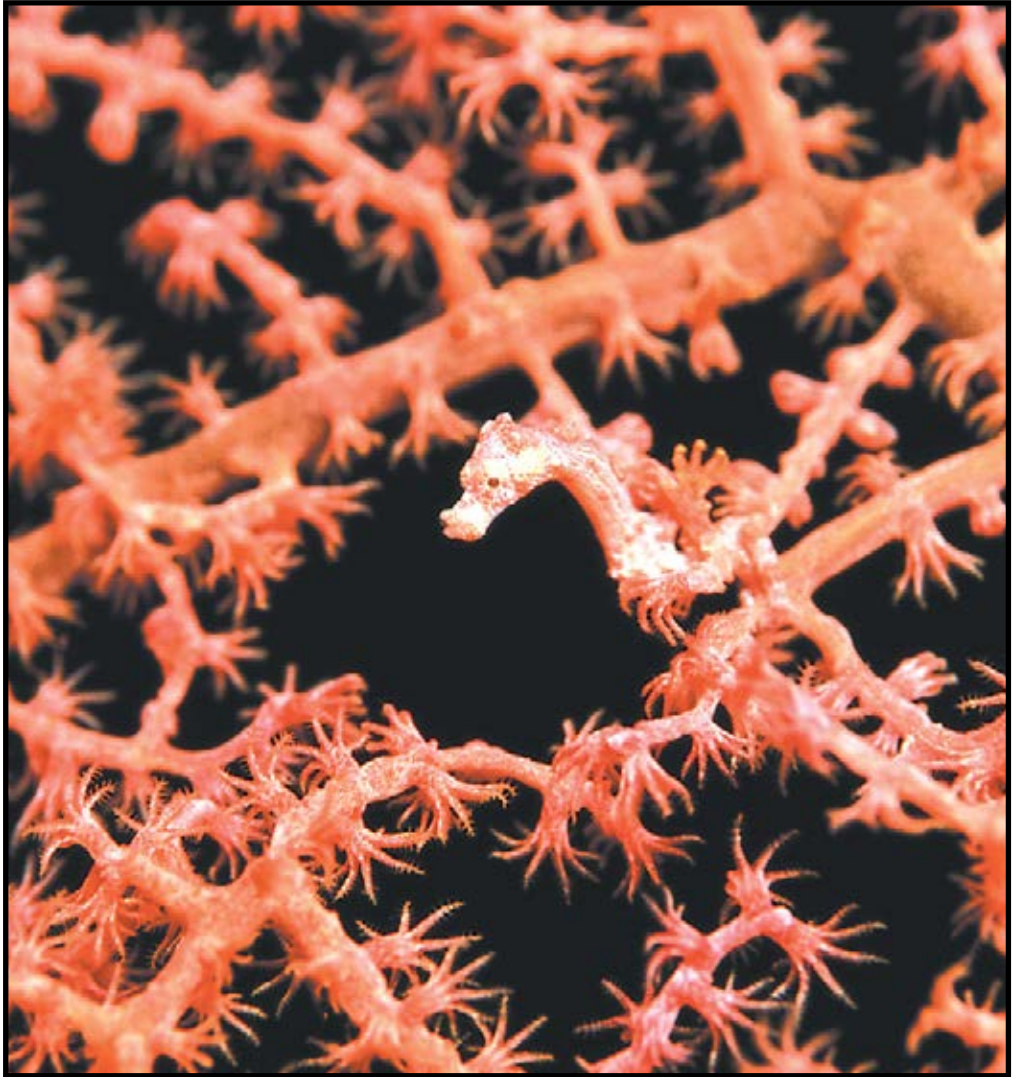
☺ Some people call this animal a starfish. But it is not a fish at all. The real name for it is a **sea star**.

Giant Clam



The giant clam seen in this **picture** has a body made up of two shells connected by large, strong muscles. That's why it's so hard to open a clamshell!

Sea horse against a sea fan



🔍 This is a sea fan. It looks like a plant, but it is an animal. There is another animal in this **picture**, too. Can you find him?

Red hogfish



The third major group of plants and animals in the ocean is called the nekton. These creatures swim freely through the water and include some of the most familiar of all sea life.

A few of the creatures that belong in this group are whales, **sharks**, manta rays, sea turtles, and well over 20,000 **different** species of fish.

Whale shark and scuba divers



👤 There are many **different** kinds of **shark**. The biggest is called the whale shark. It is the biggest fish in the ocean.

School of anthias fish



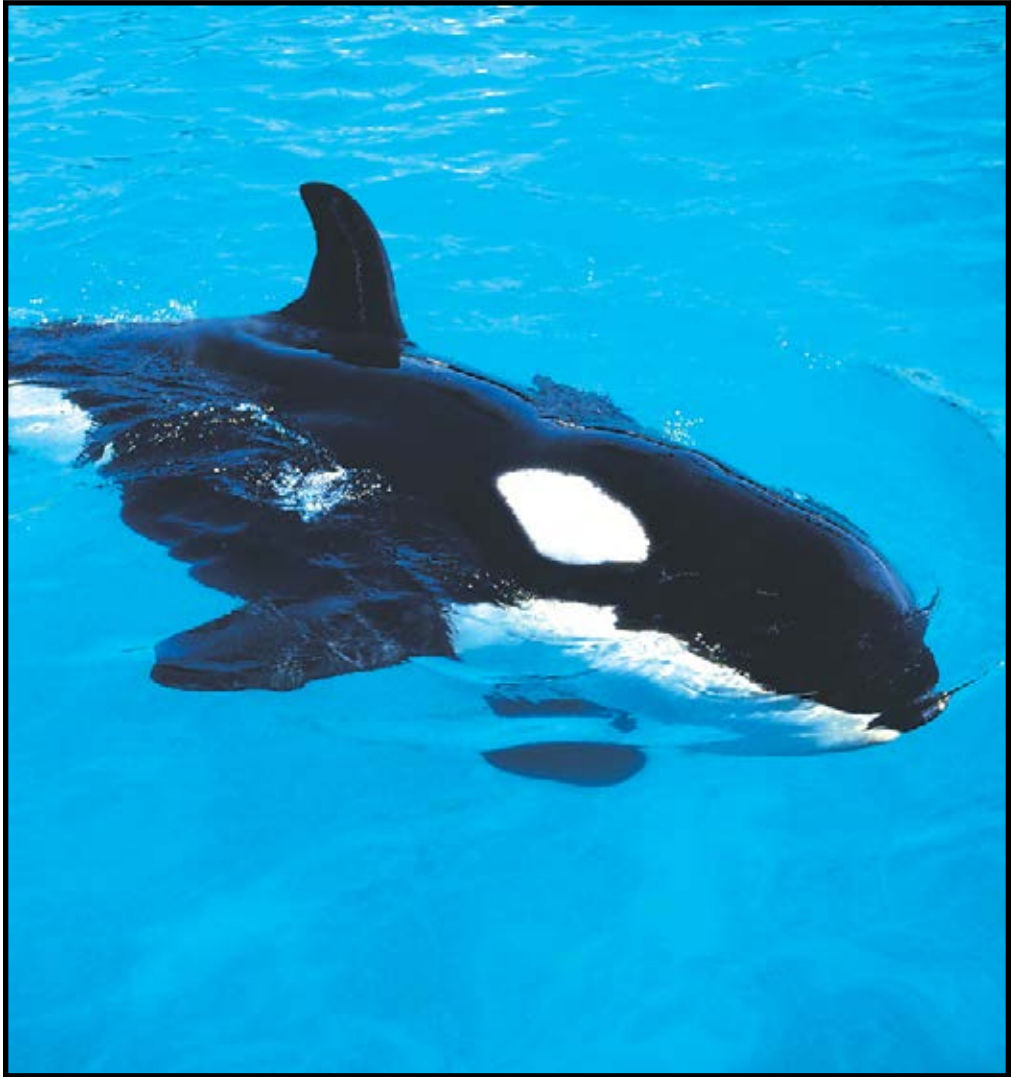
Some kinds of fish swim together in large groups called **schools**. Schools are usually made up of fish that are eaten by larger predatory fish. Maybe there really is safety in numbers!

Zebra lionfish



☹ Not all fish swim in **schools**. This fish is the kind that likes to eat other fish.

Killer whale




Most of the animals in the ocean are able to breathe underwater. But some ocean animals need to come to the surface to breathe.

Whales and **dolphins** are mammals, just like us, and they would drown if they could not get to the surface for air.

Bottle-nosed dolphin



 **Dolphins** love to play. People like to watch them swim and jump.



Sea **turtles** spend most of their time in the water, only coming to the surface to breathe. The only time they actually leave the ocean is to lay **their** eggs under the sand on the beach. About two months later, the baby turtles are born.

Baby sea turtle

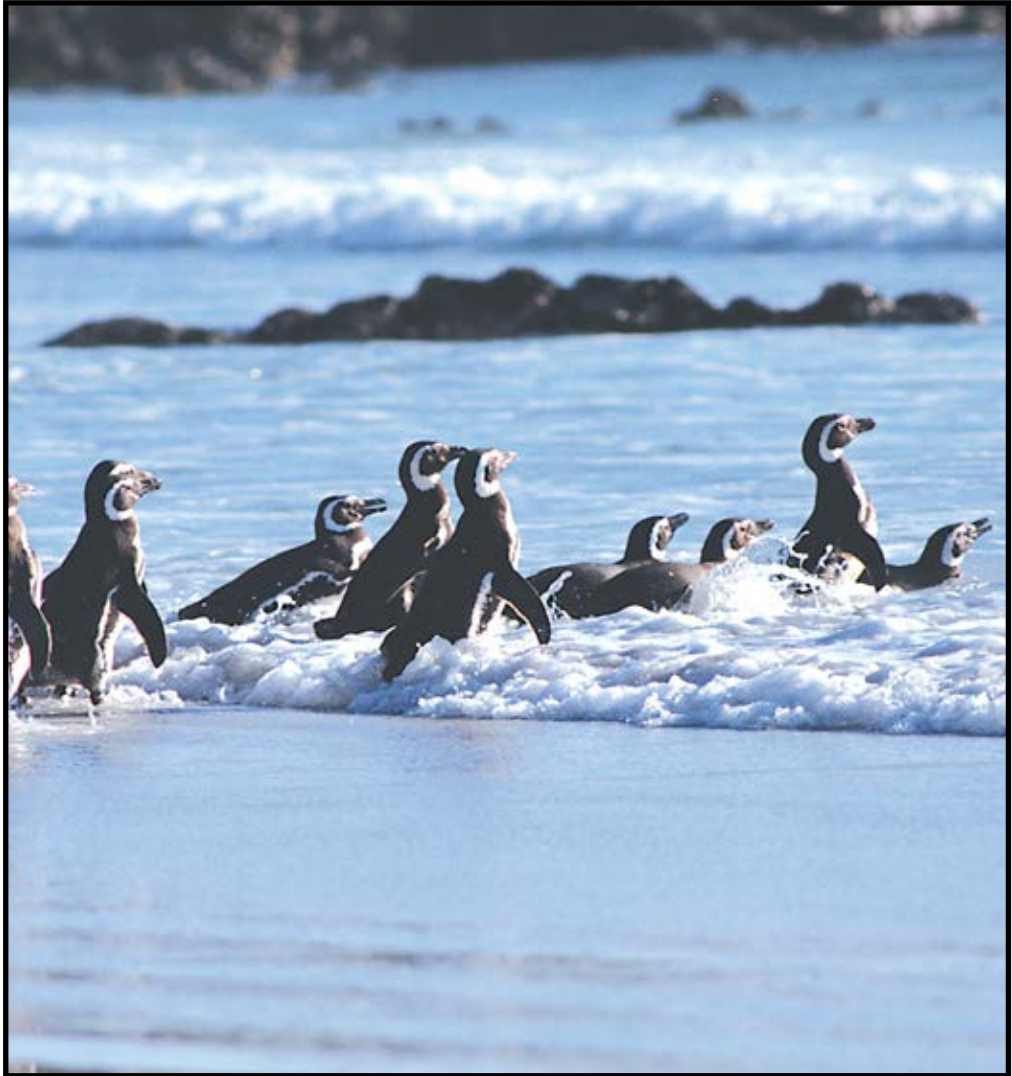


- 👤 Baby sea **turtles** are born under the sand. They have to dig **their** way out. Then they have to find their way to the ocean.



There are many animals that don't live in the ocean, but still depend on it to live. These include sea birds and marine mammals that live on or near the ocean's shore.

Sea birds come in many different shapes and sizes. One of the most unusual birds is the **penguin**.

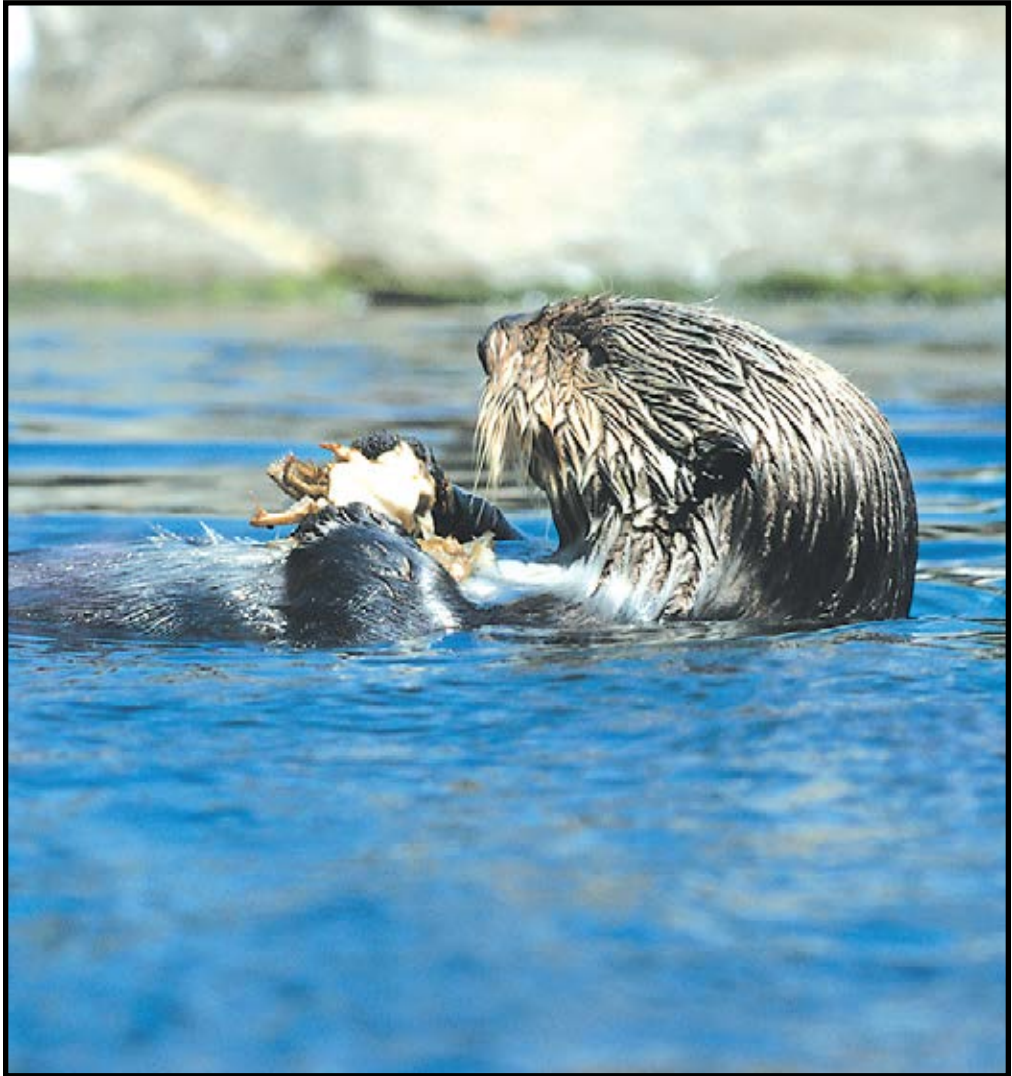


🐧 **Penguins** do not fly in the sky like most birds. They use their wings to help them swim. Some people say that they fly under the water!

Baby harp seal

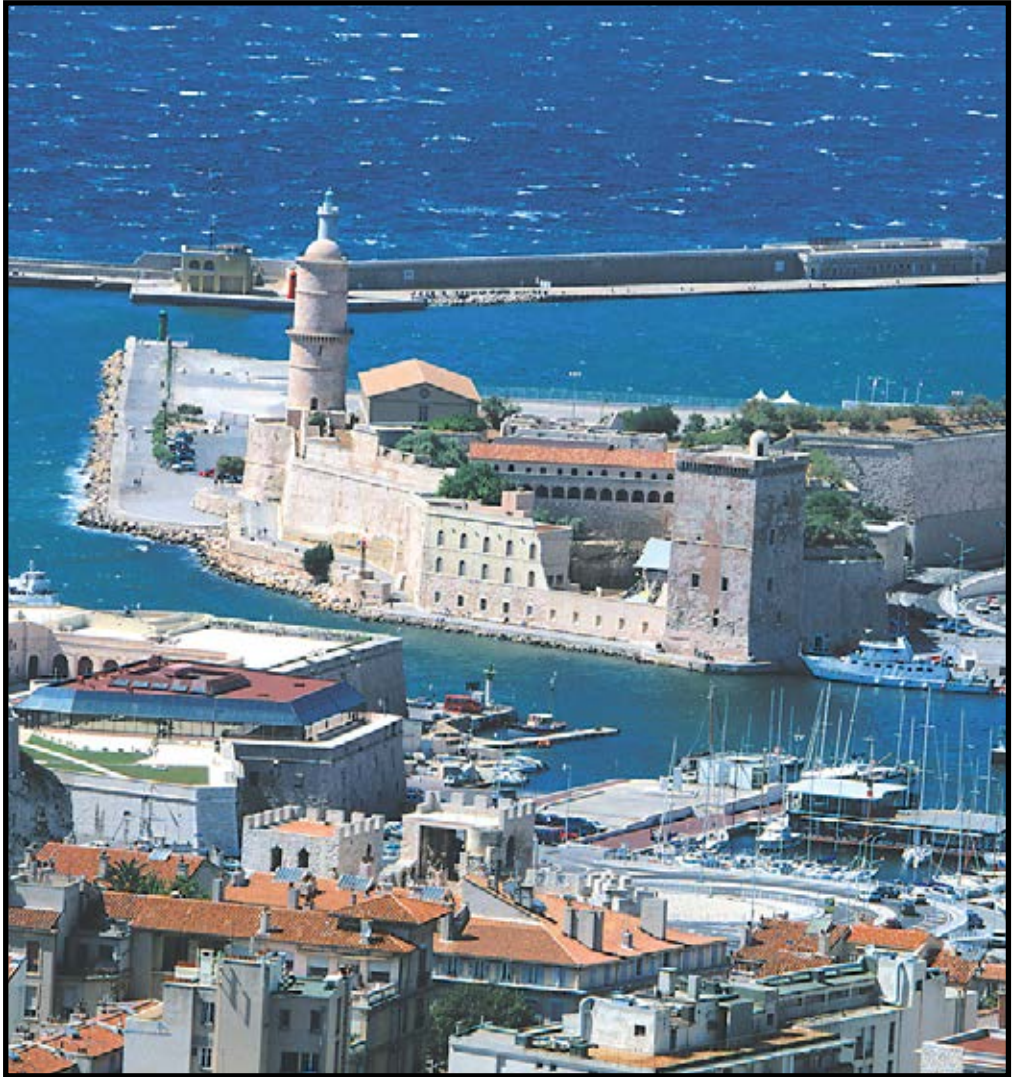


Sea lions, walruses, sea **otters**, and seals are mammals that spend much of their lives in the ocean. They might move slowly and clumsily on land, but they are swift and graceful in the water.



- ☺ Most sea **otters** sleep on their backs in the water.
All sea otters eat on their backs in the water.

The town of Marseille, Provence, France



People also depend on the ocean. Since early times, humans have chosen to build cities near the water so they could harvest its endless bounty.

Three young girls wading in the surf



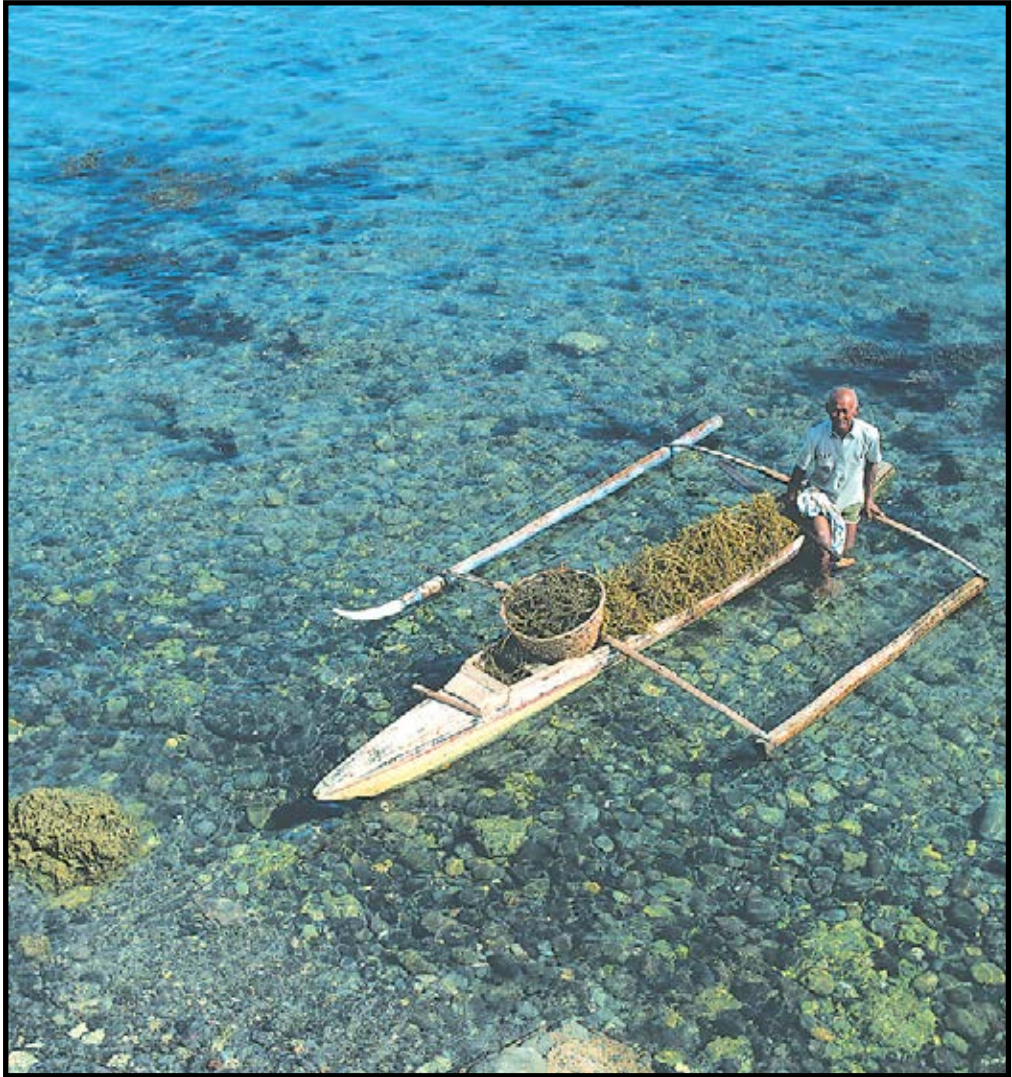
☺ People use the ocean in many ways. They get food from it. They use it to get from place to place. They even use it to have fun!

Proud young boy with fish



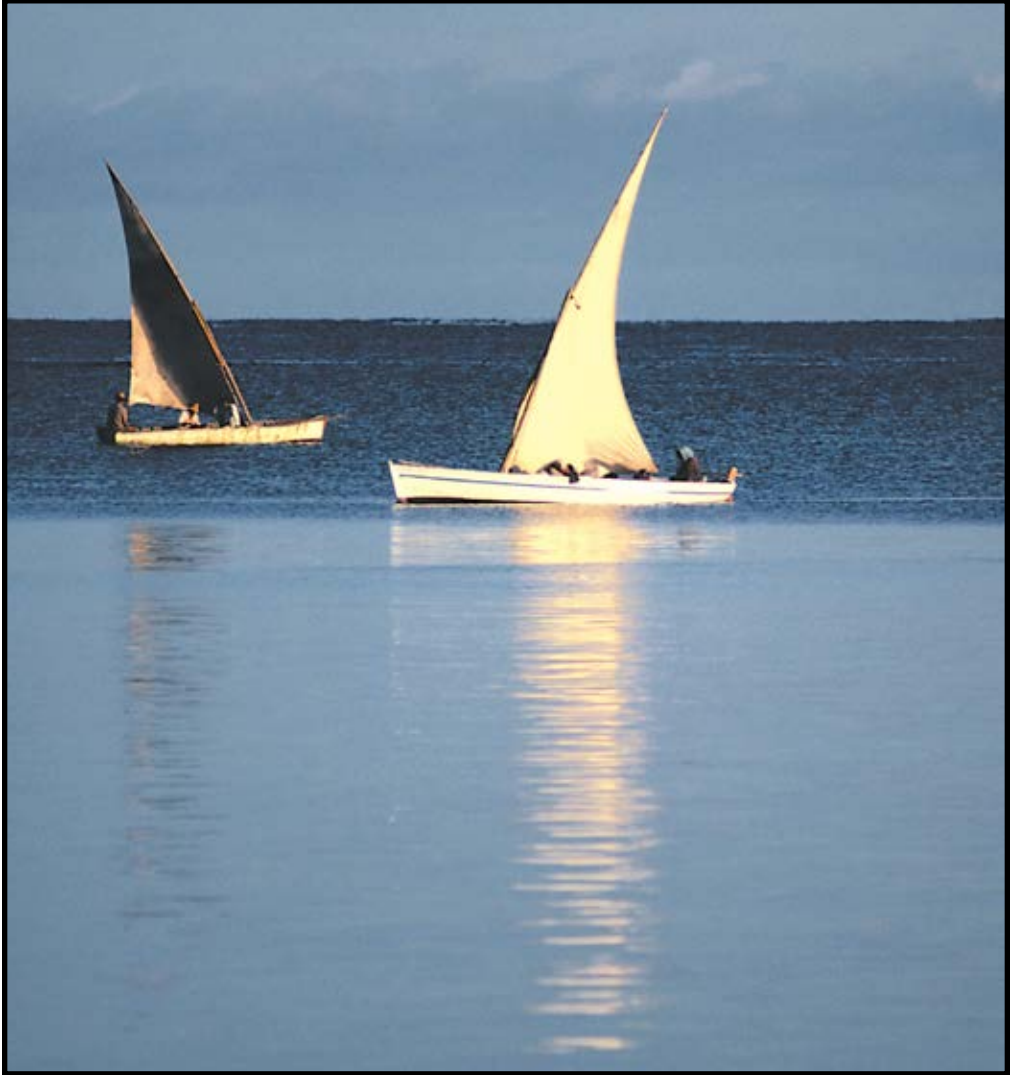
When most people think of the food that comes from the ocean they think of fish. But there are many other kinds of food we harvest from the sea. In some countries, **seaweed** is used to make all kinds of delicious dishes!

Man collecting seaweed



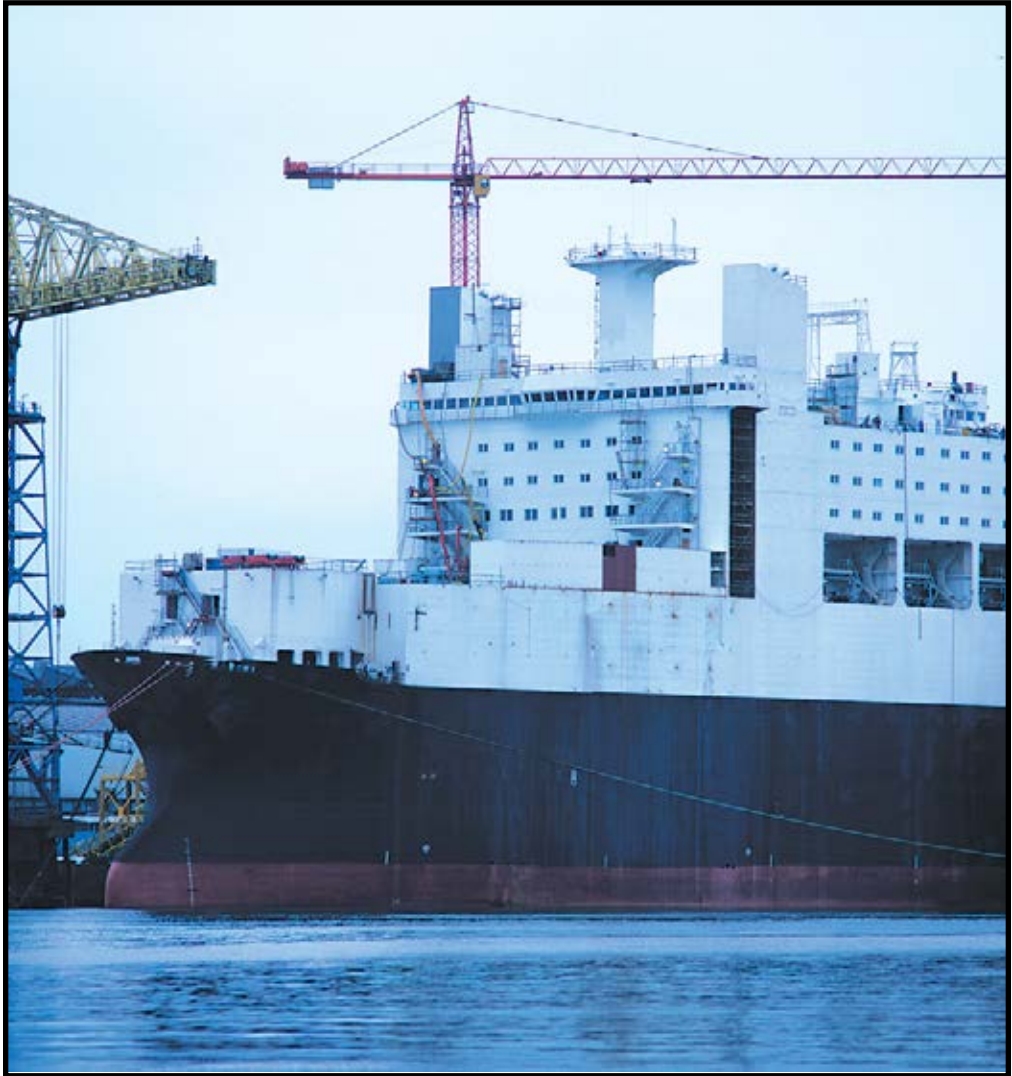
☺ Do you eat ice cream? Then you may have eaten **seaweed**. One kind of seaweed is often used to make ice cream thick.

Two sailboats



Moving people and things across the vast ocean can be a real challenge. So humans have built ships and boats of every size, from huge **freighters** to sleek sailboats to fancy cruise ships.

Freighter in British shipyard



☺ **Freighters** are big ships that move things from one place to another place. They can carry cars, food, toys, and even airplanes.

Scuba diver discovering a shipwreck



Long ago big sailing ships would set out to **cruise** across the ocean. Occasionally one would end up sinking to the bottom of the sea.

These old sunken ships are sometimes thought to be filled with treasure. Do you think this one has any treasures on board?

Cruise ship at twilight



☺ **Cruise** ships carry people across the ocean today. Most people who take these ships love the sea. And they love to have fun!


Surfer surfing a big wave



There are many ways to have fun in and on the ocean. You can swim, surf, sail, snorkel, collect **seashells**, and so much more!

Young girl listening to a seashell

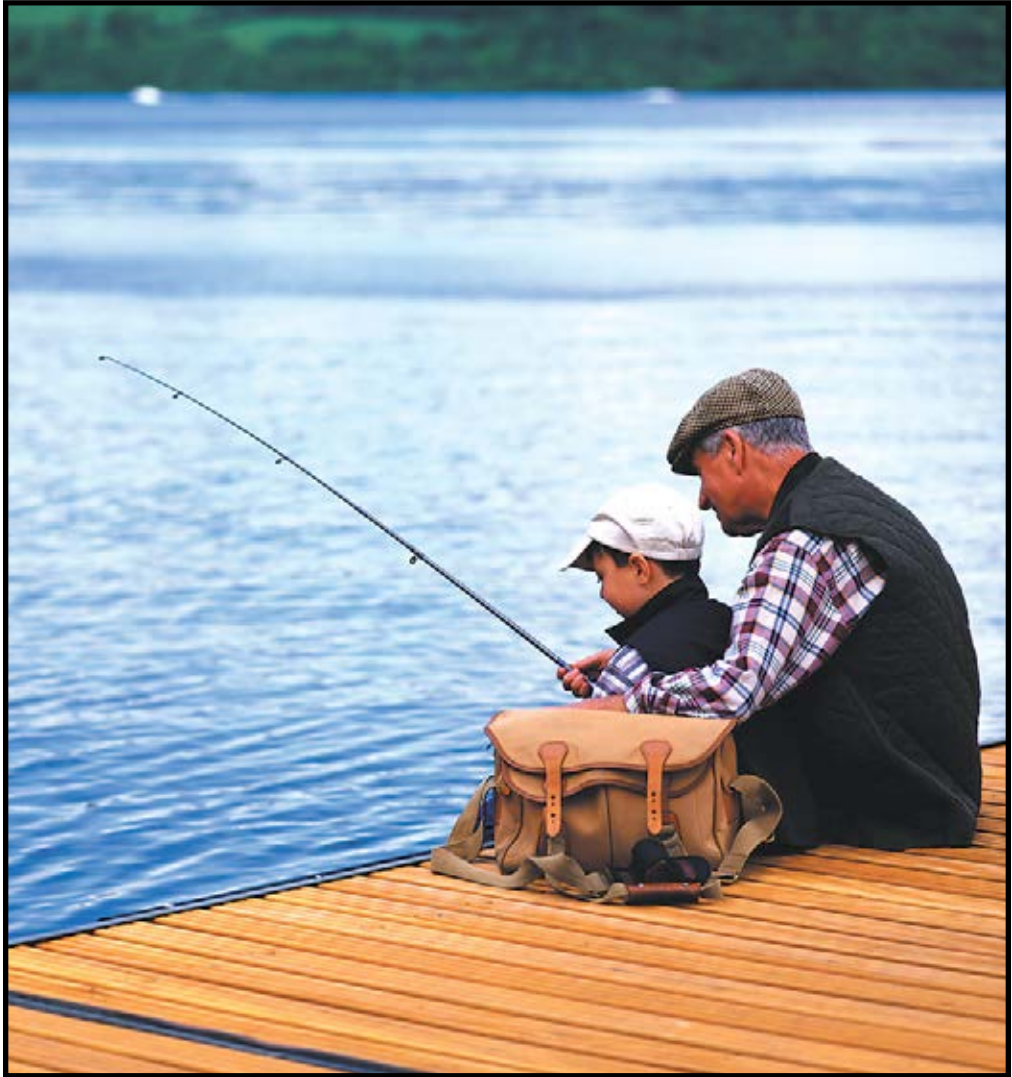


 **Seashells** come in many sizes. Some are very small and some are very large. Some people think you can hear the ocean inside a seashell.

Snorkeler with stingray



Snorkeling is a great way to see what's going on underwater. It's wonderful to discover such an amazing world lying just beneath the ocean's surface.



☺ Many people fish to get food. But some people do it just because they like to. It's a nice way to spend time with friends and family.



Unfortunately, one other way that humans use the ocean is as a dumping ground. Everything from trash to sewage to toxic waste goes into the sea.

We used to think that the ocean could handle all that pollution, but now we know it can't.

Warning sign at beach



👤 You can help. You can find out more about the ocean. You can share all you know with other people.

Coral reef



The more you know about the ocean, the more you appreciate how important it is. It is one of our most precious resources. Life on earth could not exist without it.

Sunrise on the ocean



☺ If we help take care of the ocean, the ocean will help take care of us.

If you liked
About The Ocean, here are two other
We Both Read® Books you are sure to enjoy!



Over 20 different kinds of insects are featured in this non-fiction book in the *We Both Read*™ series. With 40 pages of amazing photographs of the insect world, this book relates fascinating facts about these six-legged creatures that will enthrall children and parents alike!

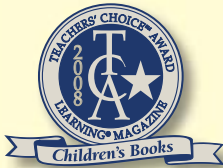


Explore the mystery and wonder of the tropical rain forest! Travel around the equator to Africa, Asia, and South America discovering the world's most fascinating plant and animal life. Captivating photographs, along with compelling text, make this Level 1-2 book an exciting adventure and a great learning experience.

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Helps Make Reading Fun & Easy!

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About the Ocean

The oceans come alive in this nonfiction title in the **We Both Read** series. Filled with beautiful photographs, this book explores many aspects of the ocean environment that will excite readers, both young and old! Journey from coral reefs to deep seas to sandy shores. Learn interesting facts about life in the ocean, including dolphins, sharks, whales, sea stars and much more!

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