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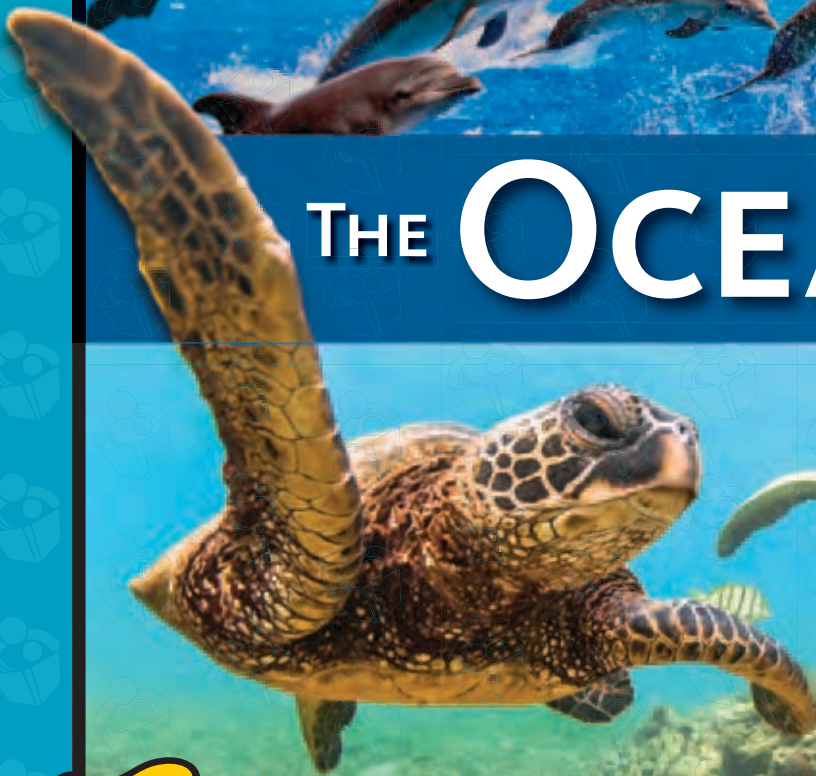
WE BOTH READ[®]

LEVEL

1-2



THE OCEAN



By **Sindy McKay**

Take turns reading!

Parent's Page →



← Child's Page

THE OCEAN

By Sindy McKay

TREASURE BAY
Family Engagement in Reading



WE BOTH READ®

Parent's Introduction

Whether your child is a beginning reader, a reluctant reader, or an eager reader, this book offers a fun and easy way to encourage and help your child in reading.

Developed with reading education specialists, **We Both Read** books invite you and your child to take turns reading aloud. You read the left-hand pages of the book, and your child reads the right-hand pages—which have been written at one of six early reading levels. The result is a wonderful new reading experience and faster reading development!

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 increase your child's understanding of what is being read.

In some books, a few challenging words are introduced in the parent's text, distinguished with **bold** lettering. Pointing out and discussing these words can help to build your child's reading vocabulary. If your child is a beginning reader, it may be helpful to run a finger under the text as each of you reads. Please also notice that a "talking parent"  icon precedes the parent's text, and a "talking child"  icon precedes the child's text.



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. At the end of the book, there is a glossary of words, as well as some questions you can discuss. Rereading this book multiple times may also be helpful for your child.

Try to keep the tips above 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!

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The Ocean

A We Both Read Book
Level 1–2
Guided Reading: Level H

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

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Imagine you are a space alien flying high above **Earth**. You look down at the beautiful planet below, and what do you see? Water! You see lots and lots of water. Most of that water is contained in the **oceans** and seas of **Earth**.

Earth is covered by much more water than land. You could fit all the land on Earth into the **oceans** more than two times!

Earth



Map of Earth

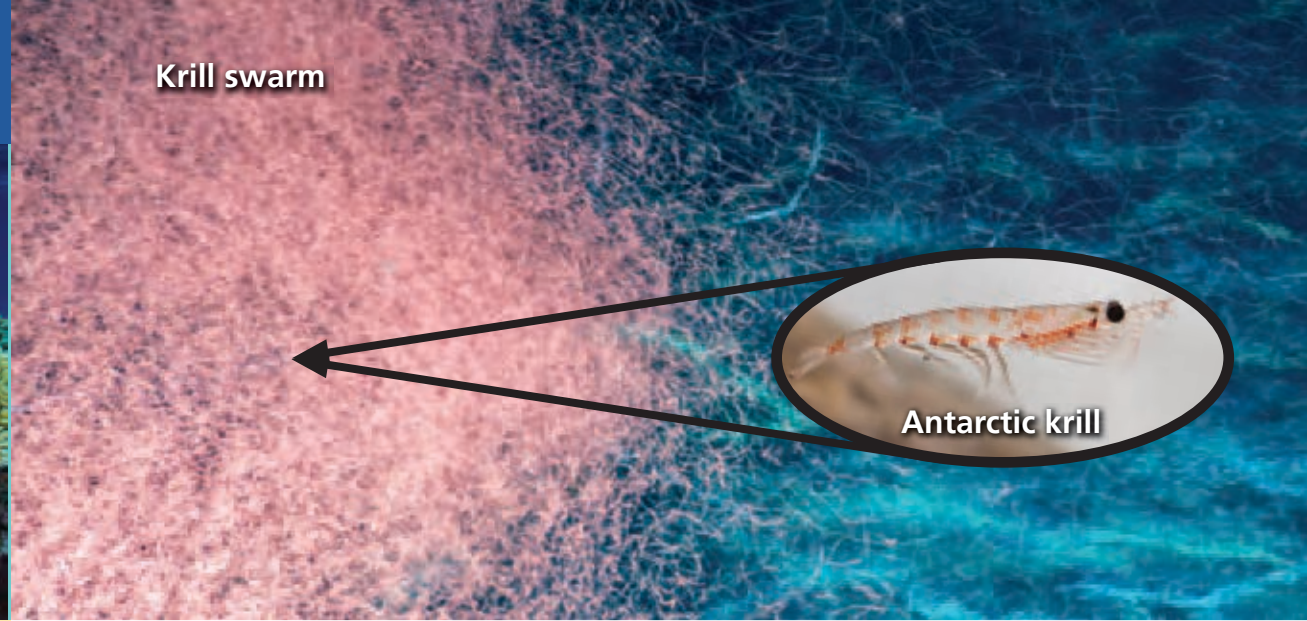


There are five major oceans on Earth. They are the **Pacific**, Atlantic, Indian, **Southern**, and Arctic. There are also many smaller seas.

These oceans and most seas are all really one vast worldwide ocean that is broken up by big pieces of land we call *continents*.



The **Pacific** is the biggest ocean. You can sail on it for many days and never see land. The **Southern** Ocean is the part of the world's ocean that is closest to the South Pole.

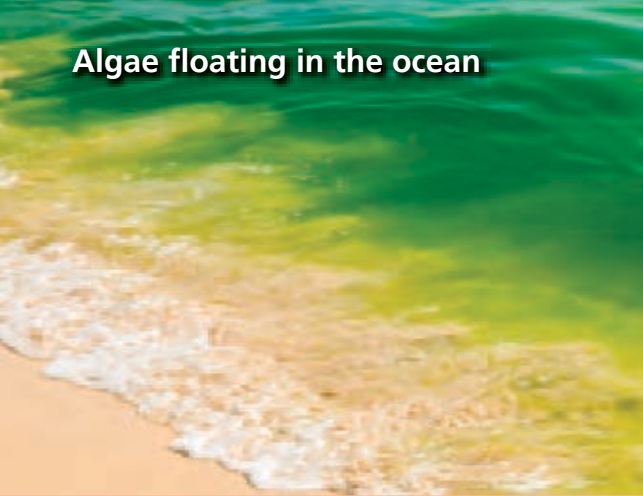


🗨️ When we look out at the sea, we see a vast expanse of water. But when we look under the ocean's surface, we find an amazing world filled with deep trenches, high mountains, dark caves, and colorful coral reefs. We also find an enormous variety of plants and animals from the tiny krill to the mighty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

🗨️ There are very small animals in the ocean. Some 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.



Algae floating in the ocean



Protozoa plankton (seen through a microscope)



Pacific sea nettle jellyfish



These tentacles have stinging venom.

Life in the ocean can be divided into three major groups. The first group, called **plankton**, includes the plants and animals that move and drift with the currents and tides. Some types of algae (AL-jee) are **plankton** that drift in the ocean. Other types of algae cling to the bottom of shallow waters, like tide pools.

Some types of **plankton** can be large, like jellyfish with their long **tentacles**. However, most types of **plankton** are very tiny.

Tide pool



Green algae

Most animal **plankton** are not very strong. They drift as the movement of the water pushes them. That is mainly how they move around the oceans.

Stove pipe sponge



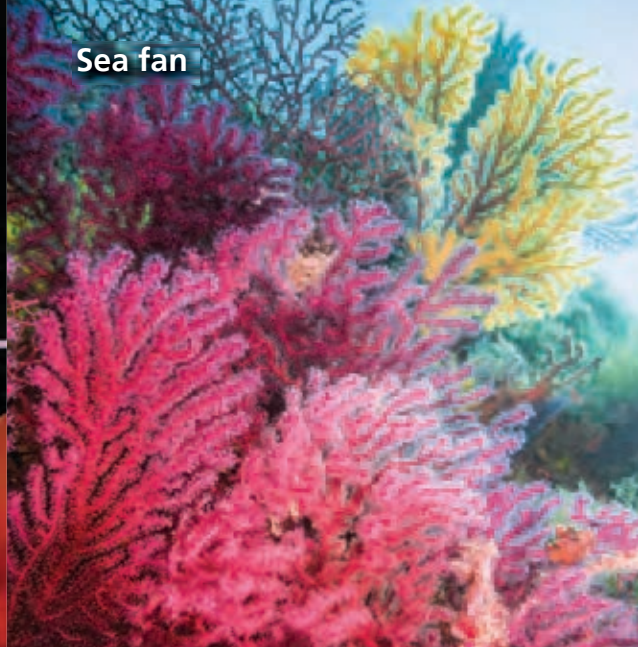
Stylophora coral




Red sea anemone




Sea fan



 This is a **sea star**. Some people call it a starfish, but it is not a fish. Most sea stars have one tiny **eye** on the tip of each arm.



 A second group of plants and animals that live in the ocean, called the *benthos*, live on or in the ocean floor. This group contains such unique life forms as coral, sponges, anemones (uh-NEM-uh-nees), **sea stars**, crabs, clams, and **sea squirts**. Corals and sponges are animals, but they do not have brains or **eyes**.

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! A giant clam can weigh more than a gorilla and can live longer than people can.

Sally lightfoot crabs



Pygmy seahorse in a sea fan



This is a sea fan. It looks like a plant, but it is an animal. There is a sea horse hiding in the sea fan. The sea horse looks a lot like the sea fan.



Common octopus



Whale shark

Cobia fish

The third major group of animals in the ocean is called *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.

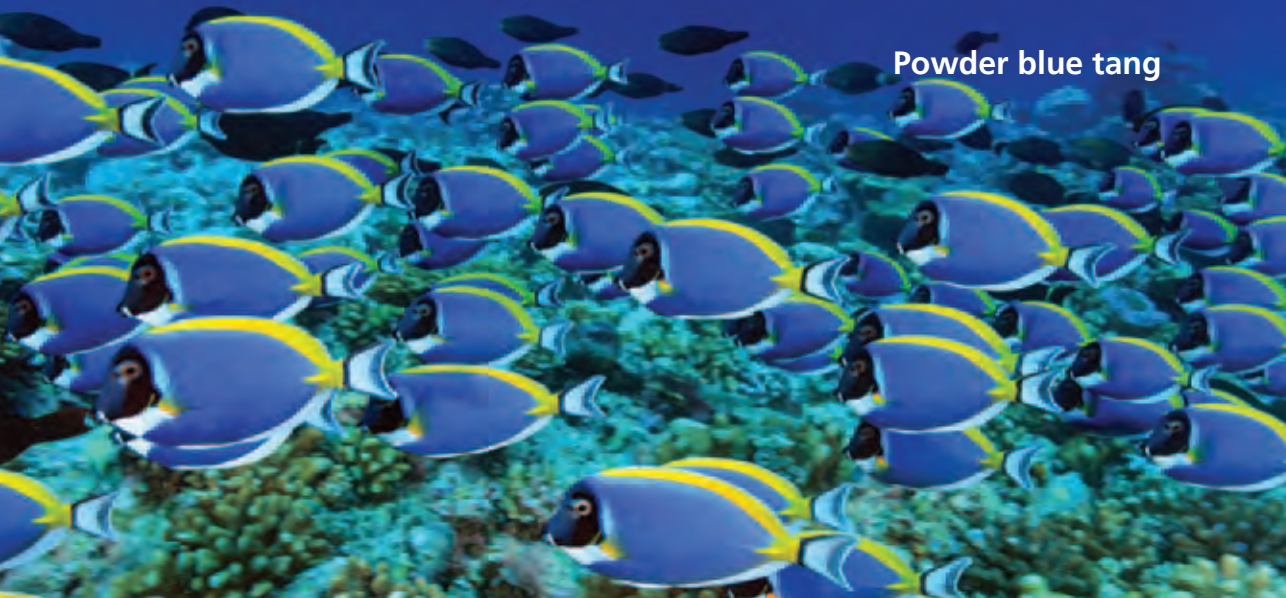
There are many different kinds of sharks. The biggest is called the whale shark. It is the biggest fish in the ocean. It may be big, but it eats only tiny plankton.



Manta ray

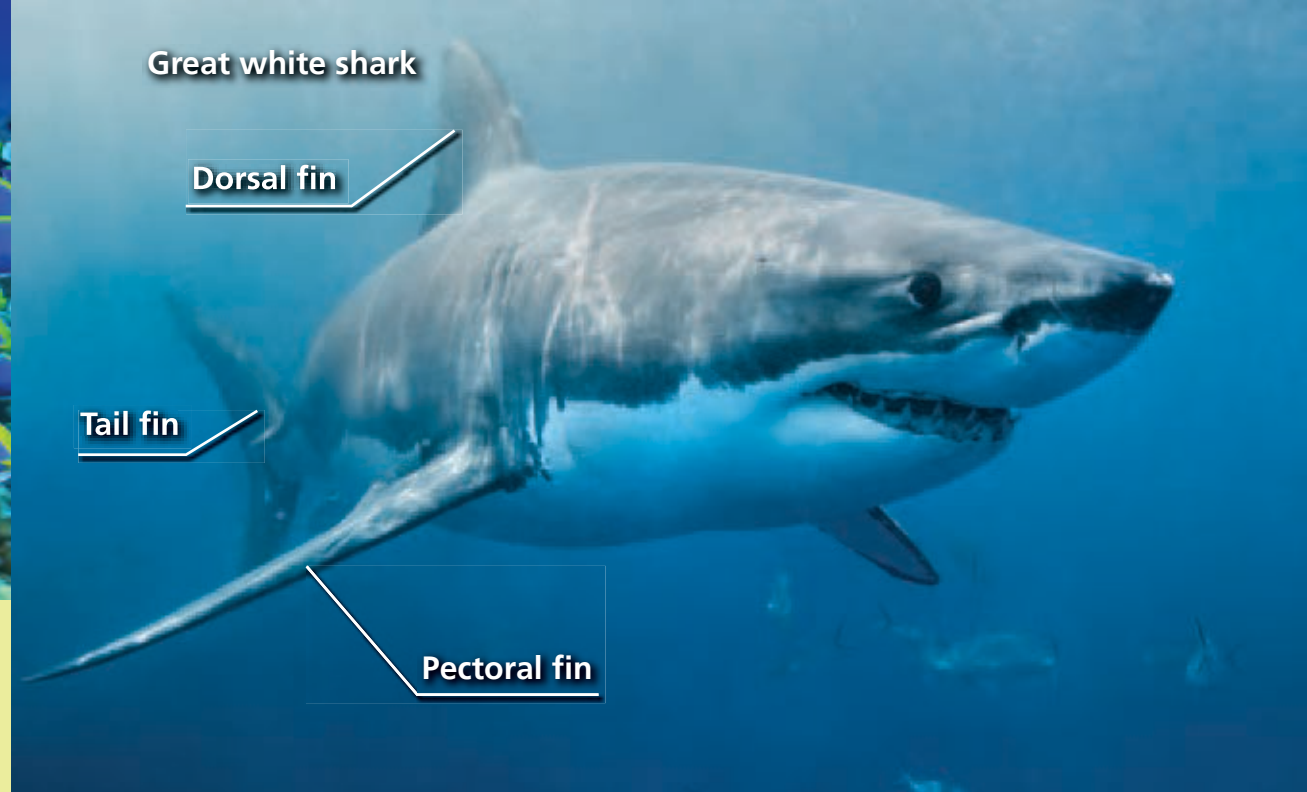


Whale shark



Powder blue tang

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



Great white shark

Dorsal fin

Tail fin

Pectoral fin

Not all fish swim in ***schools***. Some fish swim alone and hunt for other fish to eat. They often hunt at dusk, when it is hard for their ***prey*** to see them.



Pygmy sweepers





Ocean sunfish
(*Mola mola*)



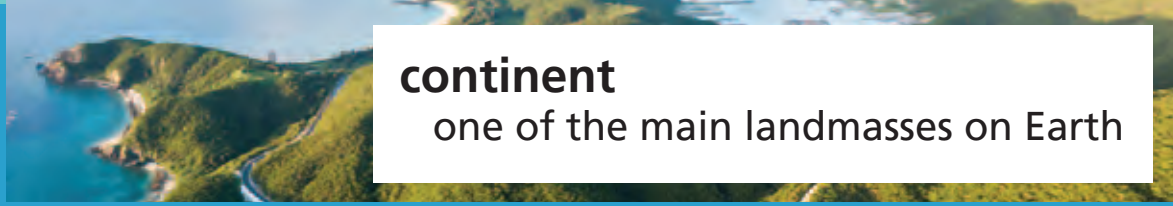
Zebra lionfish



 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.

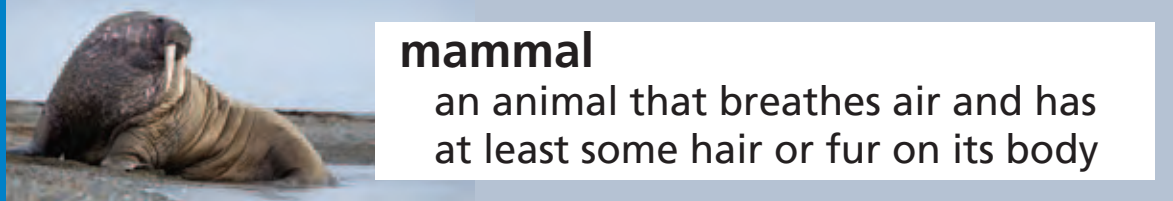
 If we help take care of the ocean, the ocean will help take care of us.

Glossary



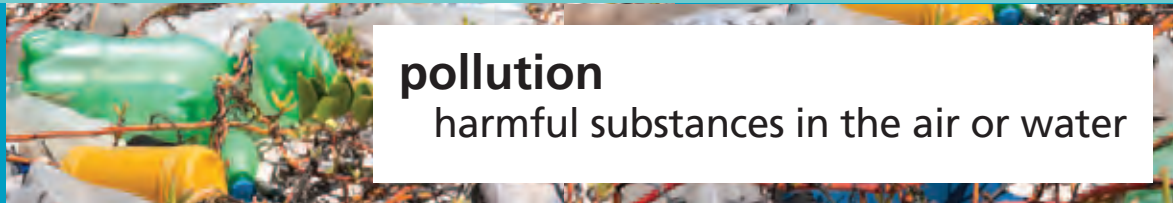
continent

one of the main landmasses on Earth



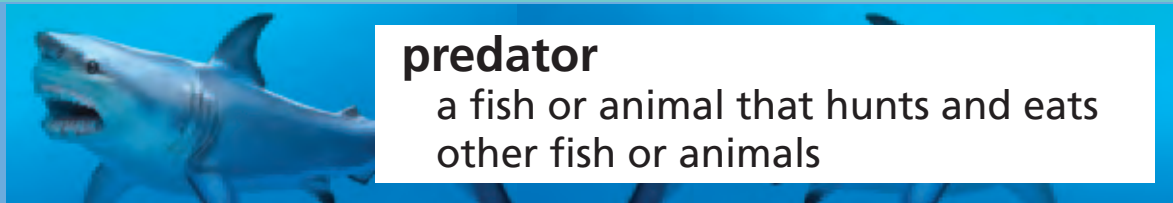
mammal

an animal that breathes air and has at least some hair or fur on its body



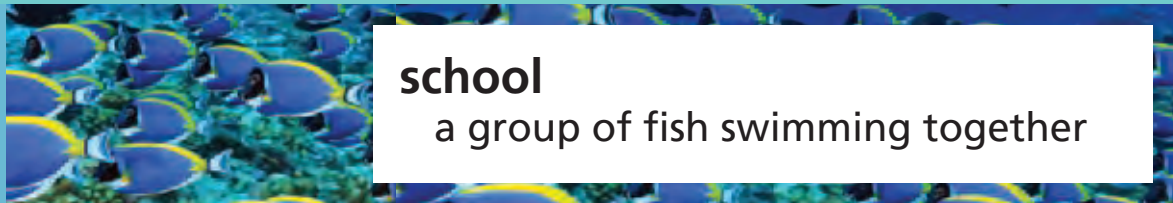
pollution

harmful substances in the air or water



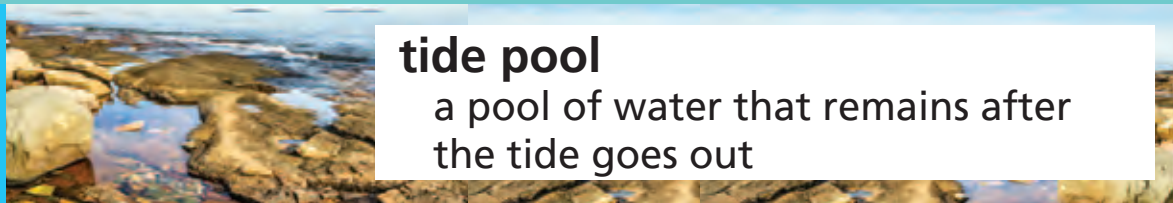
predator

a fish or animal that hunts and eats other fish or animals



school

a group of fish swimming together



tide pool

a pool of water that remains after the tide goes out

Questions to Ask after Reading

Add to the benefits of reading this book by discussing answers to these questions. Also consider discussing a few of your own questions.

- 1** What fact in this book did you find the most interesting or surprising?
Why was it interesting or surprising to you?
- 2** Was there a picture that you particularly liked?
Why did you like that photograph?
- 3** What do you think would happen if small fish did not swim together in schools?
Why do you think that might happen?
- 4** If you went to an ocean beach, what do you think you would like to do?
- 5** Why is the ocean important to all of us?
Can you share three reasons?