2015 Marine Debris Calendar

Featuring artwork from the 2014 "Keep the Sea Free of Debris!" Art Contest winners

About this Calendar

This calendar features winning artwork from the 2014 "Keep the Sea Free of Debris" art contest. The NOAA Marine Debris Program received hundreds of great entries from students across the United States in kindergarten through 8th grade showing the impacts of marine debris on our ocean planet. We evaluated submissions based on creativity, artistic presentation, relevance to theme, and how thoroughly the students answered the question:

1. How does marine debris impact the oceans and Great Lakes environment?

2. What will you do to help?

Thank you to all students (and teachers) for participating in the 2014 art contest. Your support and enthusiasm reminds us of why we do what we do every day - work to keep our oceans and Great Lakes clean. We hope this calendar fuels your passion for protecting our oceans and drives you to stay involved in finding solutions to prevent marine debris.

- NOAA Marine Debris Program

2014 Overall Art Contest Winner: Ana M. (Grade 6, California)

"Marine debris impacts our environment. A lot of animals are trapped by plastic bags. Littering is bad for animals and people. I will recycle more."

NOAA Marine Debris Program

The NOAA Marine Debris Program leads national and international efforts to research, prevent, and reduce the impacts of marine debris. The program's mission is to identify and solve the problems that stem from marine debris in order to conserve and protect our nation's marine environment and coastal economy. The program has staff positioned around the country to coordinate regional efforts, track progress, lead research and conduct outreach to local communities.

Don't miss a beat or a tweet. Stay connected:

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SEPTEMBER 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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OCTOBER 2014

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NOVEMBER 2014

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DECEMBER 2014

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By Julia D. (Grade 7, Ohio)

JANUARY 2015

DECEMBER 2014

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FEBRUARY 2015

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

By Dara Ann K. (Grade 2, Hawai'i)

FEBRUARY 2015

JANUARY 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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MARCH 2015

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 Presidents' Day (Washington's Birthday)	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

By Ellery S. (Grade 6, South Carolina)

MARCH 2015

FEBRUARY 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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APRIL 2015

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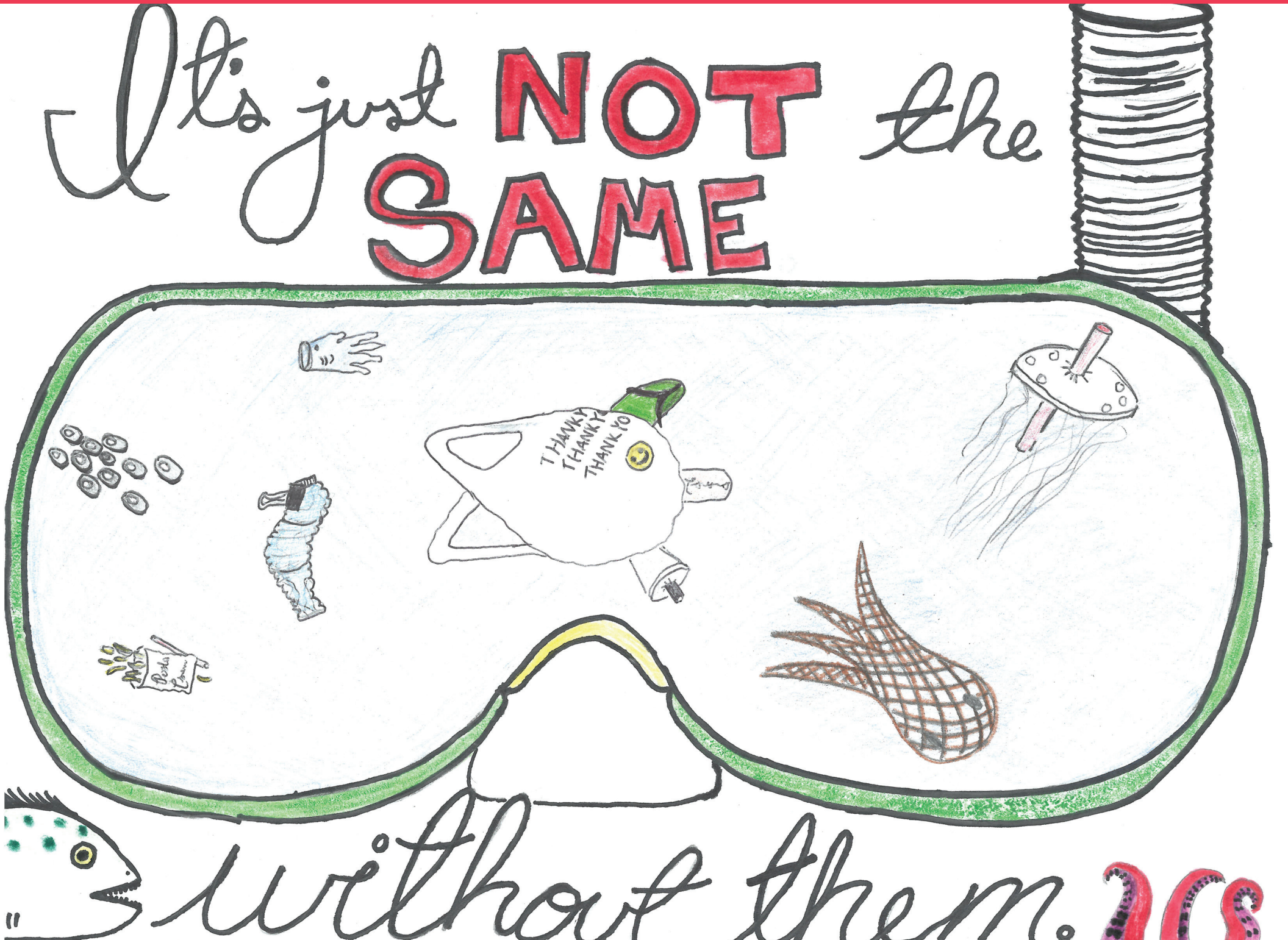
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Daylight Saving Time Begins	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring Equinox	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

By Elizabeth S. (Grade 8, Virginia)



APRIL 2015

MARCH 2015

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MAY 2015

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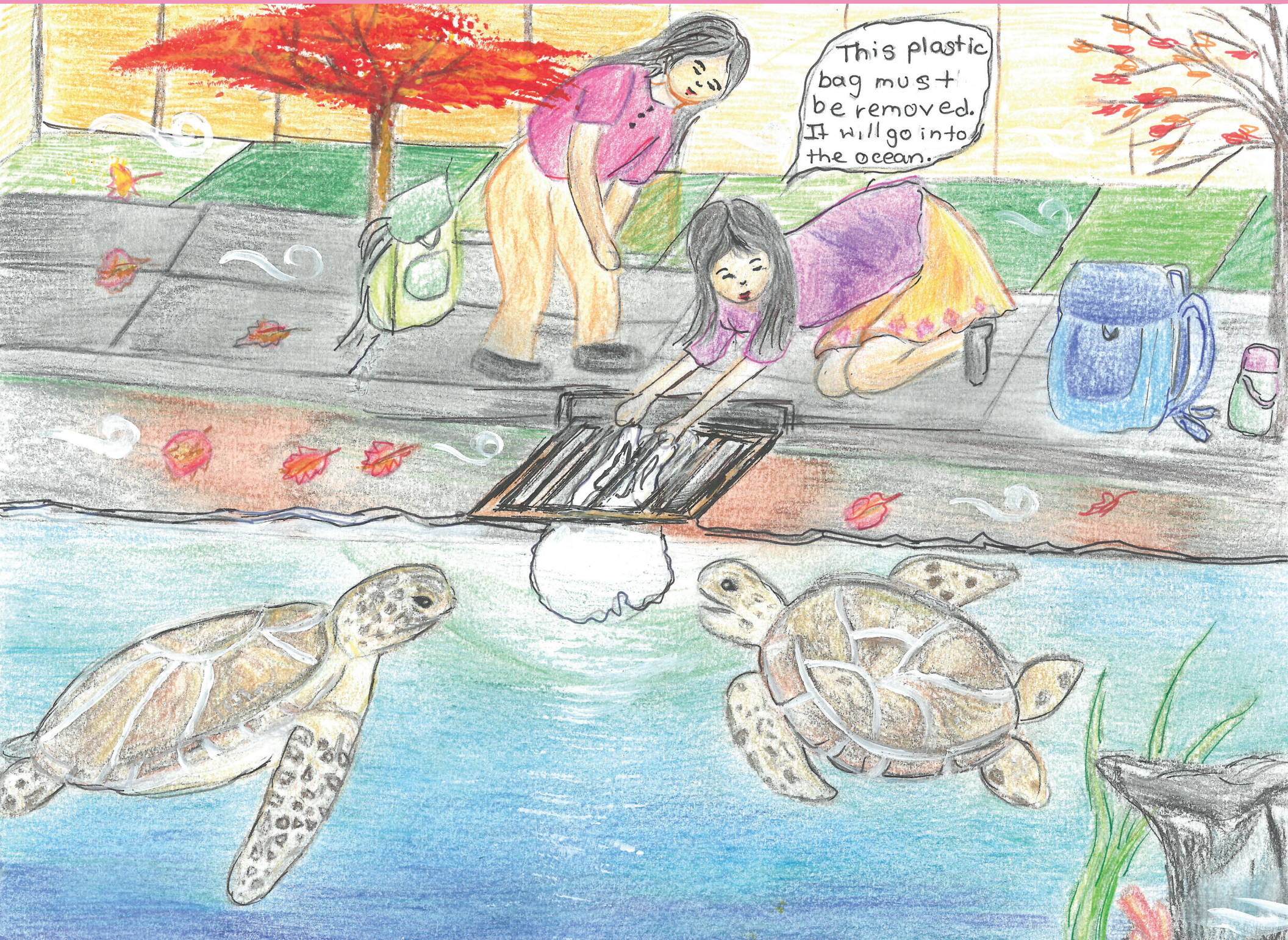
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Passover Begins	4
5 Easter	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

By Vaibhavi P. (Grade 7, California)



MAY 2015

APRIL 2015

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JUNE 2015

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28	29	30				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30

By Jessica D. (Grade 4, New York)

JUNE 2015

MAY 2015

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JULY 2015

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Ramadan Begins	19	20
21 Father's Day Summer Solstice	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

By Molly C. (Grade 5, Florida)

JULY 2015

JUNE 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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AUGUST 2015

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
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By Diego D. (Grade 7, Washington)

AUGUST 2015

JULY 2015

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SEPTEMBER 2015

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

By Ioanna S. (Grade 4, New York)

SEPTEMBER 2015

AUGUST 2015

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OCTOBER 2015

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13 Rosh Hashanah Begins	14	15	16	17	18	19 International Coastal Cleanup
20	21	22 Yom Kippur Begins	23 Autumnal Equinox	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

By Linda G. (Grade 6, Ohio)

OCTOBER 2015

SEPTEMBER 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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NOVEMBER 2015

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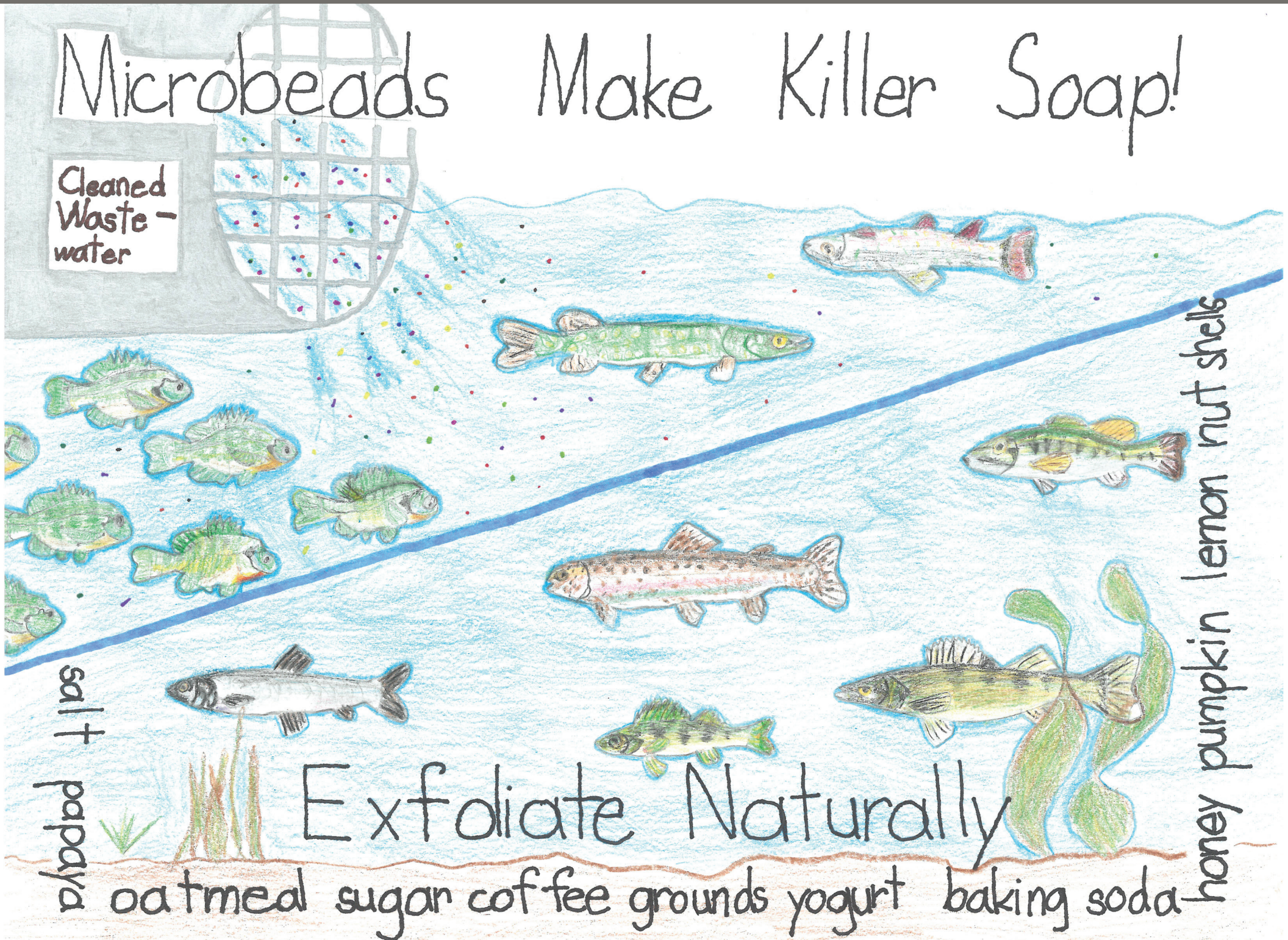
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween

By Johanna B. (Grade 1, Minnesota)



NOVEMBER 2015

OCTOBER 2015

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DECEMBER 2015

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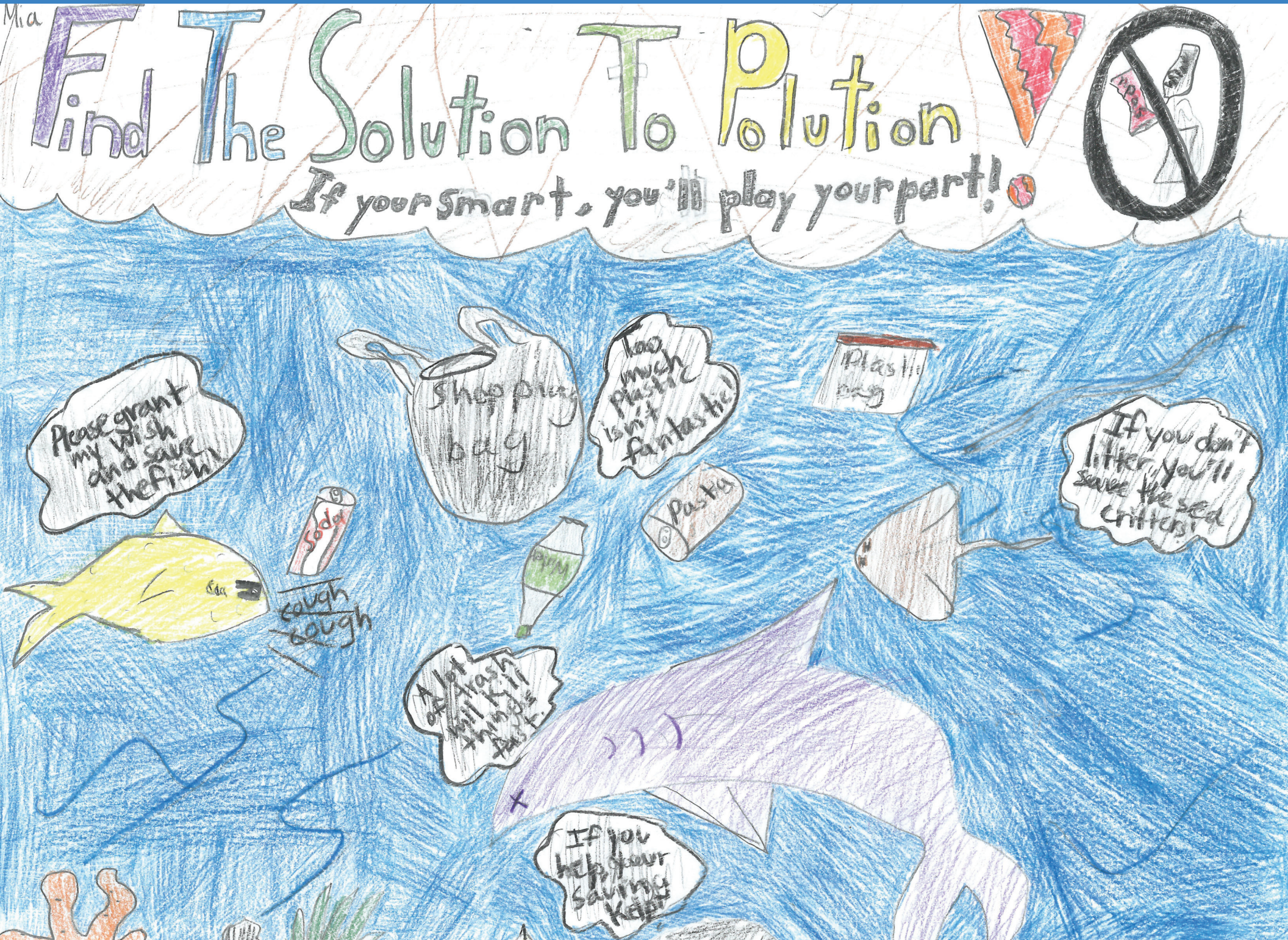
27	28	29	30	31		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30					

By Mia V. (Grade 4, Massachusetts)



DECEMBER 2015

NOVEMBER 2015						
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JANUARY 2016						
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31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Hanukkah Begins	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Winter Solstice	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		

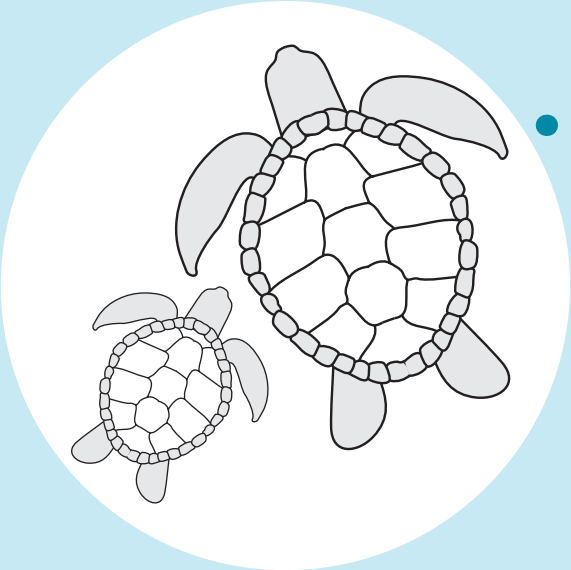
Coloring Activity

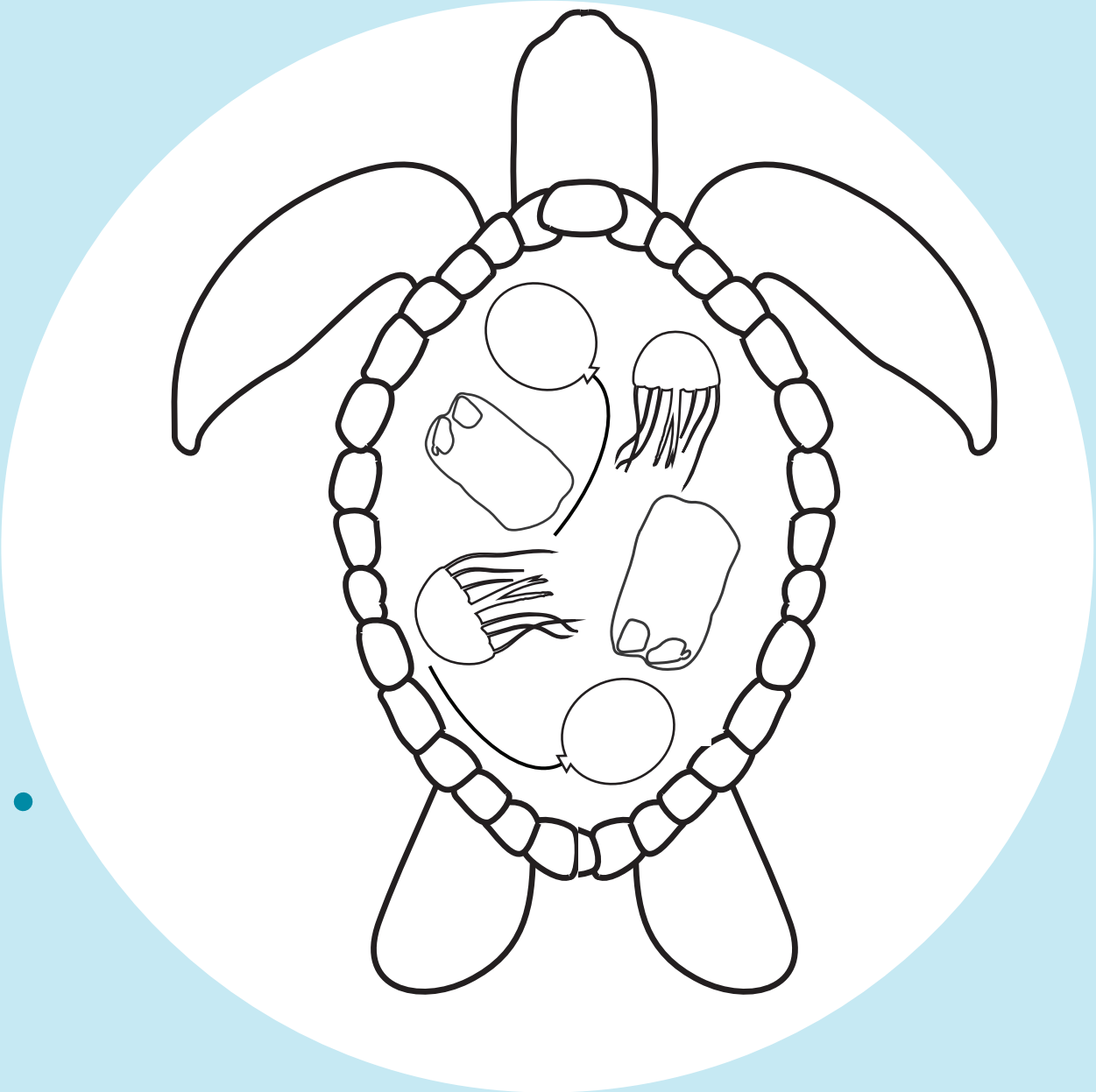
Many marine animals mistake trash for food. Turtles, for example, sometimes eat plastic bags and balloons because they look like jellyfish - a main diet source for many sea turtles.

Instructions:
Count and color all the trash items in this turtle's stomach.

How many pieces of marine debris did you find?

OUTSIDE





INSIDE

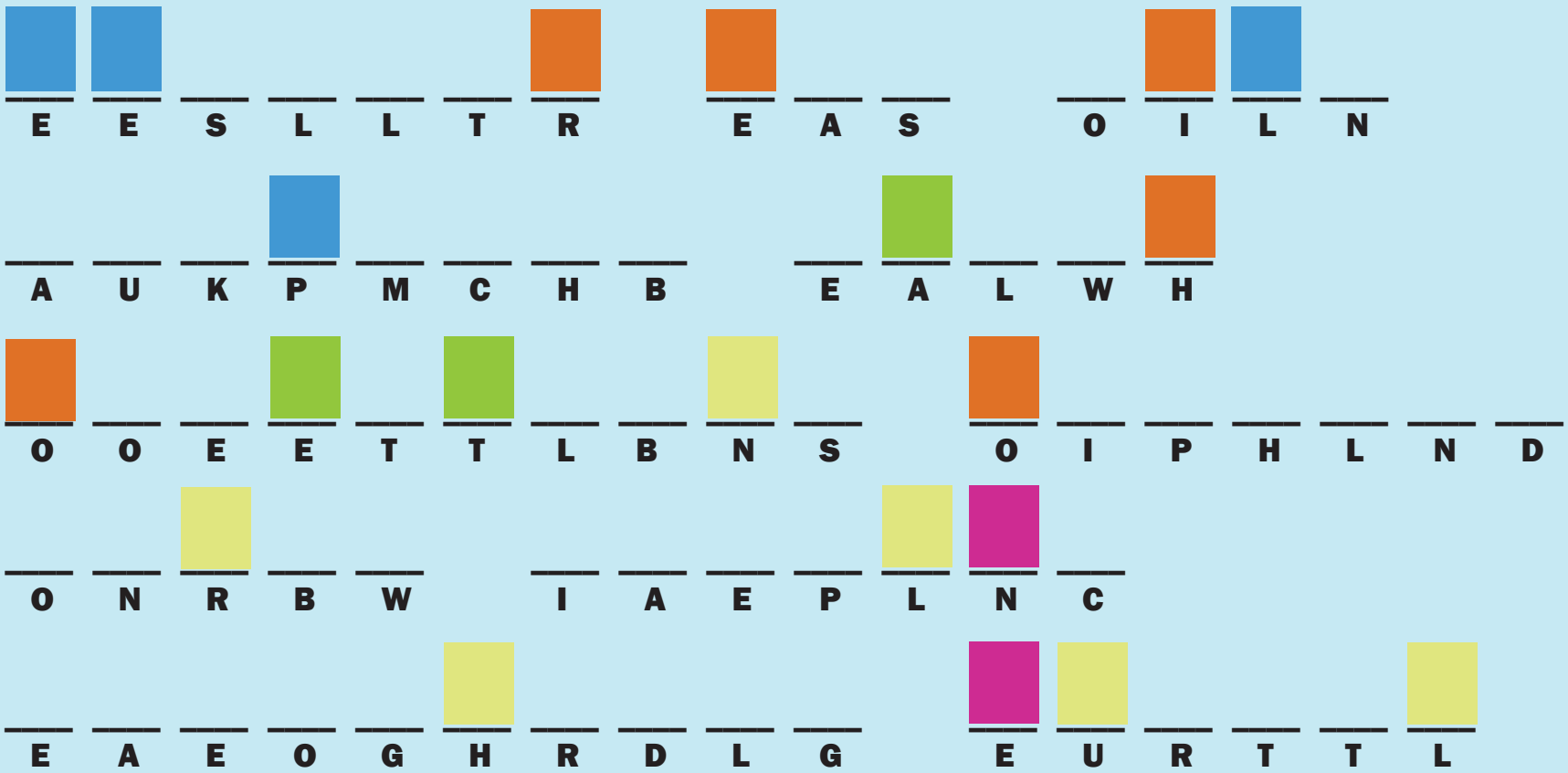
Word Scramble

Marine debris entanglement is a common danger for several marine species. Unscramble the words on this page to reveal some of these animals.

Want to uncover the secret message? Unscramble the color-coded letters to reveal the the message to the right.

Ultimate Word Scramble

Answer: STOP DEBRIS AT THE SOURCE



Answers: 1) STELLER SEA LION; 2) HUMPBACK WHALE; 3) BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN 4) BROWN PELICAN; 5) LOGGERHEAD TURTLE

Coloring Activity

Beach Cleanup!

Take the challenge to pick up 15 pieces of litter, such as single-use bottles and foam pieces, everyday!

Coloring Activity

Diver Cleanup!

These trained divers are removing debris underwater.

Marine debris can harm sensitive habitats such as coral reefs.

2014 “Keep the Sea Free of Debris!” Art Contest Winners

The debris impacts our environment by getting around sea animals necks, feet, or even their bodies. They get caught in loops, fishing gear, and plastic waste like bottles. We can help prevent debris by recycling and not littering.

- Julia D. (Ohio)

JANUARY

Debris that goes through the storm drain usually ends up in the ocean. Turtles often mistake plastic bags as jelly fish and eat them. This results in turtles choking on the bags and dying. We should minimize the use of plastic bags and dispose them properly. If I see any substance that is harmful to marine life entering the storm drain, I will prevent it.

- Vaibhavi P. (California)

MAY

Debris, such as plastic bags, fishing materials and six pack rings, balloons, etc., are eaten by animals that then become ill and die. Some animals become trapped and starve or suffocate. I can help by recycling and using environmentally friendly materials. I can also clean up at the beach with my family and friends and spread the word about the effects of garbage in the sea.

- Ioanna S. (New York)

SEPTEMBER

Marine debris kills the animals! Sadly a food chain can break and animals can choke and die. To help, I can pick up rubbish and throw it away.

- Dara Ann K. (Hawai'i)

FEBRUARY

Marine debris is very harmful and dangerous to undersea creatures. This pollution can ruin habitats. Marine wildlife can get hurt by marine debris. It also can cost a lot of money to fix. But you can help fix it by just cleaning beaches and not littering.

- Jessica D. (New York)

JUNE

In my picture, I have a seal being choked by a fishing net. There are many ways to stop marine debris; one ways is to cut all the loops like rubber bands before throwing them away. Also another way is by making sure that the fishermen make sure they throw away unnecessary nets that are old or broken.

- Linda G. (Ohio)

OCTOBER

When people litter it can kill fish and sea animals. People should kill fish by eating them not trapping them. Something I could do for my community is having a beach cleanup.

- Ellery S. (South Carolina)

MARCH

People should not pollute because animals in the water would be contaminated. If there is garbage in the ocean then the animals will someday end up eating the trash and will get sick which is not healthy. I drew this picture to persuade people not to pollute.

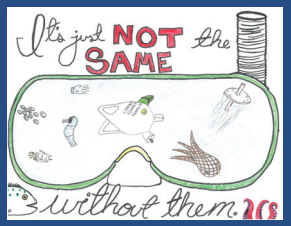
- Molly C. (Florida)

JULY

Microbeads are tiny plastic balls found in some soaps. They go through water treatment facilities and are not removed because they are so small. Microbeads can soak up chemicals from lake water. Fish eat microbeads and these chemicals get into fish. When we eat fish, we might get these chemicals into our bodies.

- Johanna B. (Minnesota)

NOVEMBER



Marine debris impacts our environment because it kills many aquatic features. Marine debris is ugly and very harmful, if you are going to pollute the ocean, you must say goodbye to its now plentiful wildlife I will reduce, reuse, and recycle to keep our ocean free of trash, but that's not enough, so I will raise awareness and help think of creative ways to clean the ocean.

- Elizabeth S. (Virginia)

APRIL

In my picture it shows how beautiful the oceans can be without marine debris. Imagine this sight without marine debris.

- Diego D. (Washington)

AUGUST

Marine debris can kill the environment by choking sea animals and poisonous chemicals can also kill sea animals. What we can do to help is to stop polluting the sea environment. We can keep our trash to throw somewhere reasonable. Please save the environment and stop polluting.

- Mia V. (Massachusetts)

DECEMBER

NOAA Marine Debris Program
Office of Response and Restoration
National Ocean Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

www.MarineDebris.noaa.gov

Please recycle.