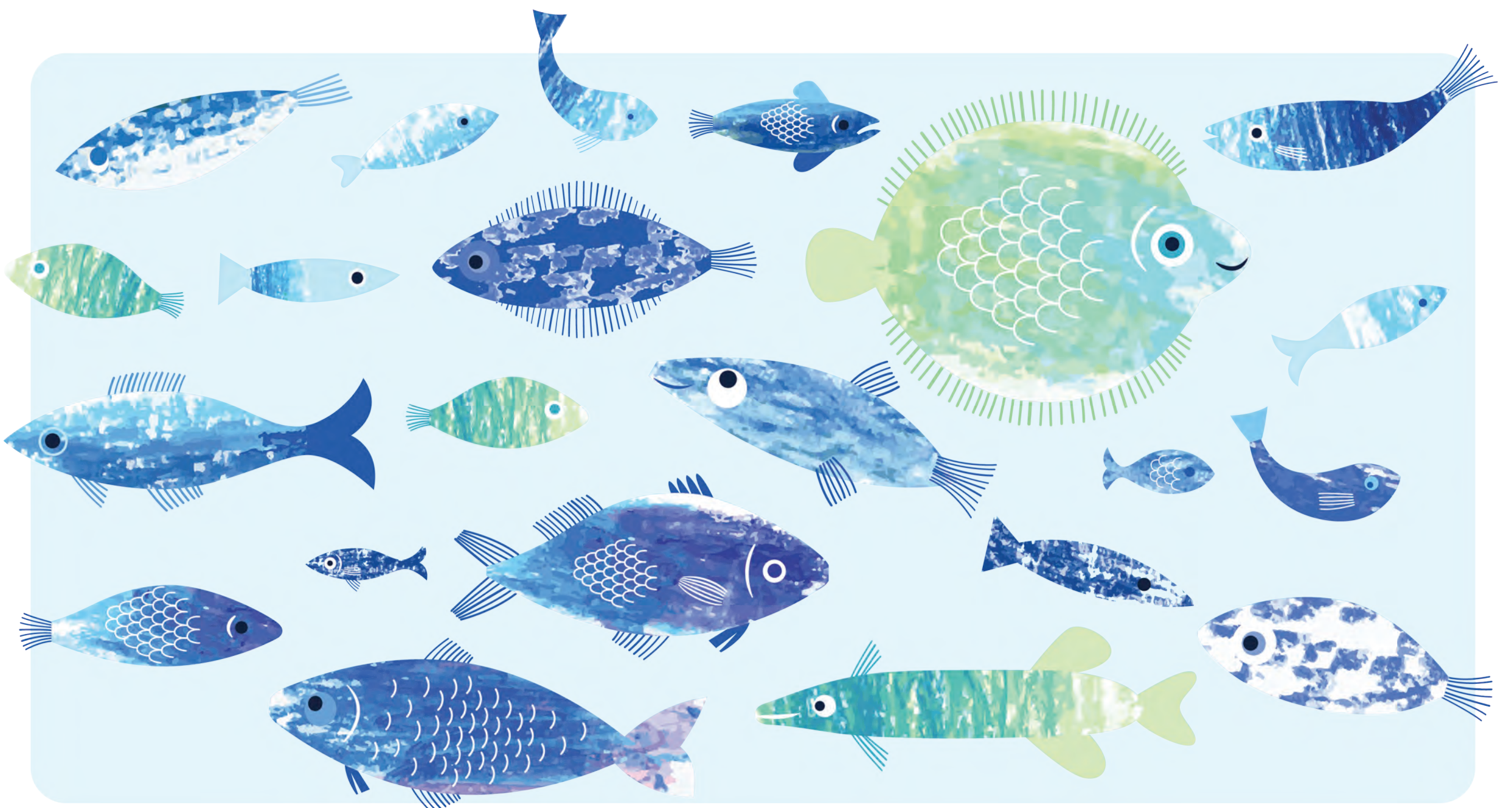




Green Generation

AN ENVIRONMENTAL MAGAZINE FROM BSOE

ISSUE 08



COVER STORY
MARINE LIFE

PAGE 10

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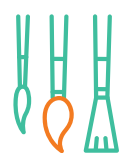
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A LETTER FROM THE BSOE TEAM



Greetings our future green ambassadors,

Mother earth continues to share all her precious and bounty resources with us. Our most vital and largest natural resource is water which makes up %70 of earth.

A large sum of this percentage is inhabited by marine animals. The existence of the sea, its animals and their habitats is vital for the eco-system. For example, because of water's powerful ability to store heat for this earth, our planet has not turned into a large freezing ice rink, and this is only one of the many benefits!

In this edition of our Green Generation, we will take you on a trip two miles deeper into the earth to discover more treasures from our expansive waters. But before we dive into that, we would like to remind you that to appreciate earth and its abundance, we must all take a united initiative to create a greener future.

Lucky for us, we can achieve that through learning about these natural resources and practicing daily habits to protect and preserve them.

Stay Green,

Your BSOE team,

AROUND THE GLOBE



The Middle East is typically known for its vast deserts, arid landscapes, oil fields and its striking infrastructural developments. But, did you know, it is a minefield of natural wonders too?

We want the world to know that, besides the desert, the UAE also has great marine life, for this we chose Bu Tinah Island of Abu Dhabi as a unique wonder of nature to speak about.

Located off the western coastline of Abu Dhabi, with shallow sparkling blue waters and its sandy beaches and inhabited by endangered animals, musical birds such as the Socotra Cormorant that cannot be found in other places, Bu Tinah Island is the perfect retreat away from human hustle and bustle.

On the way to the tiny island, it is not unusual for curious dolphins to suddenly appear. The closer you get, the more nature reveals its treasures.

Flying fish resembling long green sticks skip across the ocean's surface, Osprey nest on the island, feeding off the sea and pink flamingo group together during their long rest. The rare hawksbill turtle that is in danger globally is also one of the precious treasures to be found in Bu Tinah.

Not only this, but the island is also home to the planet's second largest population of the great sea cows dugong, a large marine mammal that is fast becoming extinct. Even creatures on the ocean floor are visible because the sea is so clear and shallow, simply it is an undisturbed paradise with distinctive natural habitats consisting of mangroves, seagrass beds and shallow waters.

Yes, many people ask how can we care about a place we are unable to visit. I was one such questioner until I understood and appreciated that Bu Tinah is still a young biosphere area. It needs to be heavily protected so that nothing disturbs the animal life there.

● Bu Tinah Island

We should all understand that visiting the island is restricted to special rangers, marine biologists and certain students. Bu Tinah could be our first step towards developing the best practices of eco-tourism in our region so people can visit and enjoy the area. But letting everyone visit it today would only pollute the area and disturb the animals.

Due to its great beauty and especially for housing some of the best natural and marine life, Bu Tinah Island was also one of the 28 official finalists for the “New 7 Wonders of Nature”.

“The reason we think Bu Tinah should be one of the wonders of nature is because despite our arid and harsh climate, we have a rich, sustainable biodiversity,” said Laila Yousef Al Hassan, spokesperson, Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD). Most people had never heard of the island or its inhabitants until the voting campaign was initiated, said Laila.

Our environment is the key to the future’s sustainable development and we are proud of that. Therefore, we must take care of it and protect it so that the next generation can be proud of it as well. I believe that if we don’t care for or respect or even appreciate this island, then we basically are killing our last hope to save our environment or maintain one of the last pieces of heaven in our water. If we don’t protect and raise awareness of Bu Tinah today, we might not have this beautiful ecosystem and its marine and plant life for our future generations.



GET TO KNOW ME BETTER



Tell us about Sharjah Aquarium?

It is a scientific center inaugurated by HH Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah on the 6th of June, 2008. It was established for introducing the biological diversity of Sharjah coasts to the residents and visitors of Sharjah and focusing on domestic marine creatures and the importance of conserving their beauty and richness.

What are the environmental initiatives launched by the Aquarium?

We conduct a lot of initiatives within the center such as cleaning the marine environment, releasing marine creatures, increasing fish population, Turtle Rehabilitation programs, participating in other environmental initiatives with other entities, establishing educational workshops for schools and families and doing scientific researches with the assistance of the biology team.

What made you take these initiatives?

The Aquarium's vision aims to raise awareness among people about the importance of conserving the safety of marine environment in order to achieve environmental balance. This motivates us to take such responsibility, and hand in hand with the society members we aspire to spread our message.

What is the positive impact of your initiatives?

There are many positive impacts that we've witnessed through our initiatives. We've provided our audience with volunteering opportunities and motivated them to take part in our programs and campaigns. Moreover, the attention paid by schools in order to get their students involved in these initiatives, aiming at raising awareness among people about the importance of conserving the safety of marine environment.

What are the Aquarium's future plans for conserving marine life?

The future holds plenty of opportunities that we aim to utilize, starting with intensifying the marine environment cleaning campaigns, to having governmental organizations involved in various initiatives and events, also launching events and carrying out studies aimed at raising people's awareness about the importance of fish resources as one of the country's main income sources.

In this edition, we chose the topic "conservation of marine life and water resources", What do you think of it?

It is an important and interesting topic. People should understand the importance of marine life as a source of food. Moreover, it's very critical to adhere to certain standards in fishing and not to deplete marine creatures or expose them to pollution. Furthermore, preservation of water resources has a positive impact on keeping the country's water reserves, especially for the fact that we suffer from poor rains.

Message/tips you want to convey to the students and community?

We recommend everyone to make the protection of the environment's resources against pollution and depletion a lifestyle and an inseparable part of their culture. Keeping them sustainable and flourishing will help in reflecting a good image of the UAE community.

SEARCH AND LINK THE LETTERS

TO CREATE THE WORDS ON THE RIGHT:

T	E	W	W	J	Q	F	H	W	L	T	G	O	H	N	E	N	T
F	U	C	M	G	I	C	H	A	U	I	R	C	X	Z	O	O	E
R	R	R	I	K	C	I	K	S	U	D	O	E	S	L	N	I	C
E	Z	E	T	P	N	E	V	T	D	E	U	A	D	I	A	T	U
I	G	I	V	L	M	I	N	J	G	T	N	N	A	G	I	A	A
C	K	J	G	I	E	I	R	I	O	D	D	R	H	I	A	V	F
A	H	U	S	C	R	W	M	D	A	H	W	U	S	M	K	R	T
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U	Y	G	L	A	C	I	E	R	L	C	E	P	W	J	K	N	L
D	W	C	F	H	Y	A	J	L	W	C	R	G	T	A	Q	O	K
E	Z	G	G	W	R	Y	X	W	A	T	E	R	B	Y	R	C	P
R	E	S	O	U	R	C	E	U	U	T	Y	M	V	K	U	N	E

WATER CONSERVATION

OCEAN

RIVER

LAKE

REDUSE

FISH

SEA

FAUCET

TURTLE

RESOURCE

GLACIER

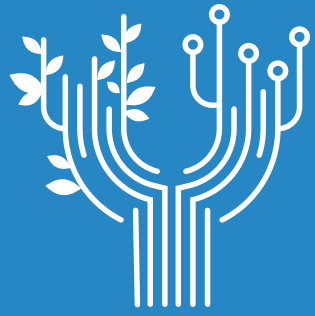
RAIN

GROUNDWATER

TIDE



HOW TO..



How to Take Action in Preserving the Marine Life and Water Resources:

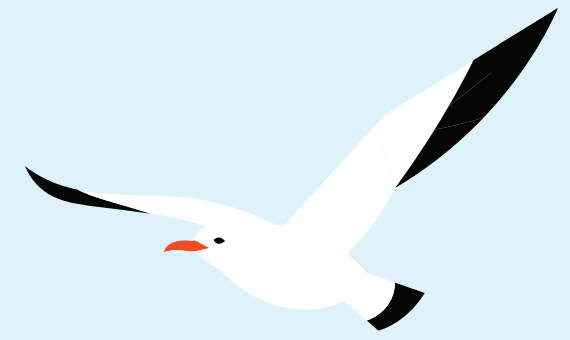
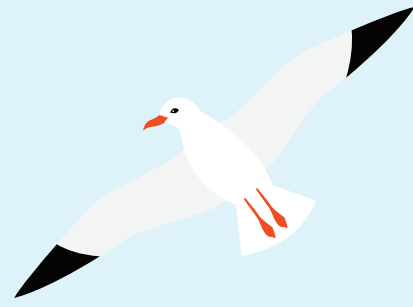
- Reduce Your Daily Plastic Consumption.

As simple as that; minimizing your daily plastic consumption can make a huge difference. The plastic waste that is dumped into oceans destroys the natural habitats of marine animals and leads to the death of many, if not their extinction. In order to prevent that, try to replace plastic water bottles with reusable ones, carry a tote bag whenever you shop, and recycle any time you get the chance to.

- Keep the Beach Clean

We all love spending time with family and loved ones at the beach, so why not make our leisure beach trips count! Next time you head there, don't leave any litter behind and encourage the people around you to do the same. You can also show your love to the marine environment by participating in beach cleanups whenever possible.





- Be Part of organizations that seek to help

Be part of organizations that seek to protect, defend, and improve marine life in your region. Don't forget that you can also create influence by supporting institutes, restaurants, retail shops, or any initiatives that are environmentally conscious.

- Learn More about it

Finally, the most important thing you can offer to the marine life is your education; after all, all change comes from within. The more effort you put into learning about the ocean and its inhabitants, the more you'll be able to make a difference, teach and inspire everyone around you.



DID YOU KNOW



Air pollution is responsible for %33 of the toxic contaminants that end up in oceans and coastal waters.



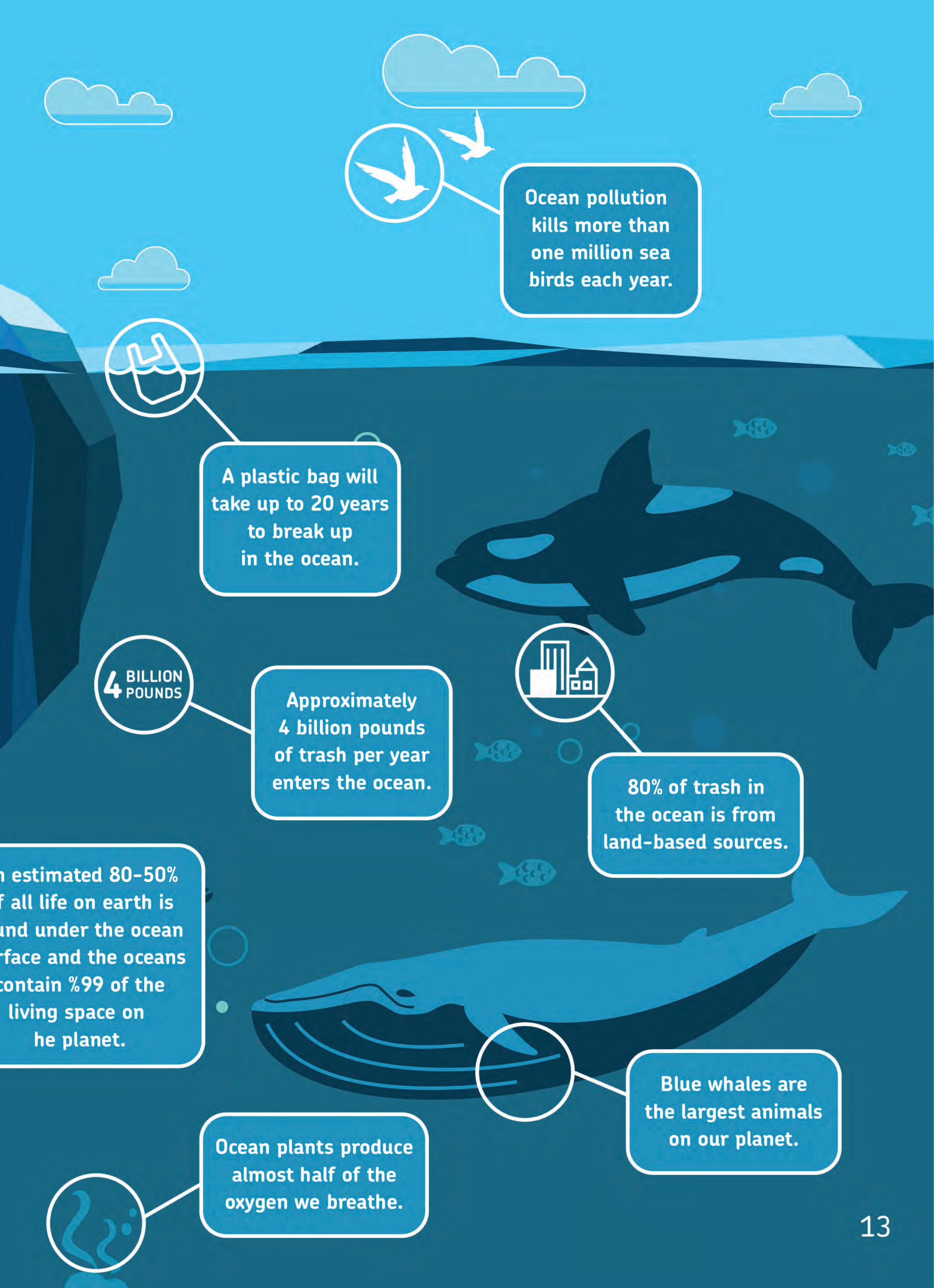
Fish supply the greatest percentage of the world's protein consumed by humans.

The world's longest mountain chain is underwater.



%90 of all volcanic activity occurs in the oceans.

Ar
of
fou
sun
C

An infographic with a blue background depicting the ocean. At the top, there are white clouds and two white birds in flight. A speech bubble points to the birds. Below, a dark blue whale is swimming. To its left, a speech bubble points to a circular icon of a plastic bag. Further down, a speech bubble points to a circular icon of a factory. To the left of the factory, a speech bubble points to a circular icon with the number 4 and the word BILLION. At the bottom left, a speech bubble points to a circular icon of a plant. At the bottom right, a speech bubble points to a circular icon of a blue whale. The background features a dark blue ocean with a lighter blue horizon and a dark blue sky with white clouds. The overall style is clean and modern with a focus on environmental themes.

Ocean pollution kills more than one million sea birds each year.



A plastic bag will take up to 20 years to break up in the ocean.

4 BILLION POUNDS

Approximately 4 billion pounds of trash per year enters the ocean.



80% of trash in the ocean is from land-based sources.

An estimated 80-50% of all life on earth is found under the ocean surface and the oceans contain 99% of the living space on the planet.



Ocean plants produce almost half of the oxygen we breathe.



Blue whales are the largest animals on our planet.

FROM WASTE TO ART



MAKE YOUR OWN BOOKMARK



Learn how to make your own bookmark with your own style and Design, and never lose track of reading your favorite book again.

MATERIALS:



SCISSORS

COLOR PENCILS

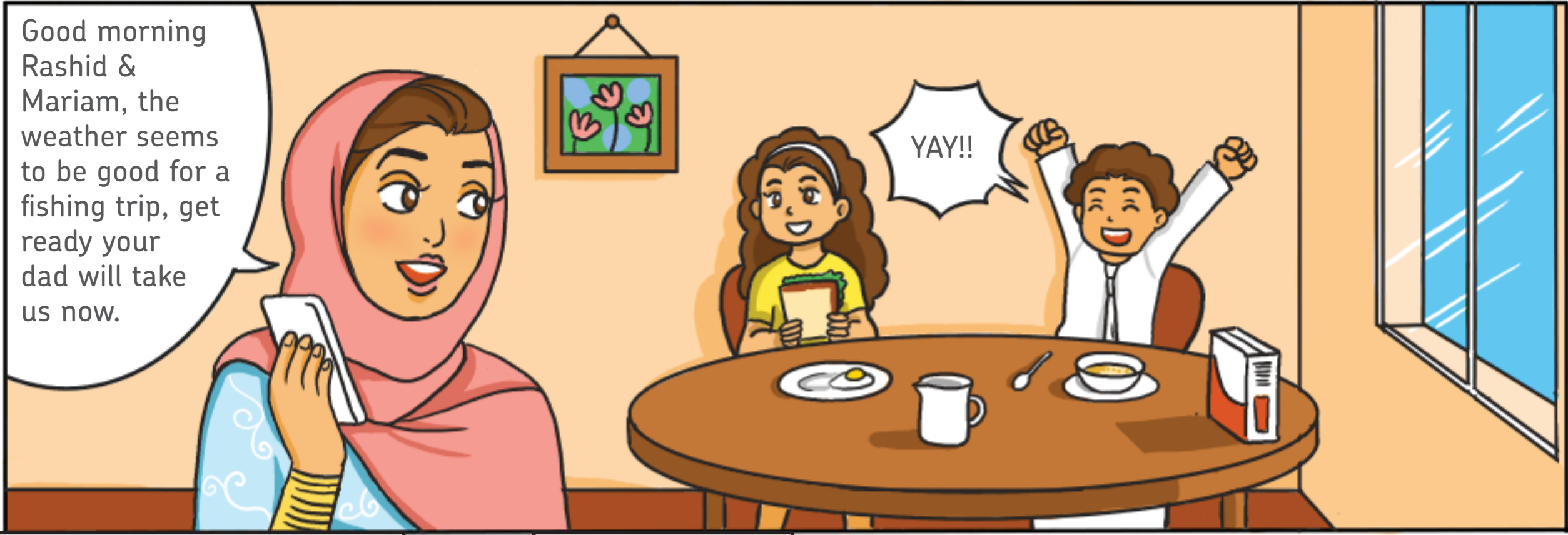
OLD MAGAZINE

GLUE

THICK PAPER

CLICK ON THIS VIDEO
TO VIEW THE STEPS

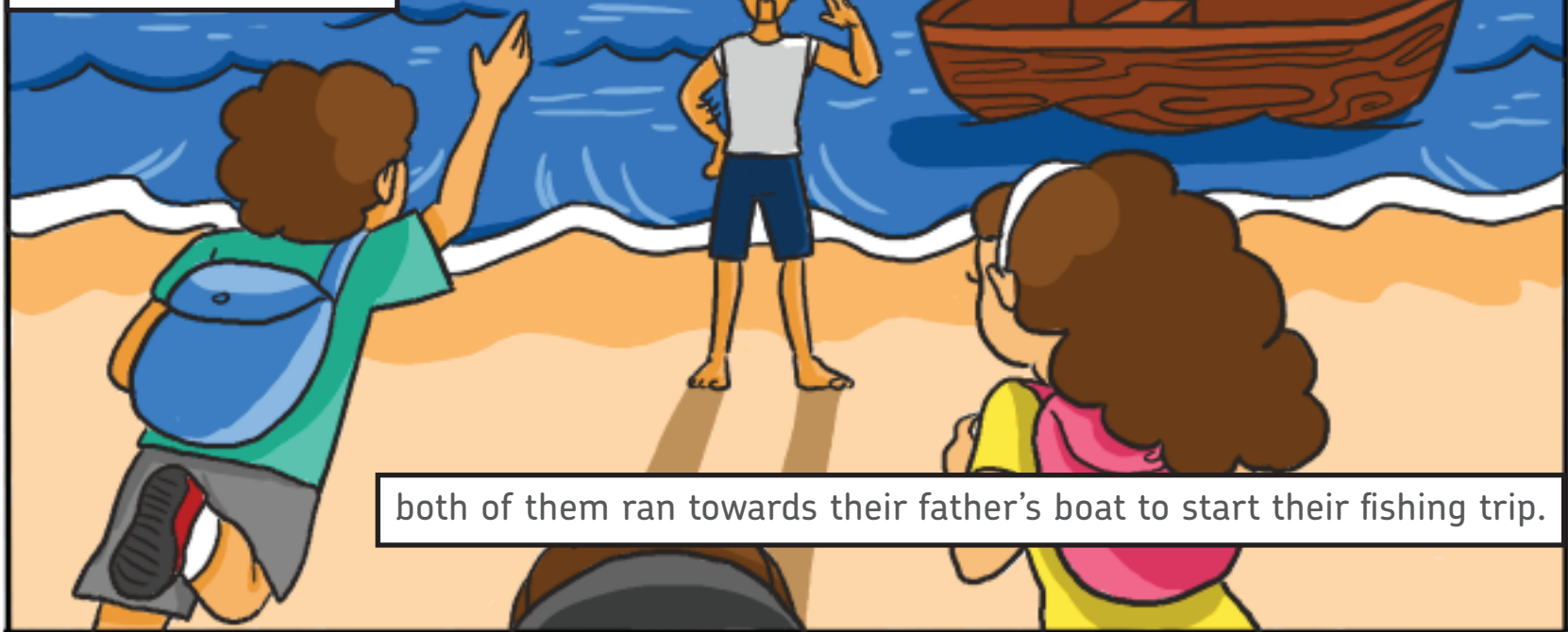




Rashid and Mariam were ready to go to the beach.



As they arrived there,



both of them ran towards their father's boat to start their fishing trip.



I wonder what's it like to be living under the sea. It seems to be amazing as there are a lot of amazing creatures who are lucky to be there.



Are you guys ready?

YESSS



look how beautiful the sea is

yes!! I'm so excited to catch my first fish



Mariam and Rashid, hold the net carefully and as I count to three, throw it in the sea

1

2



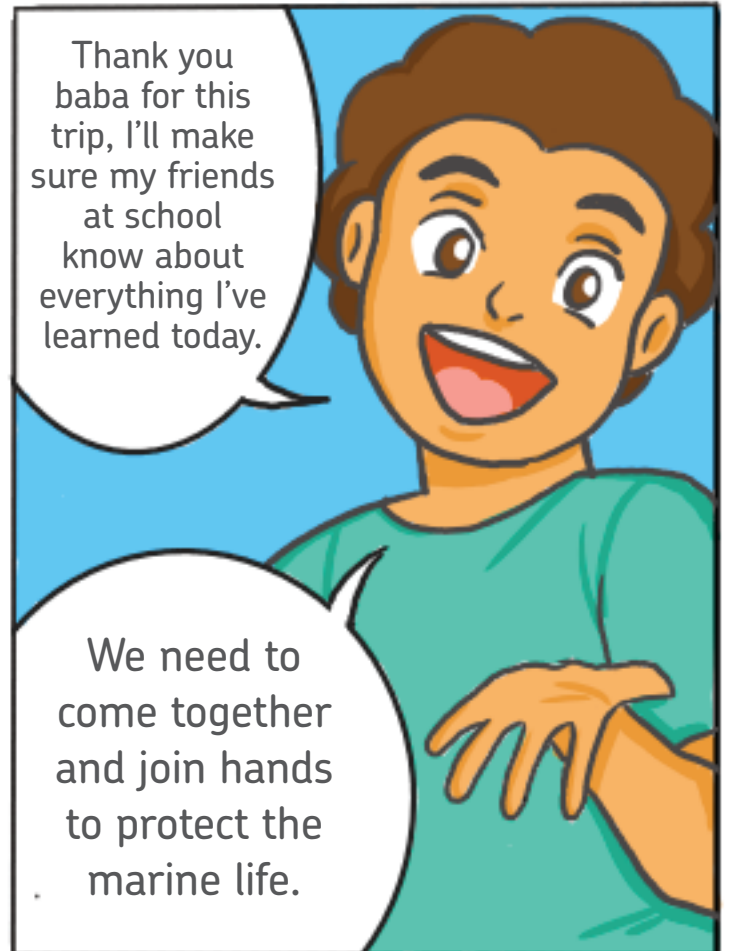
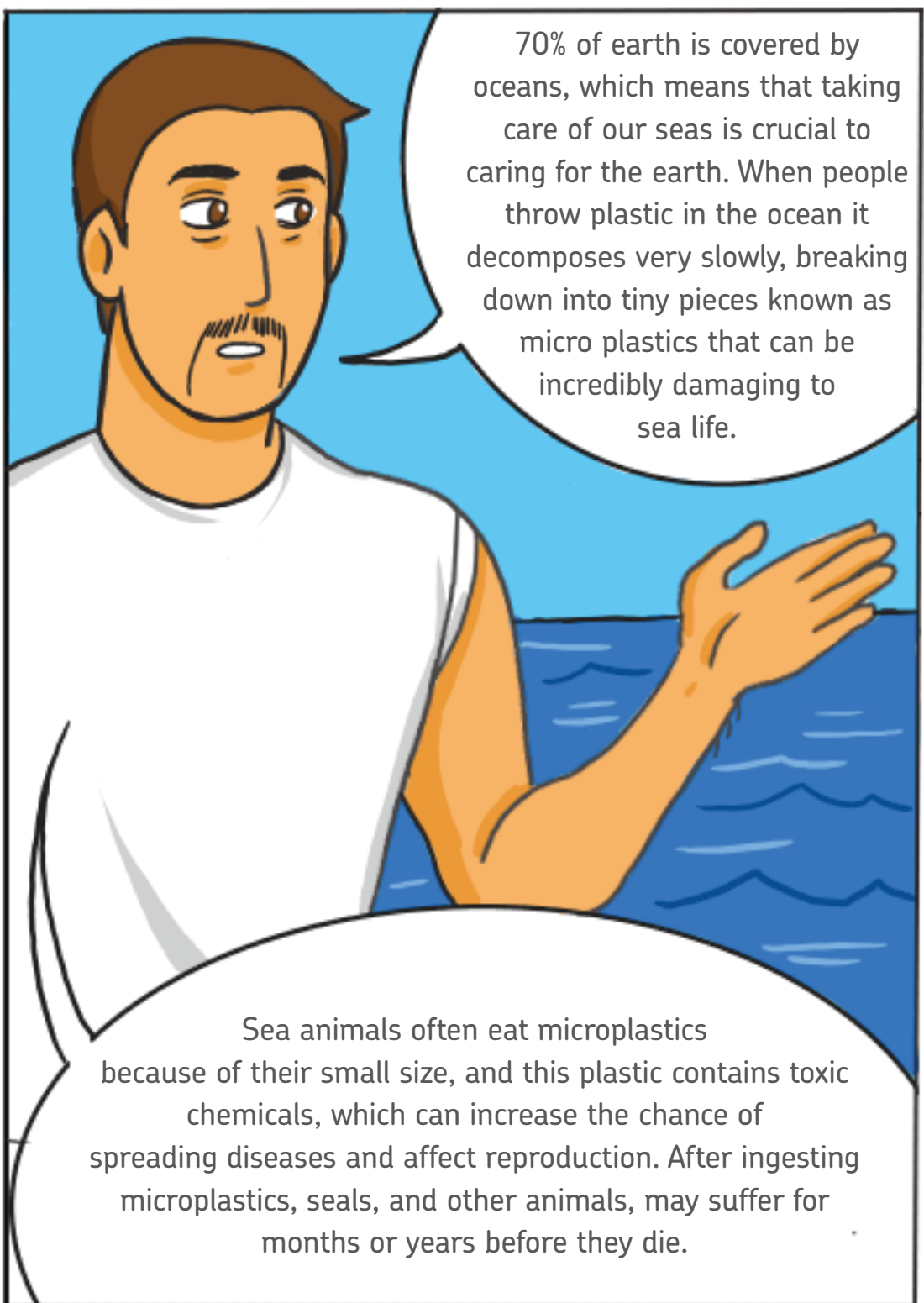
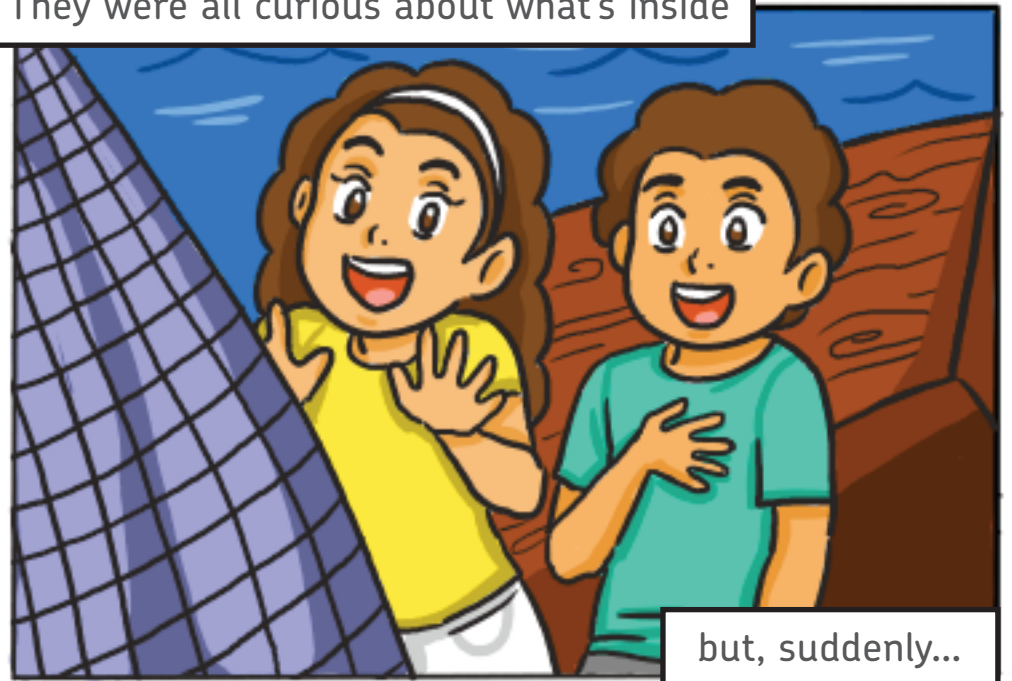
3

throw

Few moments later..



They were all curious about what's inside



BE FEATURED



The students from Umm Al Quwain school expressed “Zayed’s Ambition” through a workshop which utilizes reusing old cardboards and making inspirational artworks



BSOE team conducting an informative awareness session for the students from Australian International School

A fun and interactive workshop with the children from Halwan Child Center





Instead of throwing used paper, children from the Social Services Department made a wonderful artwork

Out of old used papers, the children of Al Qasba collaborated in creating a beautiful artwork for the symbol of the Year of Tolerance, the Ghaf tree

