



Bookmark

Can you spot  
**Bobby the bird**  
30 times in this  
magazine?

# The Story Corner

A gift of stories and  
games for you  
to share and  
enjoy



**INSIDE: loads of fun for ages 5 - 8**  
Stories, games and craft ideas

Enter our drawing competition to **win a year's supply of books!**

Issue 2



My name is Rob Biddulph and I write and illustrate books for children.

When I was younger, my favourite book was *The Lord of the Rings*, it taught me a lot about kindness and loyalty. Reading helps us to think about things from another person's point of view, which is really important.

I really hope you enjoy this new magazine from Bookmark, and that it helps you to discover lots of great new stories and characters. Oh, and don't forget, when you're finished share it with your friends and family. Spread the word!

Take care and happy reading.



# Who Is Our Friend?



written by Jade Mathieson,  
illustrated by Gerhard Van Wyk,  
designed by Lara de Groot,  
edited by Zanri Kritzing

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Can you guess who our best friend is?  
He's not like us at all.

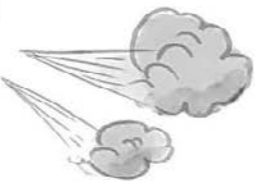


Our best friend is Bobby the bird!





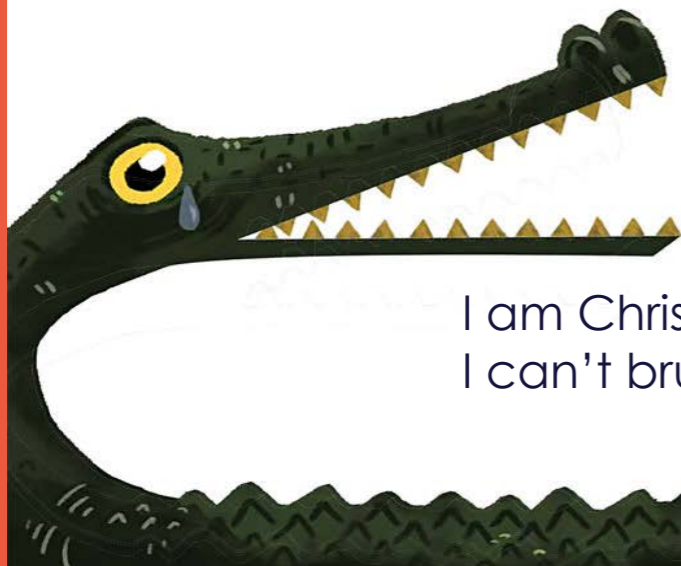
I am Riyad the rhino.  
I get covered in fleas.



Bobby eats them all up.



Did you know  
that a Nile  
crocodile has  
68 teeth?



I am Christina the crocodile.  
I can't brush my teeth.



Bobby pecks them all clean.

I am Jerome the giraffe.  
I can't scratch my head.



Bobby can reach just the right spot.





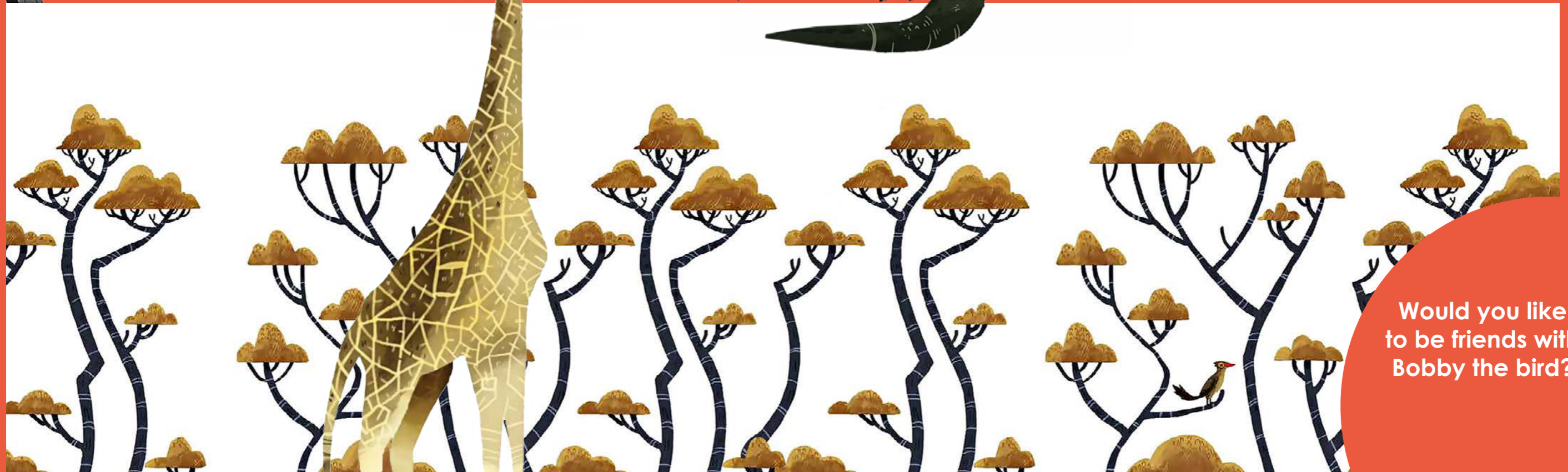
I am Zara the zebra.  
I can't see things far away.

Bobby has great eyes,  
so when he's watching I'm safe.



Bobby might be different,  
but that's no problem...

We don't even mind  
when he sings!



Would you like  
to be friends with  
Bobby the bird?

Can you make up your own story using the things in these pictures?

Start off by choosing three pictures, then if you want to make it really hard try telling a story that includes all of them!

## Story Starters



# A World of Words

by Claire Culliford

An enormous, exciting world is out there,  
It's waiting for you to discover it all,  
Adventures and fun are just everywhere,  
From the biggest buildings to corners so small.

Sunny stories about playing on the beach,  
Tiny tales about secret, special spaces,  
Creating a future full of ideas,  
With lots of fabulous, friendly new faces.

Charming castles and deep blue seas,  
Flying through clouds, on a rocket to the stars,  
Reading takes you wherever you want,  
With the magic power of words and art.



photo credit:  
Iglia Trifonova

"Hello my name is Claire, I am a children's author. I love writing, my dog and chocolate!

I hope that you like this poem, which I have written especially for you to enjoy!"

Can you find the rhyming words in the poem?



# When I Grow Up

written by Michele Fry,  
illustrated by Simóne van  
der Spuy, designed by  
Jennifer Jacobs, edited  
by Zanri Kritzing



What do I want to be when I grow up?



When I grow up,  
I want to be a **ballet  
dancer** and dance on  
stage.

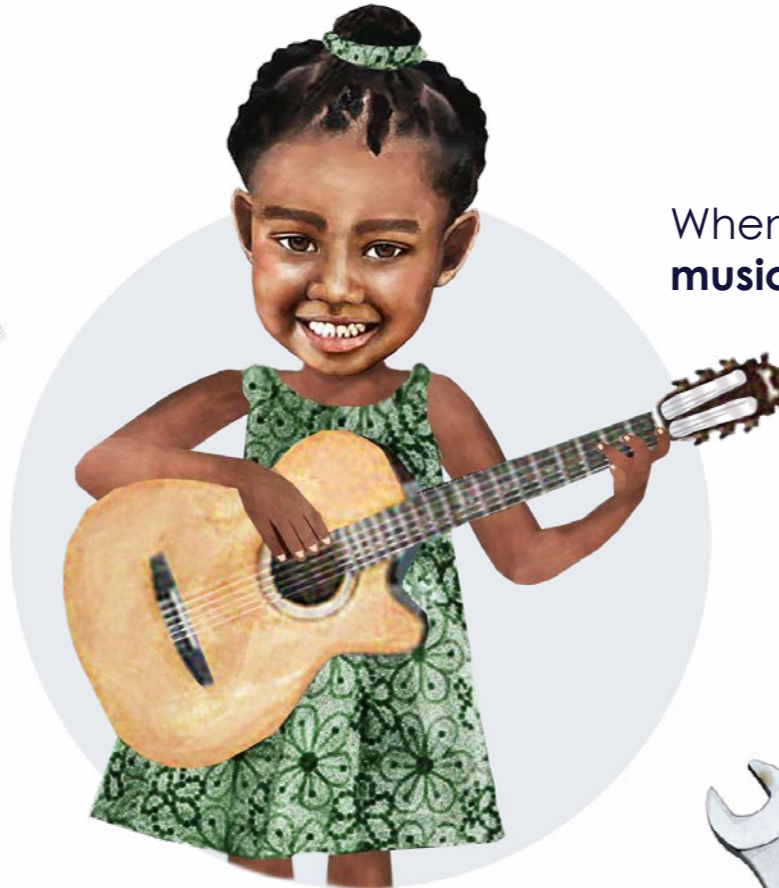


When I grow up, I want to be a **firefighter** and put out big fires.

When I grow up, I want to be a **doctor**  
and make sick people better.



When I grow up, I want to be a **musician** and play in a band.



What musical  
instrument  
would you  
like to play?



When I grow up, I want to be a **mechanic** and fix formula one cars.



How would you feel if you scored a winning goal?

When I grow up, I want to be a **football player** and score the winning goal.



When I grow up, I want to be a maths **teacher** and teach people to solve sums.

When I grow up, I want to be a **chef** and make food for everyone to enjoy.



When I grow up, I can choose to be whatever I want to be!



What do you want to be when you grow up?



When I grow up, I want to be an **astronaut** and fly to the moon.



# Wordsearch

Can you spot these words?



doctor



bird



mechanic



chef



teacher

a	h	u	p	n	e	i	p	f	b	i	r	d	f
m	e	c	h	a	n	i	c	o	v	p	d	a	i
u	t	e	t	y	q	d	h	o	p	a	b	c	r
s	f	e	h	t	y	x	e	t	p	s	n	x	e
i	z	q	a	t	l	o	f	b	j	c	y	s	f
c	t	k	i	c	h	l	k	a	w	a	i		
i	s	y	i	o	h	l	p	l	a			g	
a	c	x	y	u	n	e	o	l	y			h	
n	b	d	o	c	t	o	r	e	z			t	
p	l	u	d	a	n	c	e	r	d			c	e
a	s	t	r	o	n	a	u	t	x			b	r



musician



astronaut



firefighter



footballer



dancer



Enter our drawing competition for a chance to **win a year's supply of books!** In partnership with Macmillan Children's Books.

Draw a picture in the frame to show us what you want to be when you grow up.

When I grow up, I want to be . . .



**Congratulations** to our last competition **winner!**

**Saha**, age 6, from Oasis Academy Byron

Once you have finished your drawing, ask a grown-up to take a picture and send it to [thestorycorner@bookmarkreading.org](mailto:thestorycorner@bookmarkreading.org)

\*Message to the grown-ups - Terms and conditions, including closing date available on our website. [www.bookmarkreading.org/the-story-corner](http://www.bookmarkreading.org/the-story-corner)



# The Joke Corner



What's yellow and dangerous?

Shark infested custard!

What do sea monsters eat?

Fish and ships!

What's a crocodile's favourite game?

Snap!

Where do cows go for a night out?

To the moo-vies!

What kind of dinosaur loves to sleep?

A stego-snore-us!

What do robots like to sit on?

Their robotbottoms!

# Dive!



written and illustrated by Rajiv Eipe




Blue skies and calm waters - a perfect day for diving!  
We set out in a little boat, hoping for a BIG adventure!



When we reached the dive site, we carefully checked all our equipment and put on our fins and masks.

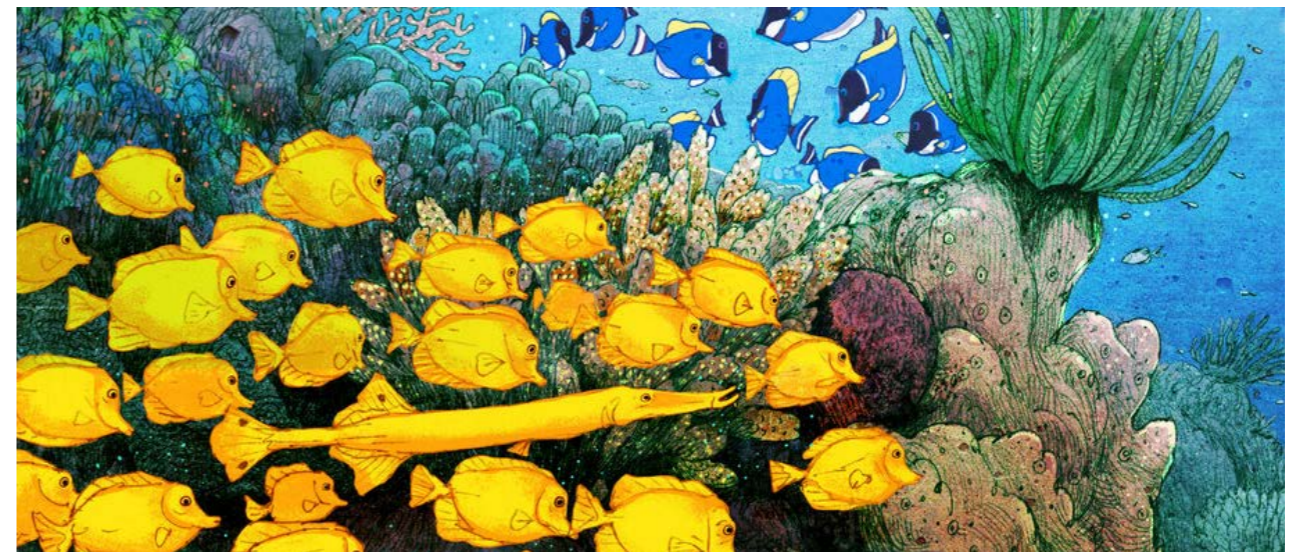


As soon as we were underwater, we were greeted by a school of yellowback fusiliers.

 How many different kinds of fish can you spot?



There were so many different creatures to see around this large table coral: oriental sweetlips, parrotfish, batfish, and even a beautifully patterned nudibranch.



This trumpetfish changed colour to try and blend in with a school of yellow tang, but you can pick him out easily enough, can't you?



It's a good thing we kept a safe distance from this lionfish. The spines on his back can be quite poisonous!

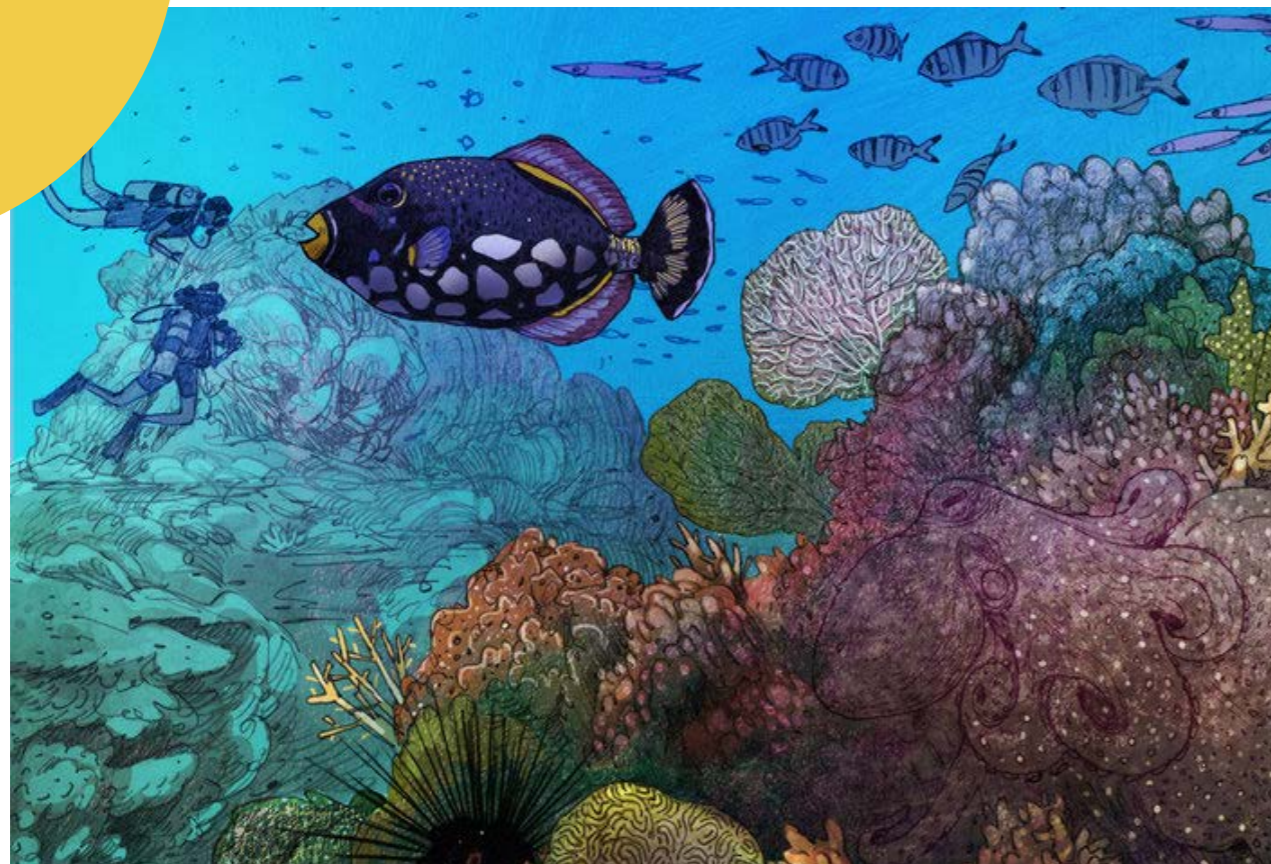


These clownfish carefully guarded their sea anemone home, but finally agreed to let me take a few pictures.

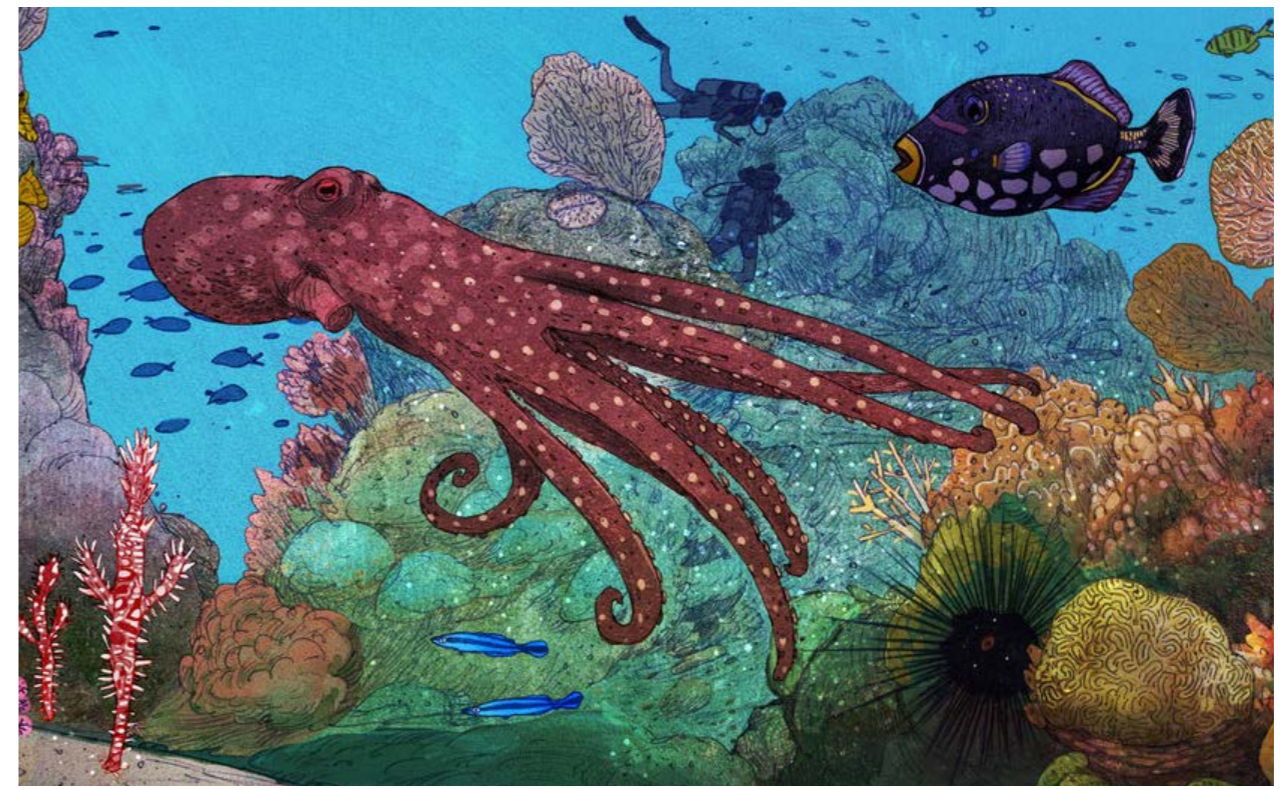


We saw a honeycomb moray eel having its teeth cleaned by cleaner wrasses, and another pair even offered to give us a scrub!

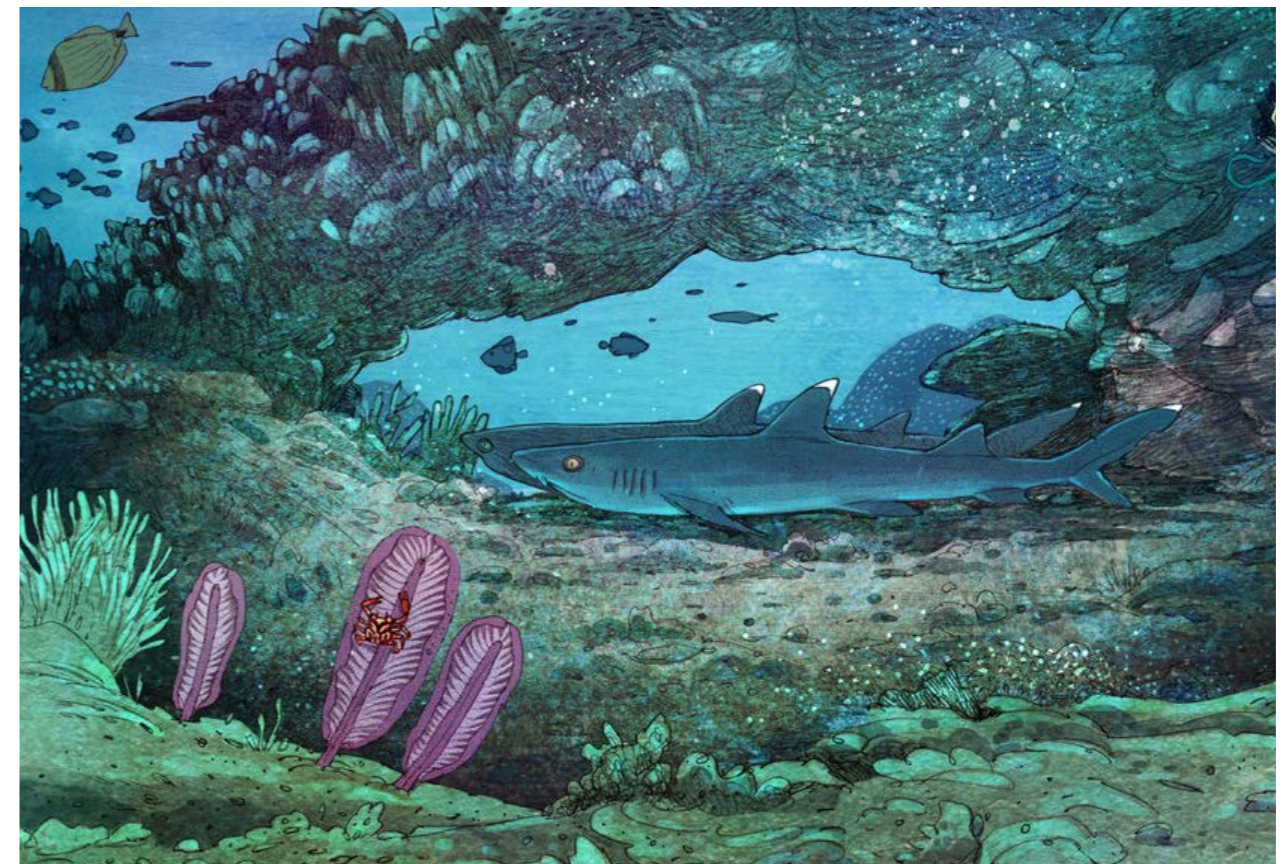
Can you see the camouflaged octopus?



There were triggerfish and sea urchins. We even saw a coral grouper and a reef octopus playing hide-and-seek.

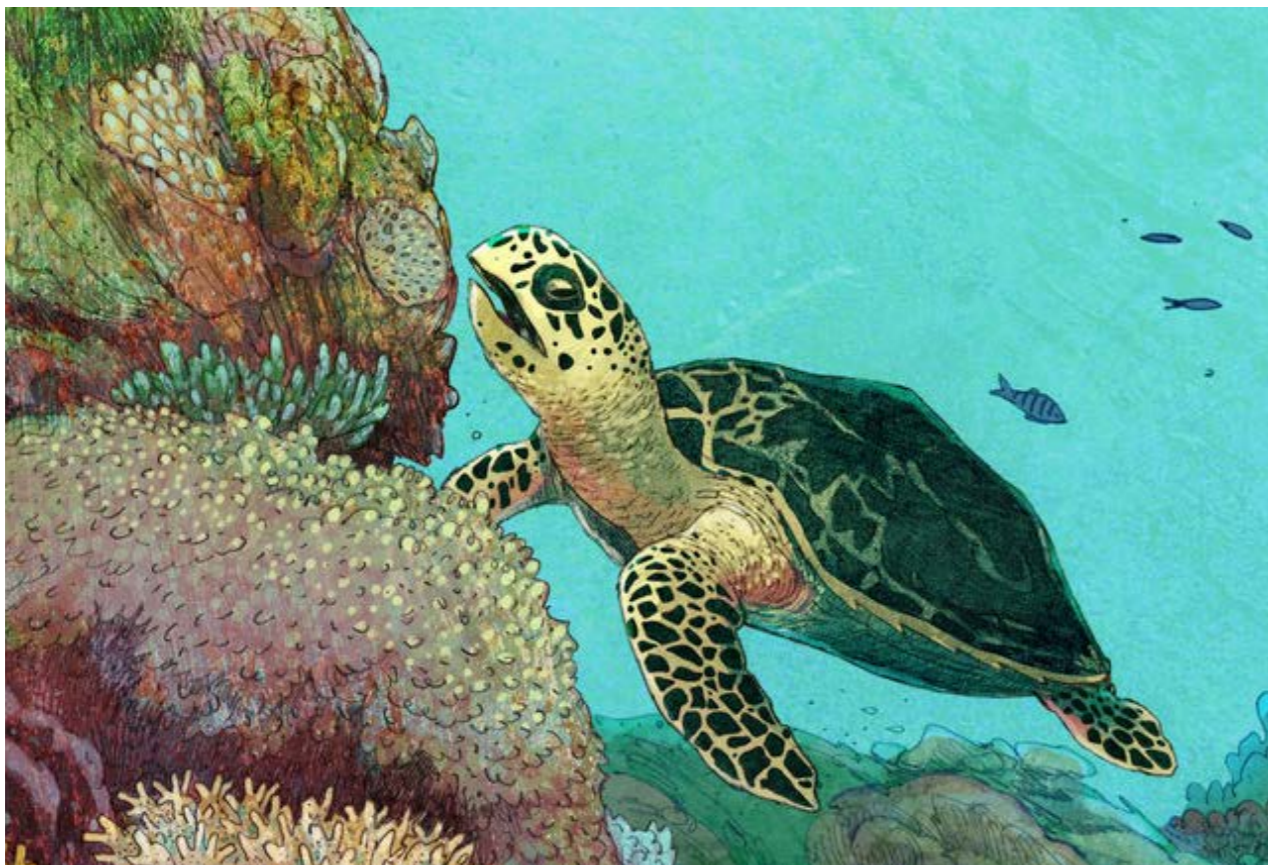


The octopus won the game. They're masters of disguise. Pipefish are great at disguise too. Can you spot the two ghost pipefish in this picture?

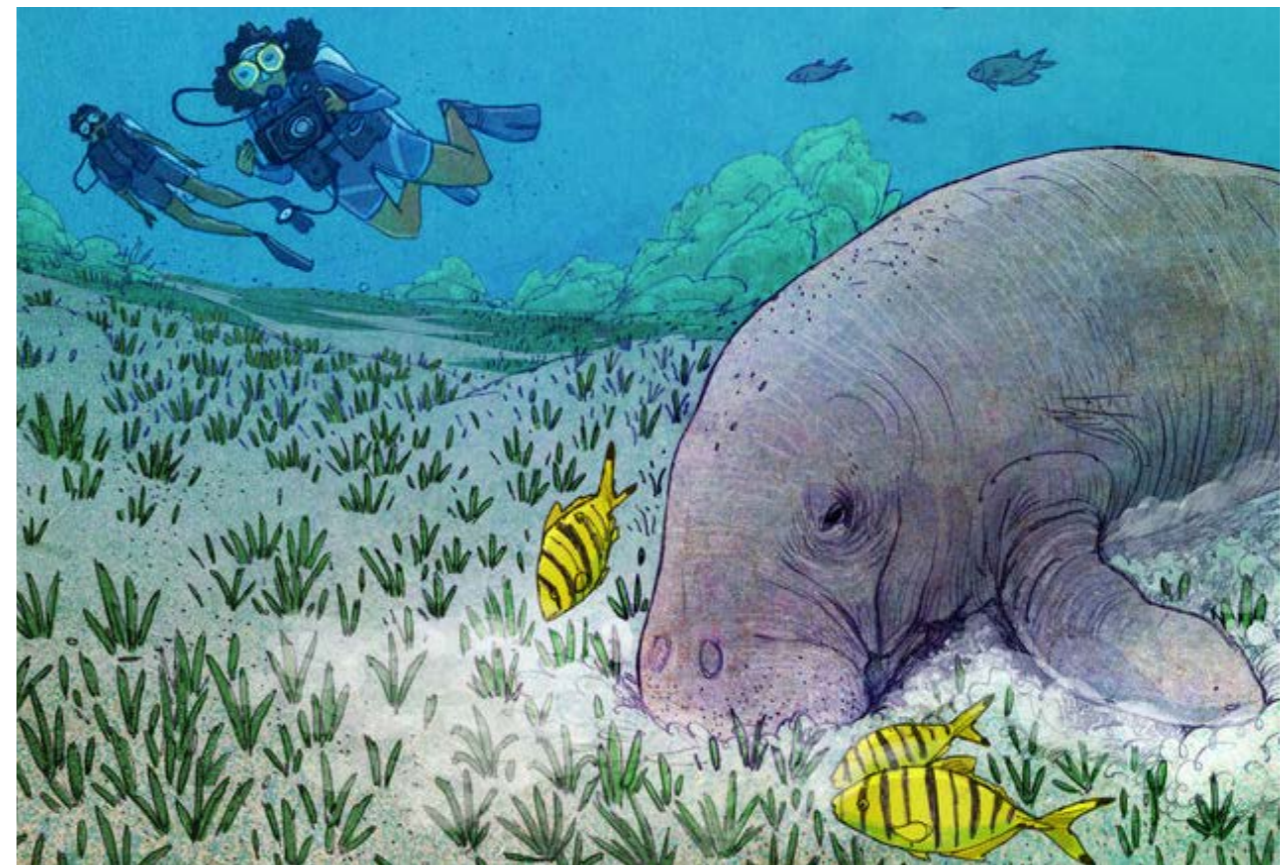


We came across a couple of whitetip reef sharks resting near the bottom. They're pretty harmless, so we swam in for a closer look.

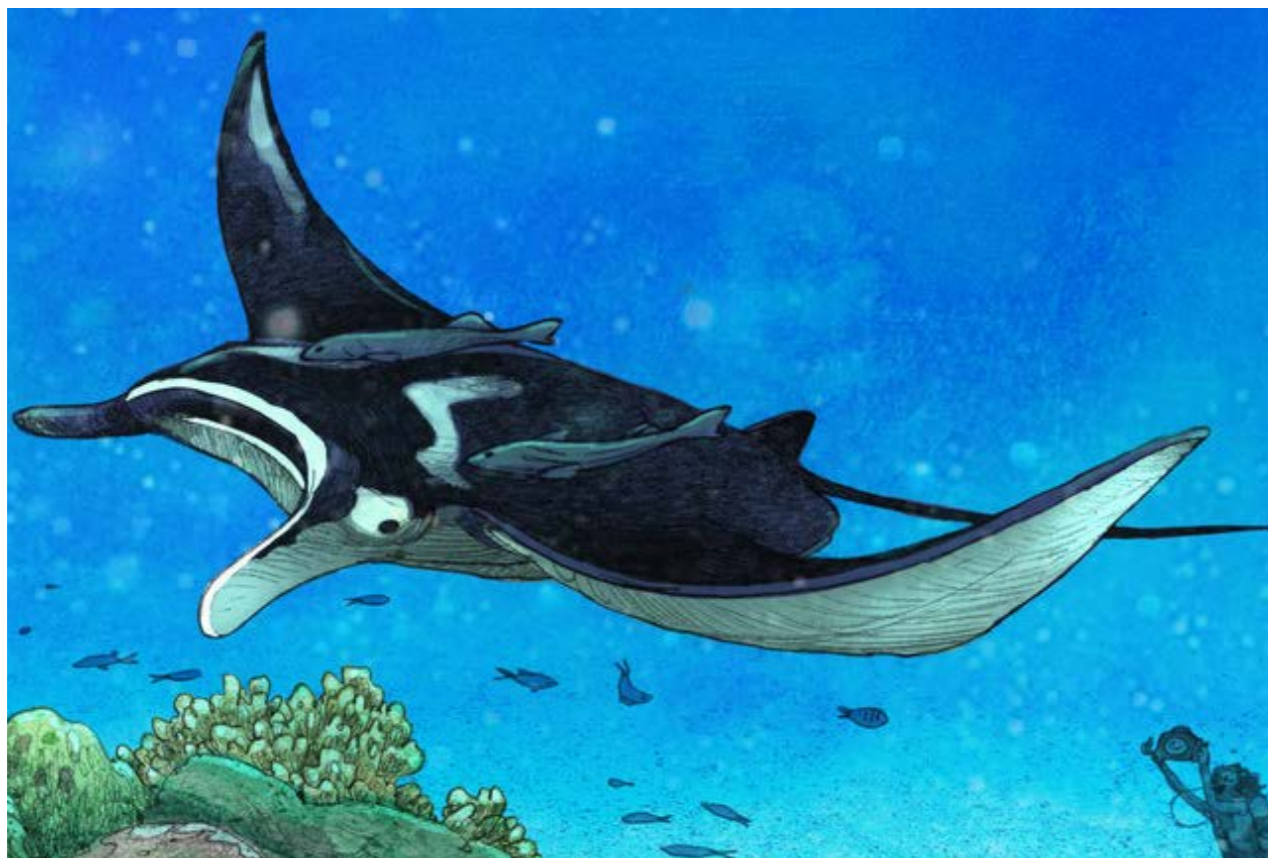




We followed this hawksbill turtle for a while as he looked around the reef for a nice sea sponge to lunch on.



And just when we thought this dive couldn't possibly get any better, we sighted a dugong grazing on some sea grass.



As we made our way back to the boat, we were thrilled to see a manta ray 'flying' through the water with two remora fish in tow.

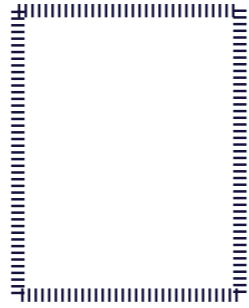


What an incredible experience! I can't wait to go diving again!

Write a postcard to someone you know telling them about your diving adventure!

You can even design your own stamp!

To:



From:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Dive into our underwater quiz!

1. Which animal has a hard outer skeleton and grows in many different shapes?

- a) coral
- b) plankton
- c) lionfish

2. Which type of fish makes its home inside a sea anemone?

- a) parrotfish
- b) clownfish
- c) cleaner wrasse



3. Which animal can hide by changing its colour and texture?

- a) reef octopus
- b) manta ray
- c) whitetip reef shark



4. Which animal uses its specially shaped snout to eat sea grass and is also known as a sea cow?

- a) hawksbill turtle
- b) ghost pipefish
- c) dugong



Answers: 1.a) coral 2.b) clownfish 3.a) reef octopus 4.c) dugong



# Make your own bird feeder!

By Joanne O'Connell, author of *Beauty and the Bin*

Recycling is a brilliant way to keep plastic out of our oceans. However, sometimes re-purposing is even better! Why not challenge yourself to make something new out of some packaging?

You could decorate old breakfast cereal boxes and pop them into your drawers for a smart way to organise your socks.

Transform old jam jars into cool storage pots for craft supplies, jewellery or sweets.

Or, how about making a bird feeder from an empty juice or milk container to welcome birds to your windowsill?

## Be a recycling champion

You will need:



**A piece of cardboard**  
ideally reuse some packaging - for the roof

Ask an adult to help!

**Paint (or coloured paper)**  
Try to use up old paper and paints. Anything goes!

**Twigs**

**An empty juice or milk container**

**Glue**

**Scissors**



## Instructions

1. Wash out your carton. Cut a square hole to put the bird seed into (you may need an adult to help with this).
2. Cut out two rectangles from the cardboard and stick them on for the roof.
3. Decorate your bird feeder in any way you like.
4. Create somewhere for the birds to stand inside the carton. A few twigs are perfect.
5. Fill with bird-safe food such as sunflower seeds, chopped fruit or grated cheese.
6. Hang it outside and get ready for some chirpy visitors!



**Who Is Our Friend?** (English), written by Jade Mathieson, illustrated by Gerhard van der Wyk, designed by Lara de Groot, edited by Zanri Kritzing, published by Book Dash (© Book Dash, 2016). This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). Find out more at: <http://bookdash.org/books>.

**When I Grow Up** (English), written by Michele Fry, illustrated by Simón van der Spuy, designed by Jennifer Jacobs, edited by Zanri Kritzing, published by Book Dash (© Book Dash, 2016). This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). Find out more at: <http://bookdash.org/books>.

**Dive!** (English), written and illustrated by Rajiv Eipe, supported by Oracle, guest editor: Vinayak Varma, published by Pratham Books (© Pratham Books, 2016) [www.prathambooks.org](http://www.prathambooks.org). Story content under a CC BY 4.0 license on Story-Weaver. Read, create and translate stories for free on [www.storyweaver.org.in](http://www.storyweaver.org.in)

Rocket in the sky illustration (p.7) by Megan Lotter, (from **My Dream in The Drawer** written by Fred Strydom, designed by Marteli Kleyn, edited by Ester Levinrad), published by Book Dash (©Book Dash, 2016) under a CC BY 4.0 license.

Front cover artwork by Sarah Harrison Illustration © 2021

A World of Words poem by Claire Cullford © 2021

Make your own bird feeder content by Joanne O'Connell (Beautyandthebin.com) © 2021

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## A note for the grown-ups

Hello,

At Bookmark we want every child to read. We recruit and train volunteers to provide reading support for children in primary school. To find out more about us, visit our website, or follow us on social media.

**We would love to hear what children, families and carers thought about this magazine!**

Scan the QR code to complete our short survey and you'll have the **chance to win £100** in our prize draw.

The Bookmark Team

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 @bookmarkreading

[www.bookmarkreading.org](http://www.bookmarkreading.org)



### Enjoy your local library

Your local librarian can recommend great books to match your child's age, interests and reading level. Encourage your child to explore the library and choose some things for themselves that they really enjoy. Over the holidays, many libraries run brilliant family activities.

### Carry something for your child to read in your bag

Keep one of your child's favourite books (or even this magazine) in your bag, so that they can read while you are out and about - in a queue, on the bus or sitting in the park.

### Top tips for encouraging your child to enjoy reading

#### Be playful

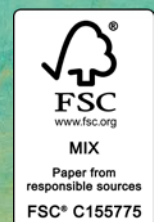
There are all sorts of fun and easy games which will help your child to build their literacy skills. You could try making up tongue twisters together, create silly songs or how about playing a game of rhyming tennis? Choose a sound, like 'AT' then take turns shouting out words that end with that sound. How long can you keep battling rhyming words back and forth?

### Be a reading role model

Your child will be inspired if they can see that you enjoy reading too. Tell them about your favourite books or magazines. Why do you enjoy reading? What stories did you enjoy when you were young?



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