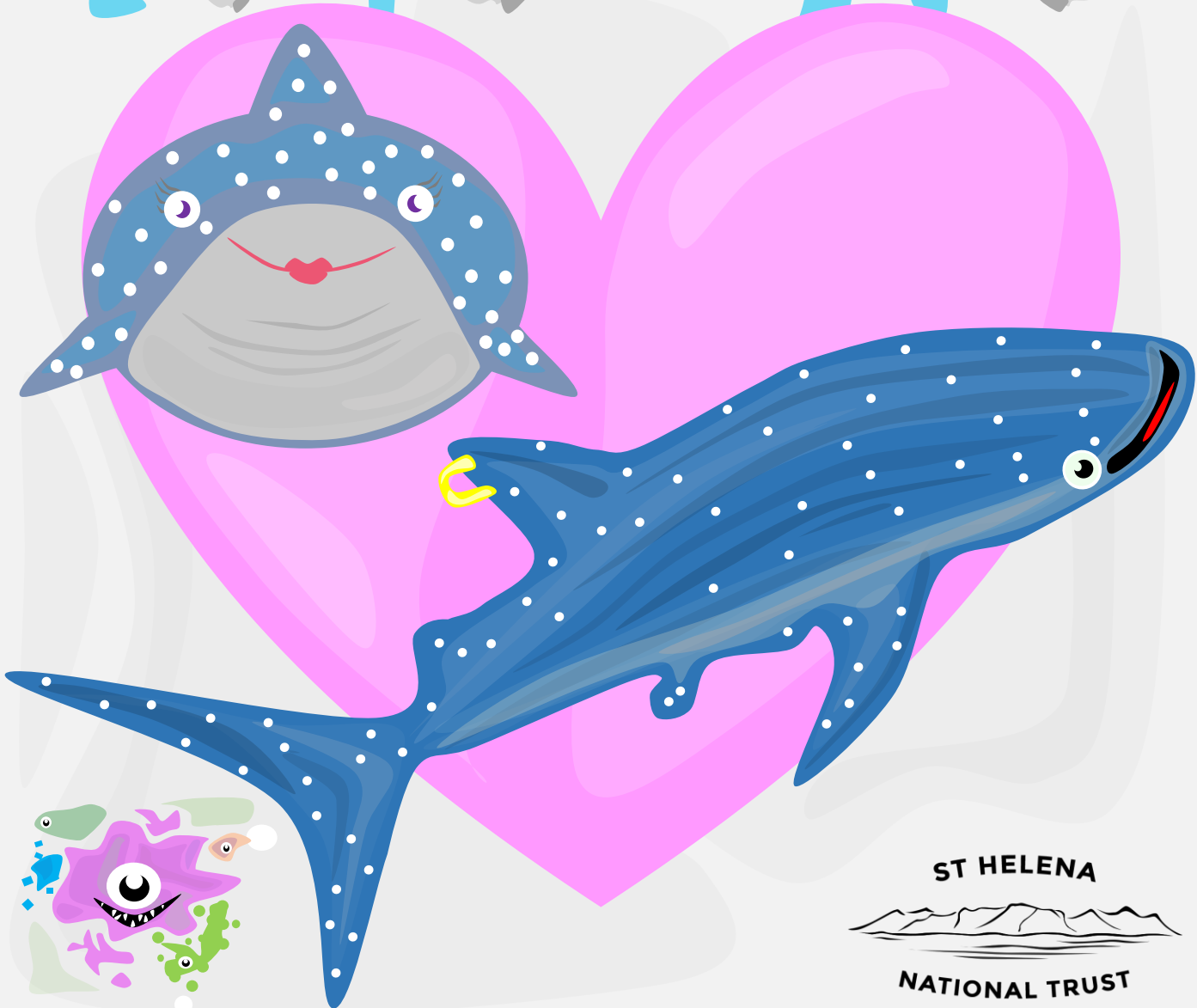


THE INVISIBLE THREATS TO WHALE SHARKS



ST HELENA



NATIONAL TRUST

The reproduction of this material is only allowed for **non-profit** purposes.

Production

South Atlantic Plastic Project: Ascension and Saint Helena Islands. This project is funded by the John Ellerman Foundation and the UK Government through Darwin Plus.

Creation and Text

Maria Eugenia Fernandes Freitas
Matthew Owen

Graphic Project and Final Art

Matthew Owen

Editor

Michelle Fletcher
Sheena Benjamin

Work Coordinator

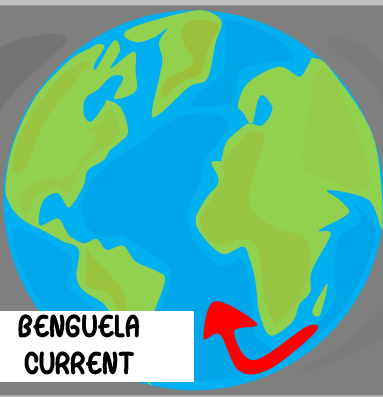
Maria Eugenia Fernandes Freitas

Acknowledgements

Fiona Llewellyn
Helena Bennett
Kenickie Andrews
Kirsten Augustus
Monique Rached
Shauna Young



ST. HELENA



BENGUELA CURRENT



THE BENGUELA CURRENT FLOWS NORTHWARD FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND BRINGS A NEW FRIENDLY FACE TO THE ISLAND OF ST HELENA. IN SEARCH OF TRUE LOVE.

SPERRY ISLAND CAP



THE MASKED BOOBIES GATHER IN THE HUNDREDS TO GREET THE NEW VISITOR.



WOW! ST HELENA IS SO AMAZING. I CAN'T WAIT TO MEET SOME NEW FRIENDS.

HEY DOWN THERE, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.



OH! HI, MY NAME IS CHASE WHAT'S YOURS?

I'M SANDY THE MASKED BOOBY AND I FEED HERE AROUND SPERRY ISLAND. WHAT BRINGS YOU TO ST HELENA?

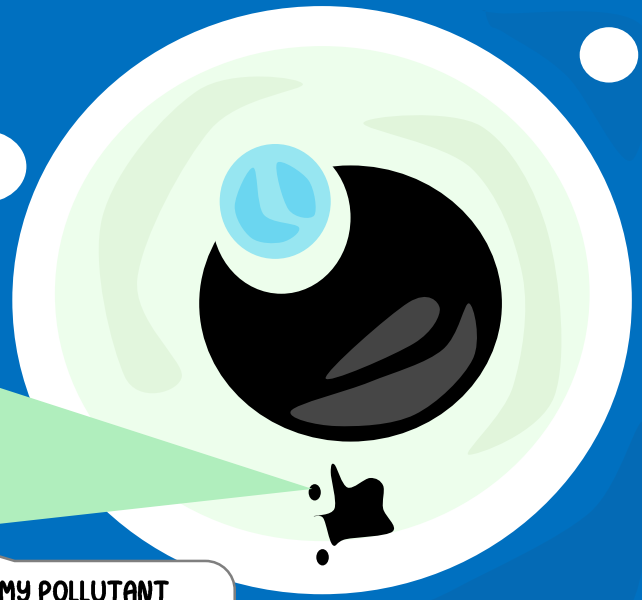
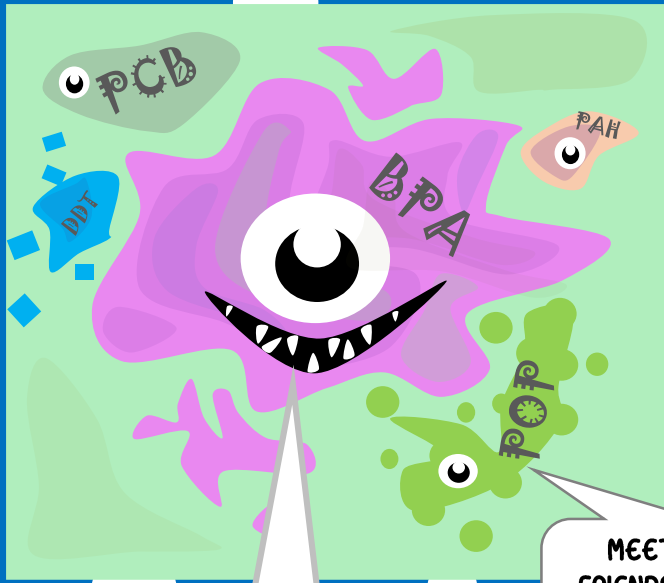


I LOVE ST HELENA WATERS! I'M HERE TO FEED AND FIND TRUE LOVE. COULD YOU HELP ME?



HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE EATING, YOU BIG BLUE BALLOON!





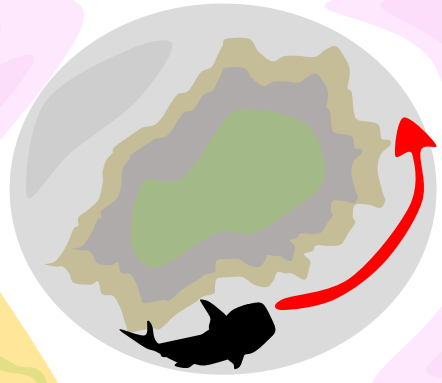
MEET MY POLLUTANT FRIENDS WHO ARE ALWAYS WITH ME: BPA, PCB, POP, PAH, DDT...

MY NAME IS **MIKE, THE MICROPLASTIC!** MANY TIMES YOU CAN'T SEE ME, BECAUSE I'M A SMALL PLASTIC. YOU CAN FIND ME EVERYWHERE, IN THE OCEAN, IN THE AIR, AND EVEN IN YOUR COOKING SALT.

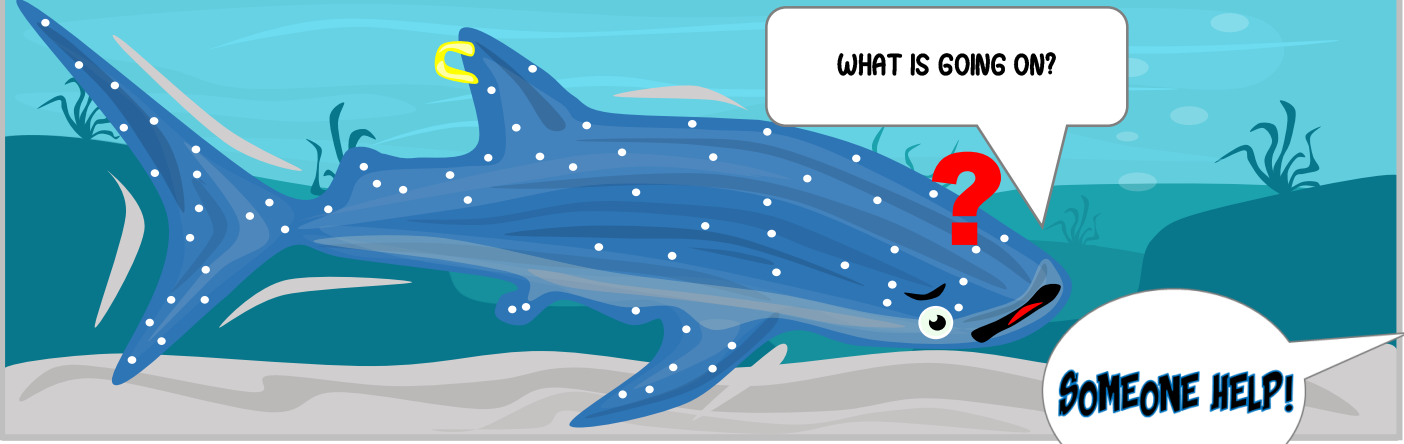
CHASE, YOU AREN'T SAFE HERE ANYMORE! YOU MUST HEAD TO BARN CAP, SO JUST KEEP HEADING IN THIS DIRECTION.



THANKS FOR HELPING ME, SANDY. SEE YOU AROUND!

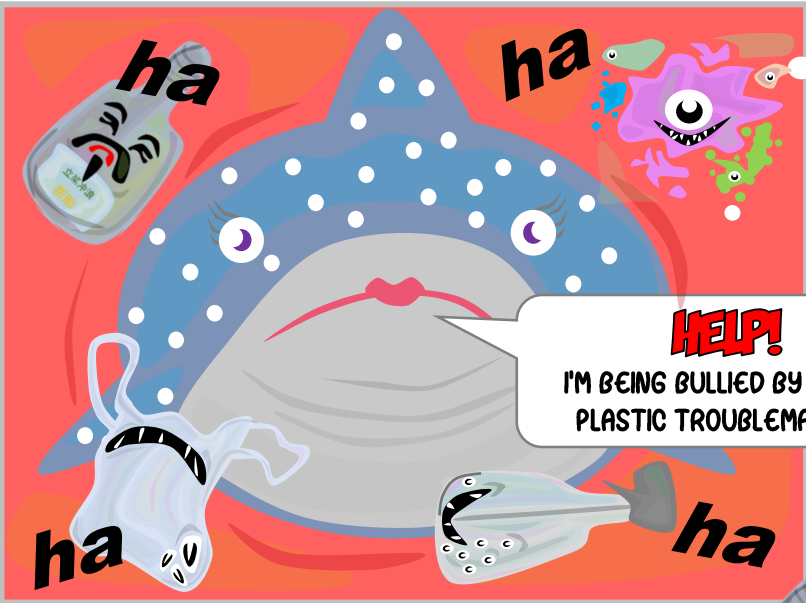


BARN CAP IS KNOWN FOR LARGE WHALE SHARK GATHERINGS, BUT THE REASON IS STILL UNKNOWN.



WHAT IS GOING ON?

SOMEONE HELP!



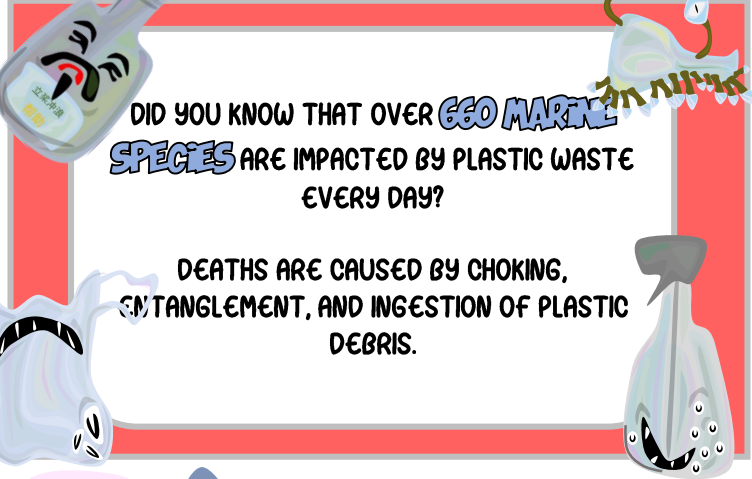
HELP!
I'M BEING BULLIED BY THESE PLASTIC TROUBLEMAKERS!



THE PLAS-TIC

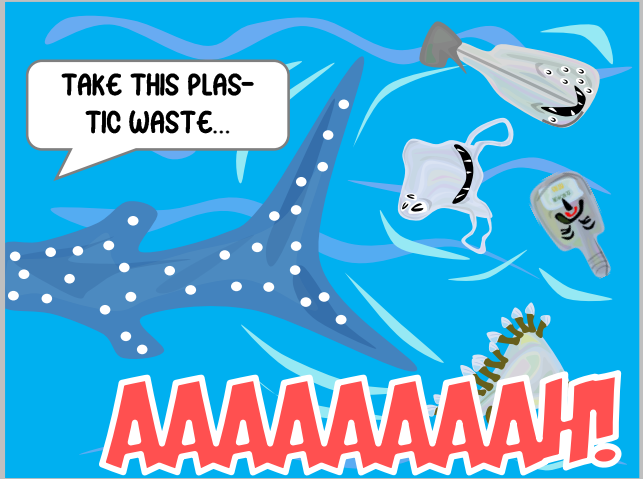


YOU GUYS NEED TO GET AWAY FROM HER!



DID YOU KNOW THAT OVER **600 MARINE SPECIES** ARE IMPACTED BY PLASTIC WASTE EVERY DAY?

DEATHS ARE CAUSED BY CHOKING, ENTANGLEMENT, AND INGESTION OF PLASTIC DEBRIS.

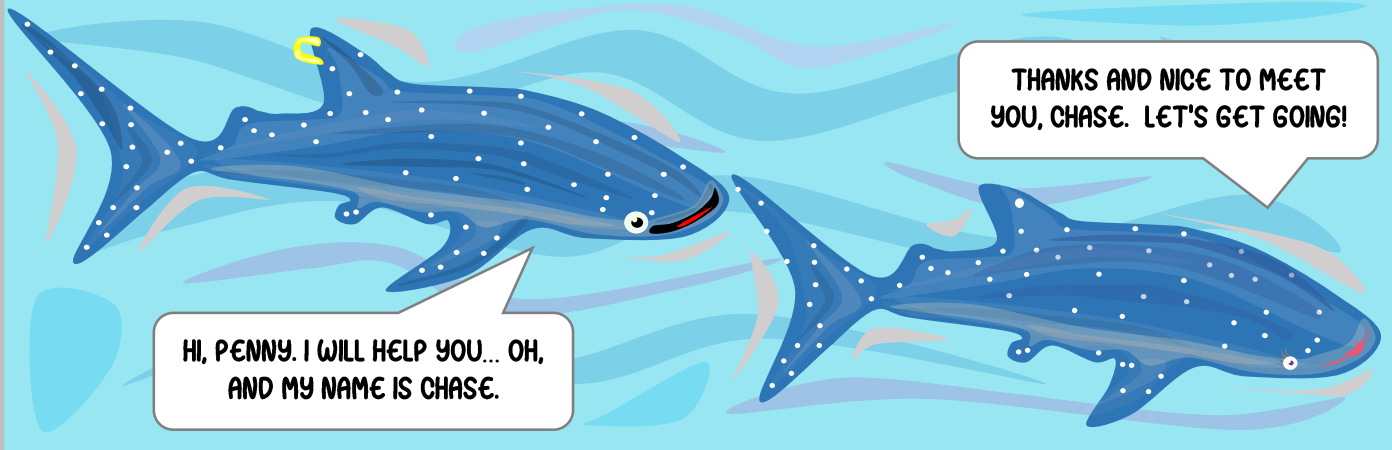


TAKE THIS PLASTIC WASTE...

AAAAAAAHH!

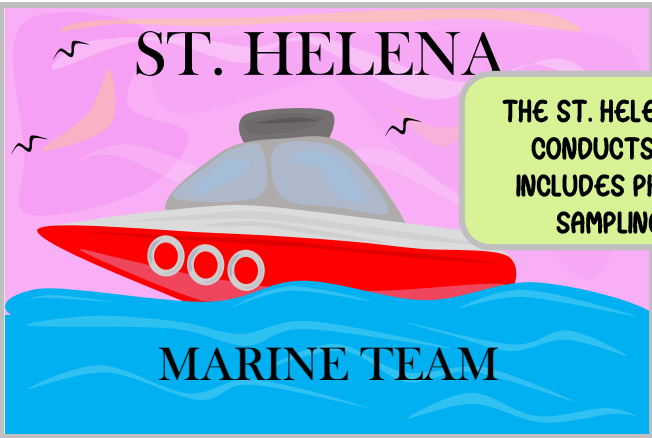


MY NAME IS **PENNY**, AND THANKS FOR SAVING ME. I WAS ON MY WAY TO JAMES BAY WHEN I GOT LOST SO I ASKED THOSE PLASTIC GUYS FOR DIRECTIONS, BUT THEY DECIDED TO ATTACK ME INSTEAD. WILL YOU HELP ME?



HI, PENNY. I WILL HELP YOU... OH, AND MY NAME IS CHASE.

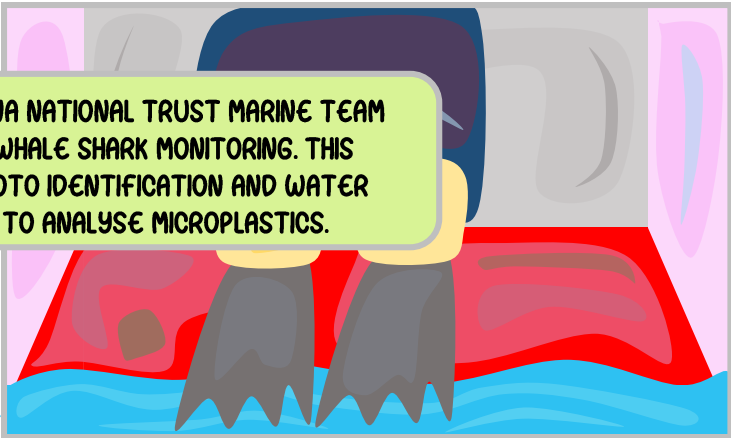
THANKS AND NICE TO MEET YOU, CHASE. LET'S GET GOING!



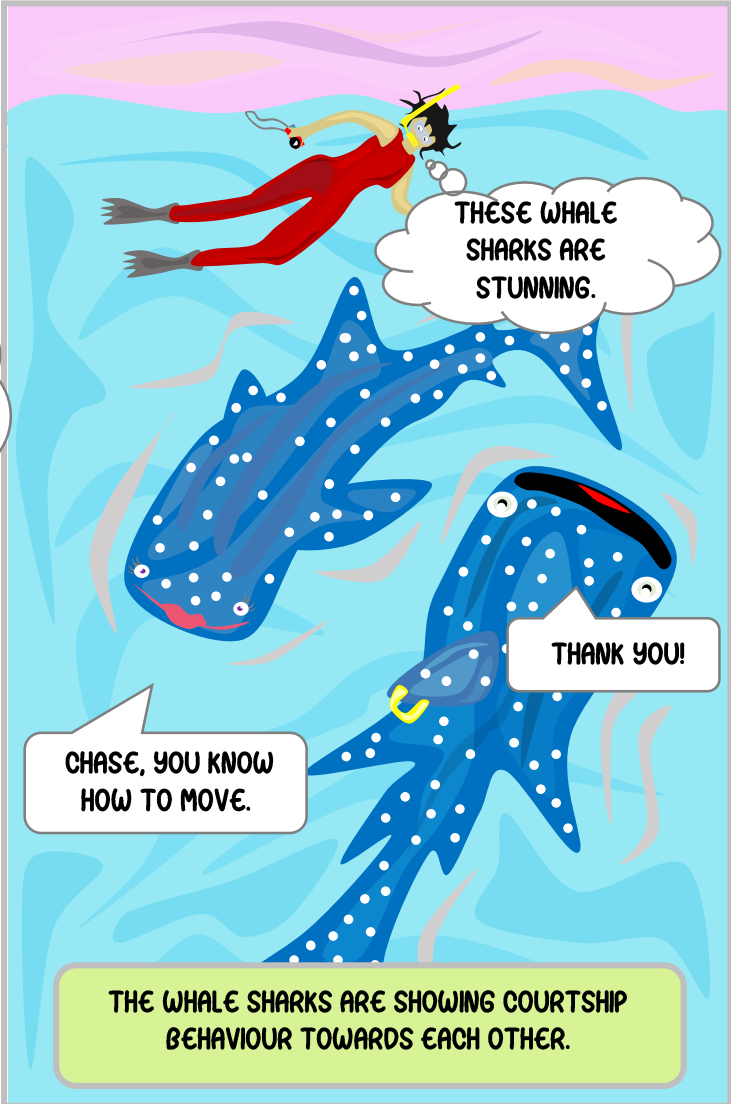
ST. HELENA

MARINE TEAM

THE ST. HELENA NATIONAL TRUST MARINE TEAM CONDUCTS WHALE SHARK MONITORING. THIS INCLUDES PHOTO IDENTIFICATION AND WATER SAMPLING TO ANALYSE MICROPLASTICS.



ST HELENA HAS A SPECTACULAR OCEAN WITH SPECIES THAT ARE JUST FOUND HERE AND NO ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD!

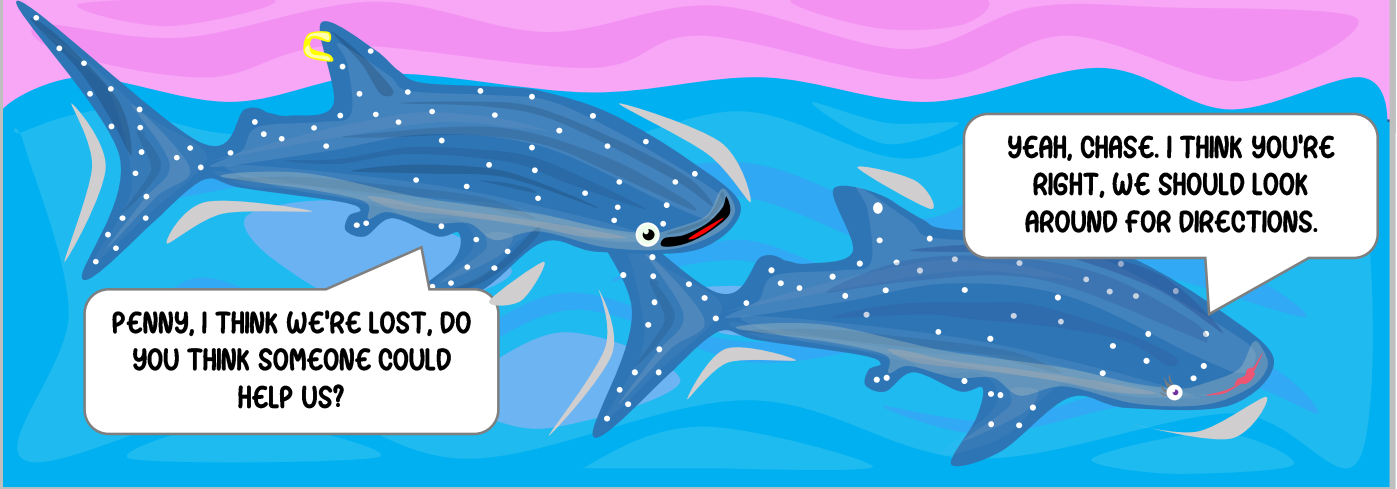


THESE WHALE SHARKS ARE STUNNING.

CHASE, YOU KNOW HOW TO MOVE.

THANK YOU!

THE WHALE SHARKS ARE SHOWING COURTSHIP BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS EACH OTHER.



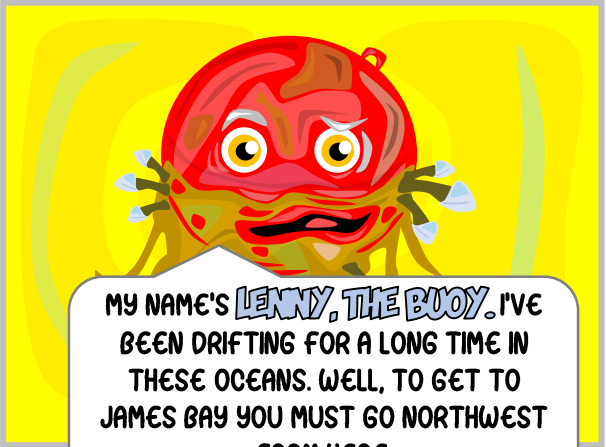
PENNY, I THINK WE'RE LOST, DO YOU THINK SOMEONE COULD HELP US?

YEAH, CHASE. I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT, WE SHOULD LOOK AROUND FOR DIRECTIONS.

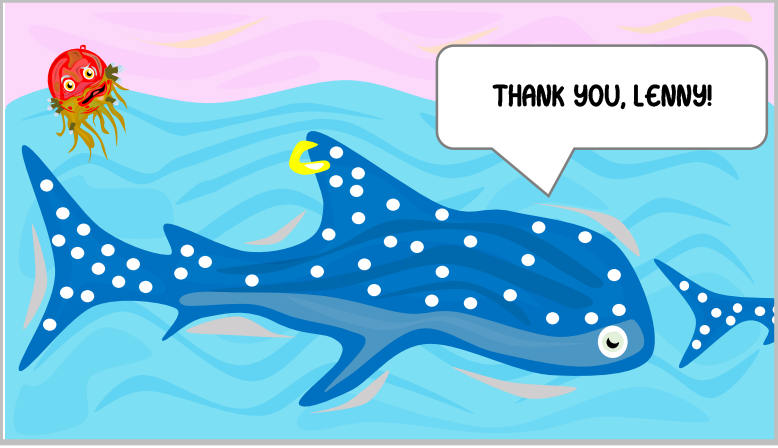


SORRY FOR EAVESDROPPING ON YOU GUYS, BUT I'VE HEARD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR DIRECTIONS. CAN I HELP?

THANKS. THAT WOULD BE GREAT. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?



MY NAME'S **LENNY, THE BUOY**. I'VE BEEN DRIFTING FOR A LONG TIME IN THESE OCEANS. WELL, TO GET TO JAMES BAY YOU MUST GO NORTHWEST FROM HERE.



THANK YOU, LENNY!

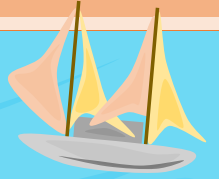
DO YOU KNOW WHAT **GHOST FISHING** IS? THIS HAPPENS WHEN ANY FISHING GEAR IS DISCARDED, LOST, OR ABANDONED IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT, AND THIS GEAR CONTINUES TO FISH AND TRAP ANIMALS. IT'S ONE OF THE MAIN IMPACTS ON MARINE LIFE NOWADAYS!



PENNY, I THINK WE ARE ALMOST THERE...

JAMES BAY IS PART OF THE CAPITAL OF ST HELENA, JAMESTOWN.

JAMES BAY



THE SUNSET IN JAMES BAY LOOKS AMAZING, I CAN SEE WHY YOU WANTED TO COME HERE.

YEAH, CHASE. IT'S BREATHTAKING!

WELL, NICE TO MEET YOU. I GUESS I'LL SEE YOU NEXT SEASON.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, CHASE, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO JUST YET.



Fin.

YOU CAN HELP TO PROTECT THE OCEAN!

SMALL CHANGES IN YOUR DAILY HABITS COUNT!

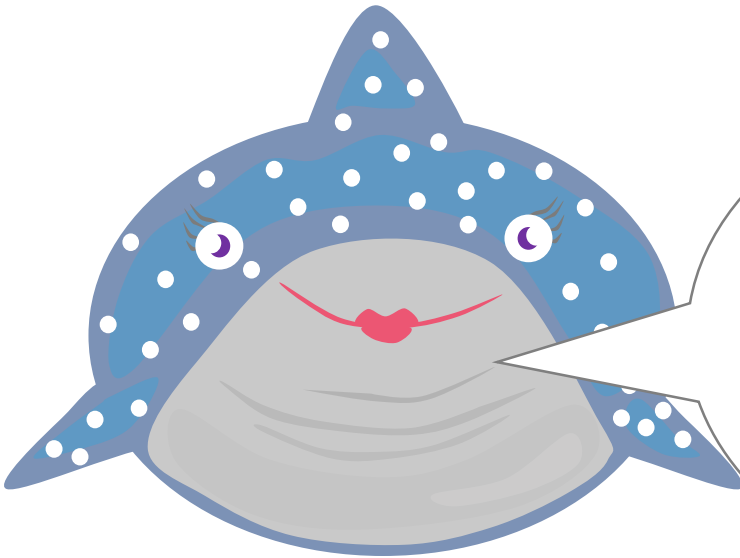
WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE OCEAN?

1 - YOU CAN REFUSE PLASTIC CUTTLERY.

2 - USE REUSABLE BAGS. 3 - HAVE YOUR REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE ALWAYS WITH YOU!

YOUR ROLE IS IMPORTANT!

YOU ARE PART OF THE OCEAN CONSERVATION THAT WE WANT FOR ST HELENA

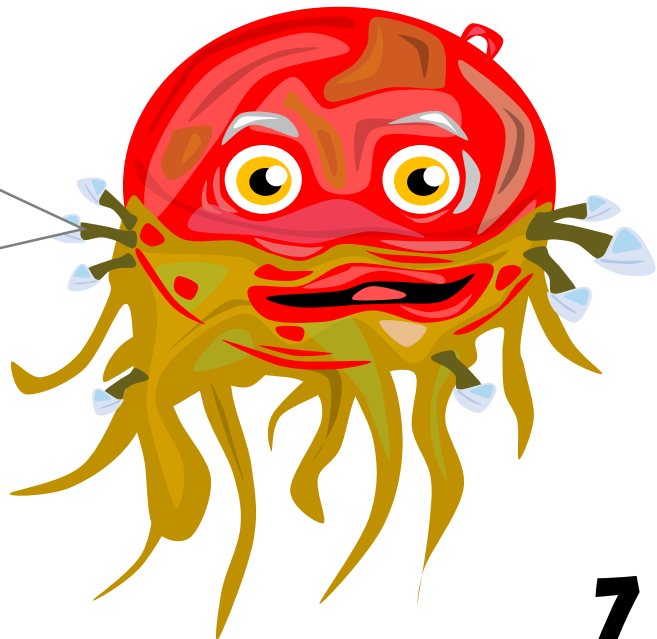


DISPOSE OF YOUR RUBBISH IN A RECYCLING BIN, AND IF YOU DON'T SEE ONE AROUND, KEEP IT IN YOUR POCKET OR BACKPACK UNTIL YOU FIND ONE. IF YOU SEE SOMEONE THROWING RUBBISH ON THE GROUND, TEACH THEM **THAT IS NOT RIGHT!**

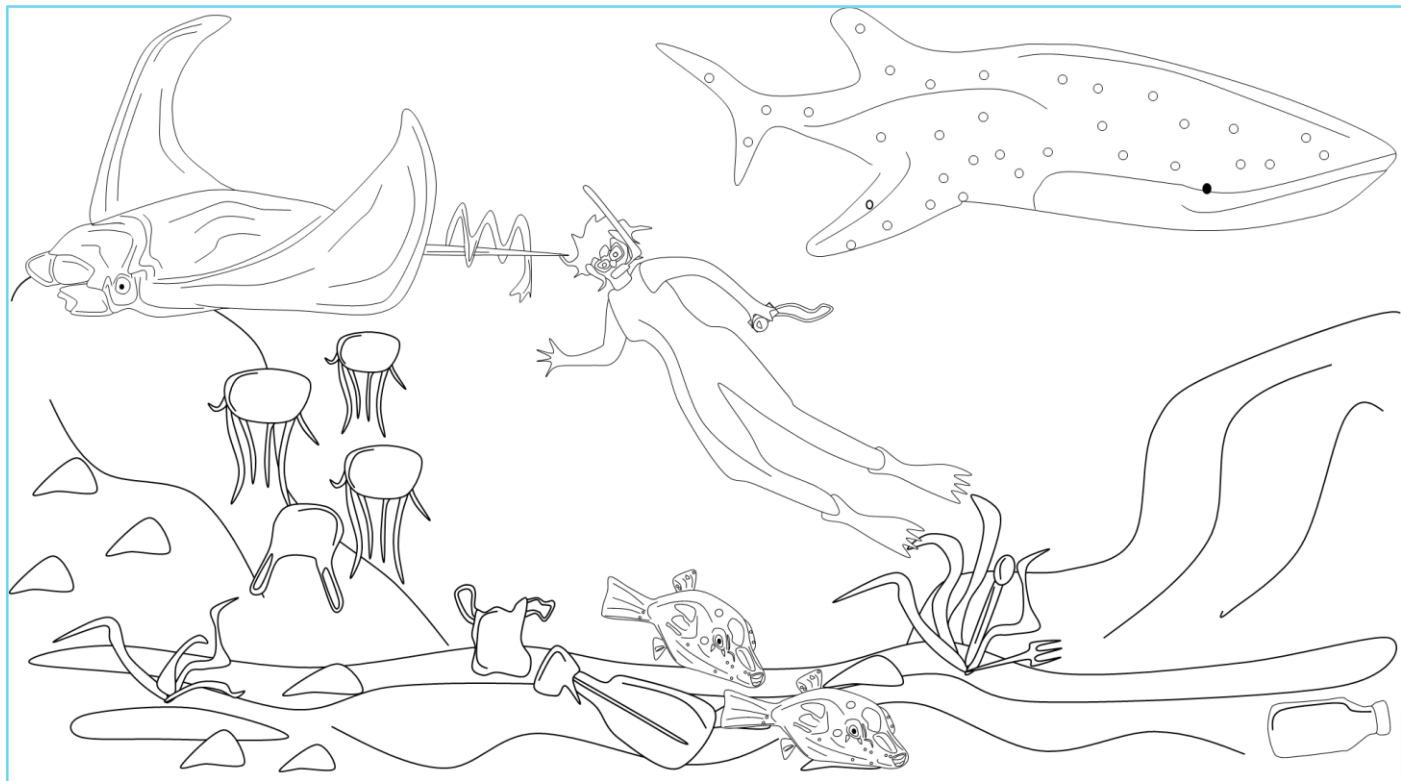
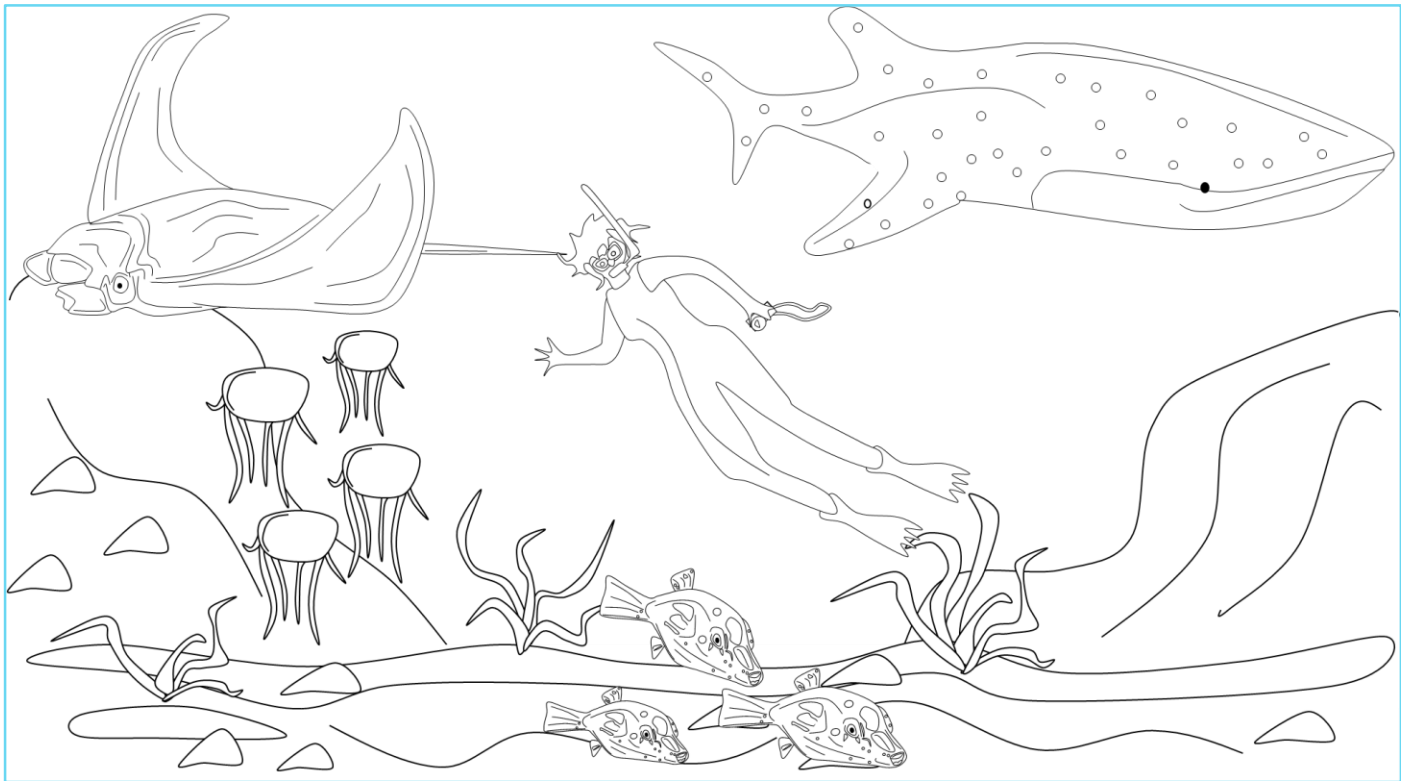
REMEMBER THAT THERE IS NO "THROWING OUT", BECAUSE THERE IS NO "OUTSIDE". WE SHARE THE SAME HOME, THE PLANET.

THE WASTE REDUCTION IN LAND AND OCEAN STARTS WITH YOU!

ARE YOU READY TO HELP?




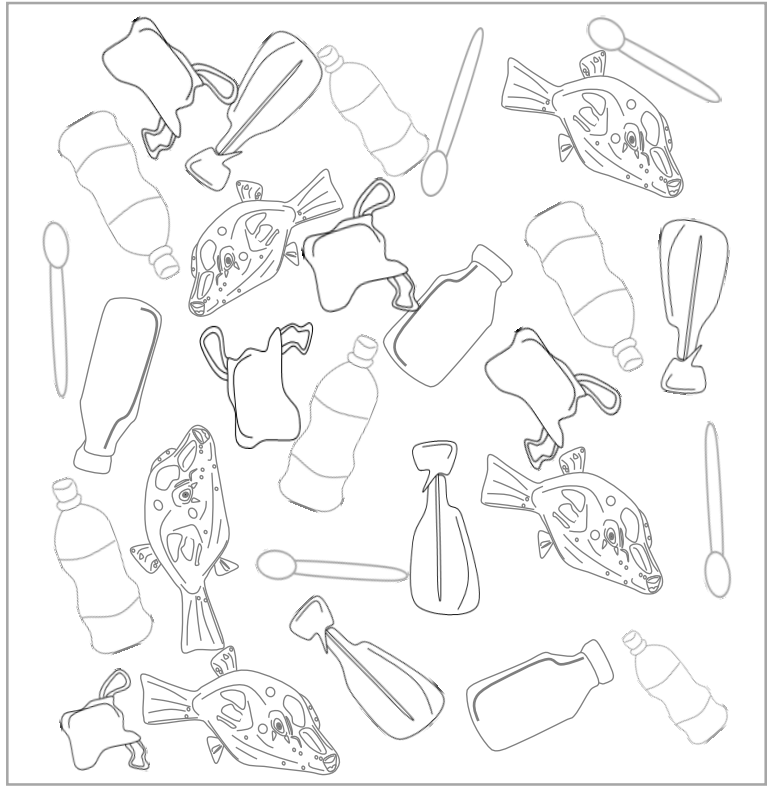
CAN YOU FIND SEVEN THINGS THAT SHOULD NOT BE HERE UNDER THE SEA?



i SPY

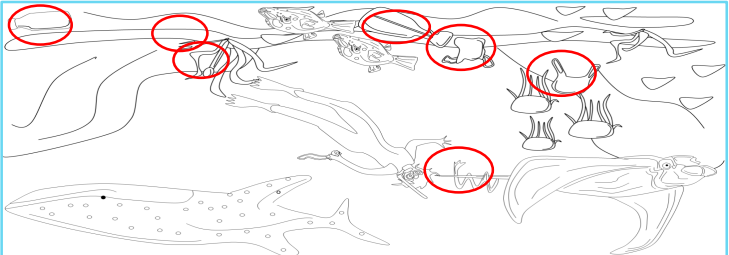
HOW MANY PLASTIC ITEMS CAN YOU FIND?

- PLASTIC BAGS 
- PLASTIC SPRAY BOTTLES 
- PLASTIC SPOONS 
- PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES 



ANSWERS

PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES: 6
 PLASTIC SPOONS: 5
 PLASTIC SPRAY BOTTLES: 4
 PLASTIC BAGS: 5
 I SPY ACTIVITY:



This comic book has been produced by:



In partnership with:



Funding by:



John Ellerman
Foundation