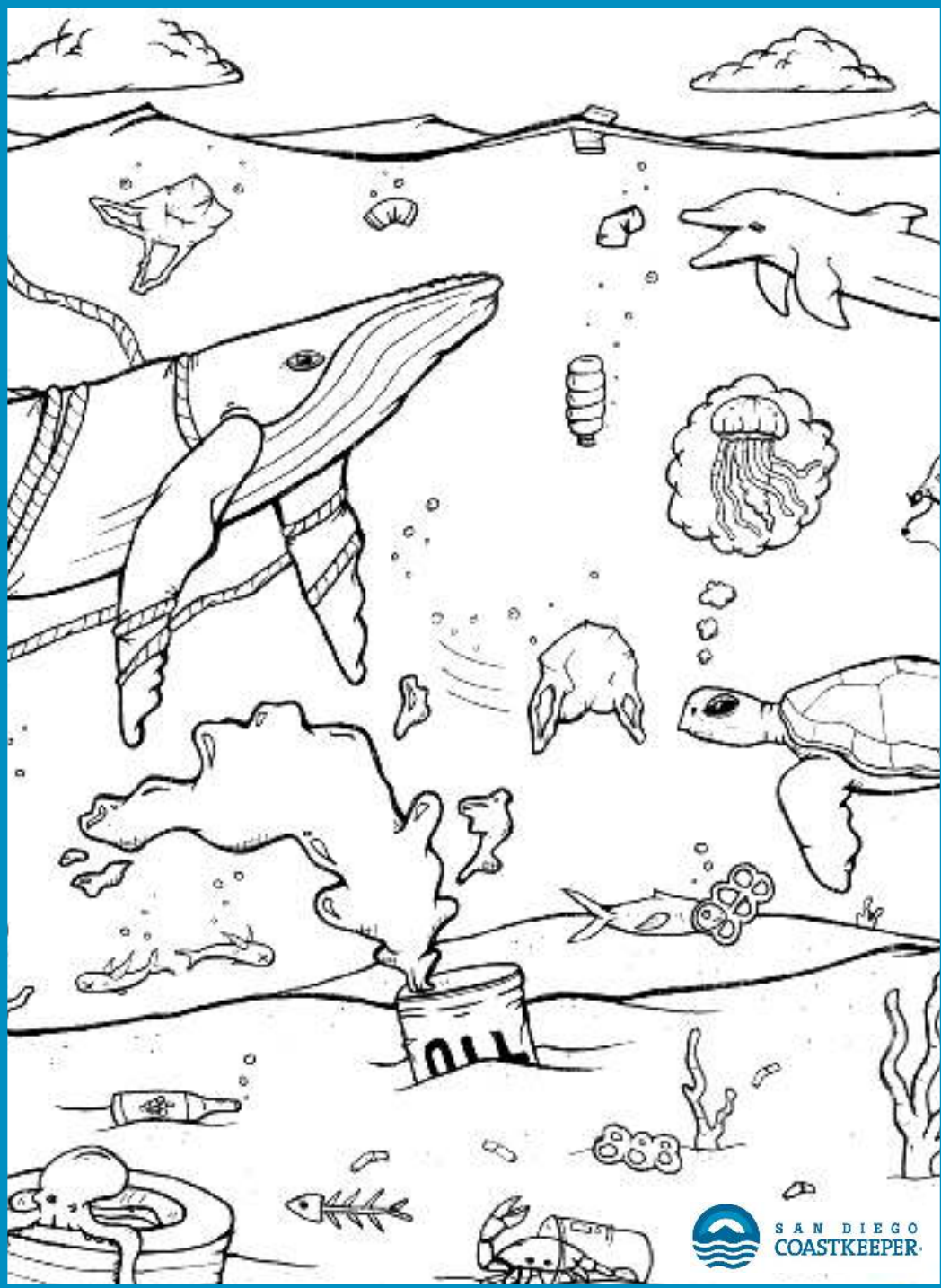


# Marine Debris Activity Book



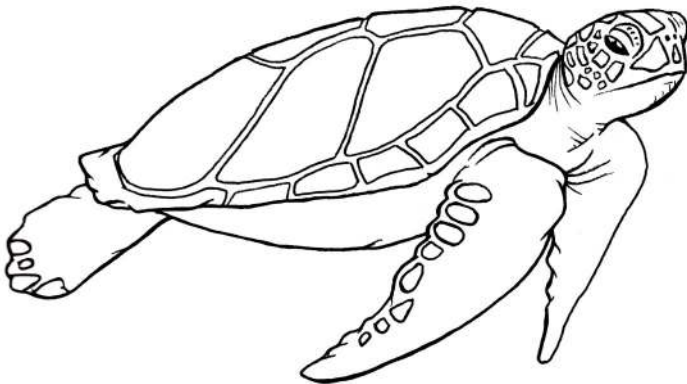
SAN DIEGO  
COASTKEEPER

# What is marine debris?

When we throw trash away, it doesn't disappear. Sometimes trash accidentally gets to other places like the ocean. When trash gets into the water, we call it **marine debris**.

Marine debris causes problems for ocean animals. Some animals eat it because they think it is food. This can make them very sick or even die. Other animals get **entangled**, or stuck, in pieces of trash. Getting wrapped in trash makes it harder for animals to swim, fly, and eat. Debris makes the water unsafe for people to swim in, too.

Marine debris comes from people. That means it's our job to keep the water clean. Everyone creates trash that might become marine debris. If we all do our part, we can make a big change for the ocean!



Follow along with the video to learn all about the effects of marine debris.

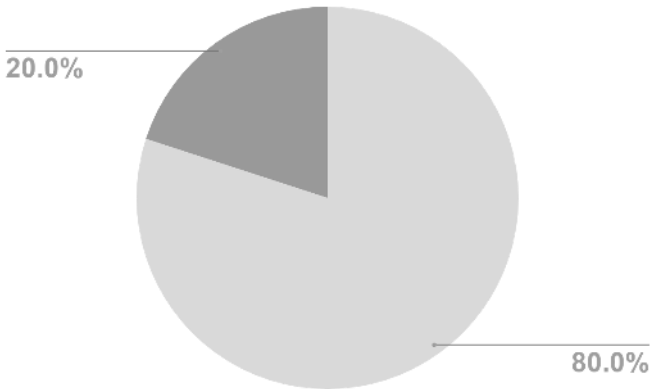
What is pollution? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Where can you find pollution? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is marine debris? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Where can you find marine debris? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the blanks on the graph below with ocean or land.



Round 1: How many fish did your dolphin eat? \_\_\_\_\_

Round 2: How many fish did your dolphin eat? \_\_\_\_\_

# Sort the Debris

Oh no! People have left litter all over the beach! We need your help to clean it up. But where should it go— in the trash or the recycling?

**DIRECTIONS:** Sort the litter into the trash and recycling bins. To sort, draw a line from the litter to the correct bin.

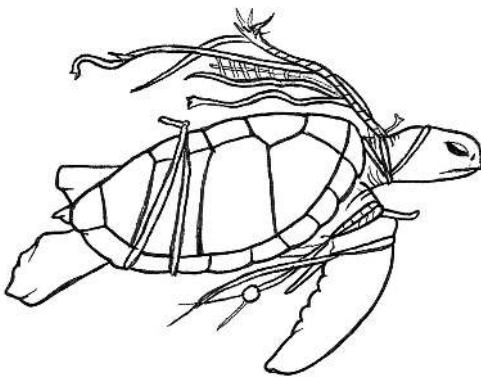
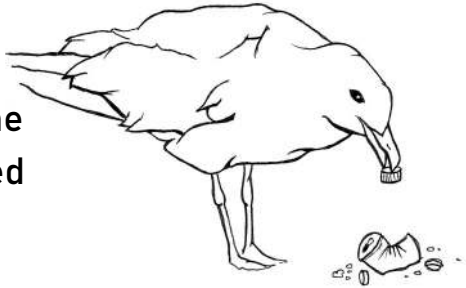


# Fill in the Blank

THINK LIKE A SCIENTIST: How does cleaning up the beach help animals? Fill in the blanks below with the words **entanglement** and **ingestion**.



\_\_\_\_\_ happens when animals eat marine debris. They get confused and think the debris is food. It can make them very sick.



\_\_\_\_\_ is dangerous for animals. When they get stuck in trash, it can be harder to swim, fly, or catch food.

# Word Search

Help us collect all the words below.

MARINE

GARBAGE

PLASTIC

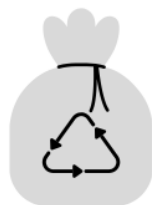
OCEAN

TURTLE

TRASH

E	E	T	M	A	R	I	N	E	R	L	I	G	B
C	G	N	C	B	A	A	E	N	E	A	I	L	C
G	A	E	L	E	P	L	A	S	T	I	C	I	L
P	P	L	E	C	R	N	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E
H	E	T	A	L	P	N	C	C	E	B	I	C	A
C	T	R	N	T	S	A	R	E	T	T	I	L	C
A	S	U	U	T	R	E	G	A	B	R	A	G	N
E	S	T	G	E	L	E	E	E	L	E	A	E	D
B	N	E	I	B	O	C	E	A	N	E	E	G	A
U	R	D	E	B	R	I	S	A	E	R	G	I	T
T	Y	I	N	R	O	T	A	C	A	I	E	A	A
T	R	A	S	H	C	L	C	E	S	E	N	E	E
B	N	A	L	G	P	E	L	G	N	A	T	N	E
I	R	T	E	N	T	I	Y	E	T	C	H	N	A

# TRY IT: 5 MINUTE CLEANUP



## YOU WILL NEED:



**Gloves**



**Timer**



**Bag or  
bucket**



**An adult  
to help**

## HOW TO CLEAN UP:



**Gather** supplies.  
**Ask** a family member to  
walk with you.



**Decide** where you will clean.  
Ideas: Parking lot, sidewalk,  
neighborhood, or park



**Clean** for 5 minutes.  
Be careful of sharp things!



**Throw out** all trash.



**Think** about what you found.  
Was it big or small?



**Tell** someone about what  
you found.



SAN DIEGO  
COASTKEEPER

# PLEDGE FOR CLEAN WATER

Now that you have learned about marine debris, you can take action to make a difference. Sign the pledge, then color in the badge below. Thank you for keeping our water clean!

I promise to help keep our water clean. I will keep the ocean free of trash by:

- Picking up litter in my neighborhood, beaches, and parks.
- Never littering.
- Keeping my home, school, and community clean.
- Reusing and recycling before throwing something away.
- Sharing what I know with others.

Signed,

---

(your name)

