

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Jordana Marshall & Caroline Thomas

Jordana Marshall is an Australian writer, watercolour artist and graphic artist. She has a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts and a Diploma in Graphic Design. Her professional background includes graphic design and illustration for children, freelance design and gallery exhibitions.

Caroline Thomas is an Australian writer, watercolour artist and graphic artist. She has a Bachelor's degree in Communications (Writing for Children) and a Diploma in Graphic Design (Illustration). Her professional background includes writing and editing for children, graphic design and illustration for children.

Into the Ocean is a collaborative work, born of a shared passion for animals and their environment and a concern for their delicate relationship with mankind. The lilting text guides readers through the beautiful illustrations in this profound picture book that is perfect for read-aloud storytime.

TITLE	Into the Ocean
AUTHOR	Jordana Marshall & Caroline Thomas
PUBLISHER	Redback Publishing (Also online at REDeBOOKS.com.au)
PUBLICATION DATE	March 2023
ISBN	9781922322944
PRICE	\$26.99
FORMAT	Hardback
EXTENT	32 pages
GENRE	Picture Book
AGE SUITABILITY	Interest age 3-12 years
READING AGE	8-12 years
BIC/CBMC	YBC/B3M69
INCLUSIONS	Commentary on plastic pollution in the oceans

THE STORY

It was a perfect day in the dunes, but there's something that doesn't belong ...

When a gust of wind sends all the forgotten things tumbling and twisting and twirling down onto the beach, the hungry waves swallow them into the ocean!

Follow a discarded face mask as it journeys beneath the waves, through beautiful reefs and the depths of the Great Garbage Patch. The face mask once protected someone from Covid-19, but after being carelessly discarded it becomes just more litter.

Throughout *Into the Ocean*, nature simply assumes that litter 'belongs'. The mask becomes a 'perfect' addition to a nest, a 'favourite' food and an accepted addition to the natural environment. Only humans can know the dangers of littering and only we can assume the responsibility to stop plastic pollution and help clean up our shared planet.

- Purposefully written for read-aloud storytelling.
- Non-fiction final spread, with interesting facts about plastic pollution of the oceans for parents and educators.
- Demonstrates our responsibility to help care for the natural environment.
- Raises awareness of environmental issues.
- Discusses universal themes of belonging.



Open this picture book and become immersed in a whole new world, following the journey of a discarded facemask. This unusual adventure takes readers away from the sandy dunes they may already know and into the watery depths that wait beneath the waves. All before coming right back home to the dunes!

Using a series of natural locations, nature is shown trying to make use of litter in a variety of ways, assuming it belongs there. However, since plastics, such as face masks, take hundreds of years to break down, they always endure beyond the natural environment and the creatures that live there. The litter cannot find any sense of belonging in this alien world and it is up to us as its creator to take charge.



CLASSROOM DISCUSSION IDEAS

RECYCLING

We think we have done the right thing if we put our rubbish into recycling bins, but what happens next? Discuss the actual fate of our recyclables after they are taken away from our home in a garbage truck. Is there anything more that we can do? Discuss reducing the plastics we buy, especially single-use plastics. Can some plastics be reused and how, and why can't others?

OCEAN WILDLIFE AND PLASTIC

Make a list of living things in and beside the oceans, both plants and animals. Describe how they are affected by plastic pollution in their environment. Use examples from *Into the Ocean*, but also think about others that you might have seen or heard about.

THE OCEANS

Discuss how all the world's oceans are connected, making it possible for rubbish to get from one to the other. Show a map of the world's oceans, or use the illustrated maps on *Into the Ocean's* endpapers, to explain how plastic pollution is a global problem.

MIGRATION

Many ocean animals migrate long distances, from one ocean to another. On the way, they encounter plastic pollution. Discuss how this might affect their migration.

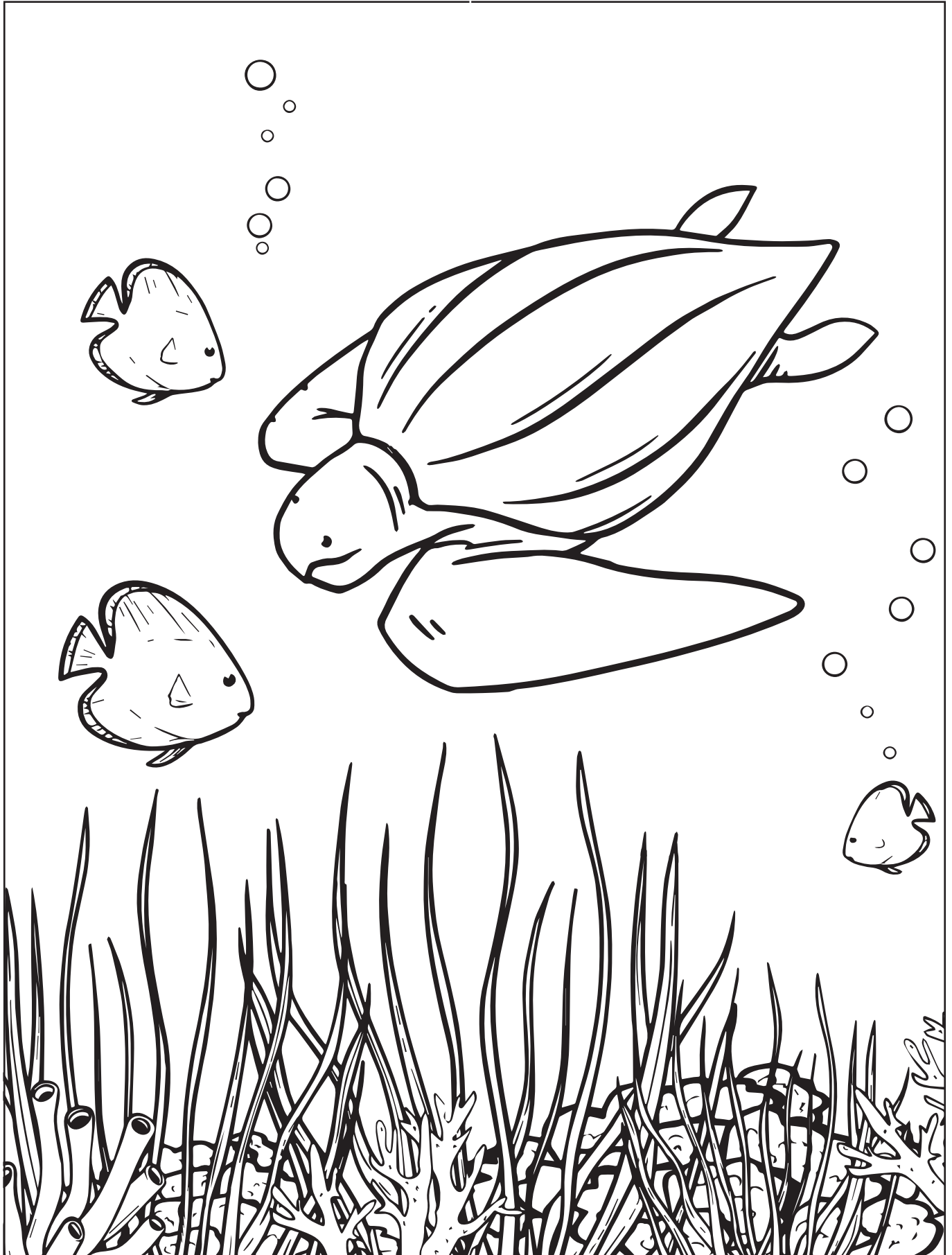
BELONGING

Can anything belong anywhere? How do we know where we belong, in a world where migration is increasingly normal? Discuss the changing oceans and how, as the temperature rises, some creatures are being forced to migrate to new areas for the first time. How can those animals find belonging in their new home? Is this why they migrated there in the first place? Discuss the ways in which people find belonging in their communities. How can people welcome migrant friends who share the same need to belong? Discuss the differences between the living and the non-living world. Who's responsibility is it to oversee the relationship between these two worlds?



ART ACTIVITIES

Colour in these creatures from *Into the Ocean*.



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