

About this Calendar

This calendar features winning artwork from the 2017 "Keep the Sea Free of Debris" art contest. The NOAA Marine Debris Program received hundreds of great entries from students across the United States in kindergarten through 8th grade showing the impacts of marine debris on our ocean and planet. The program evaluated submissions based on creativity, artistic presentation, relevance to theme, and how thoroughly the students answered the questions:

- How does marine debris impact the ocean and Great Lakes environment?
- What will you do to help?

Thank you to all students (and teachers) for participating in the 2017 art contest. Your support and enthusiasm reminds us of why we do what we do every day - work to keep our ocean and Great Lakes clean. The program hopes this calendar fuels your passion to protect our ocean and drives you to stay involved in finding solutions to prevent marine debris.

NOAA Marine Debris Program

The NOAA Marine Debris Program's mission is to investigate and prevent the adverse impacts of marine debris. The program achieves this through coordinating regional marine debris efforts, leading research, and conducting outreach to local communities.



Cover Art Malisa L. (Grade 8, Hawaii)



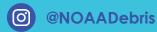
"Marine debris affects many parts of the ocean. Every year marine and land animals die from trash in the ocean. I can pick up trash when I see it and recycle all of my plastics in order to keep our ocean debris free."

Don't miss a beat or a tweet. Stay connected:

https://MarineDebris.noaa.gov









Coloring Activity

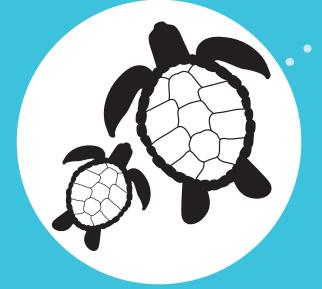
Many marine animals mistake trash for food. Turtles, for example, sometimes eat plastic bags and balloons because they look like jellyfish - a main diet source for many sea turtles.

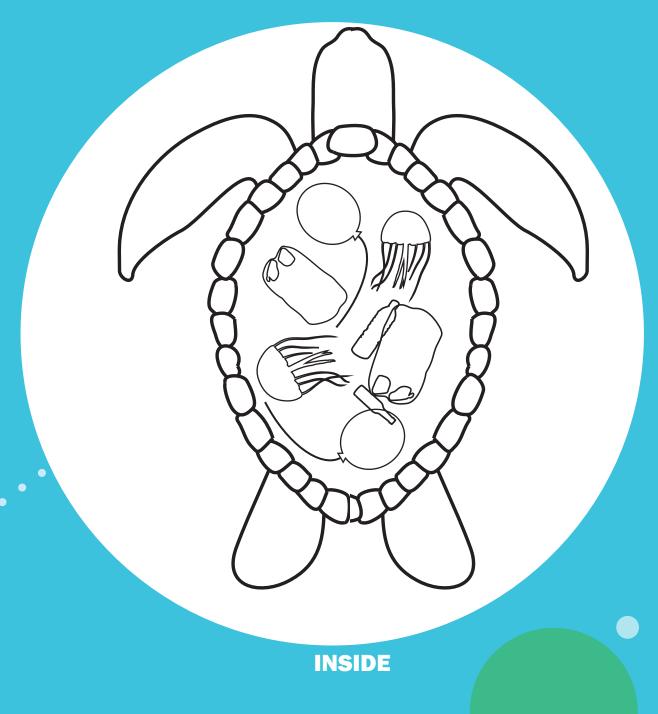
Instructions:

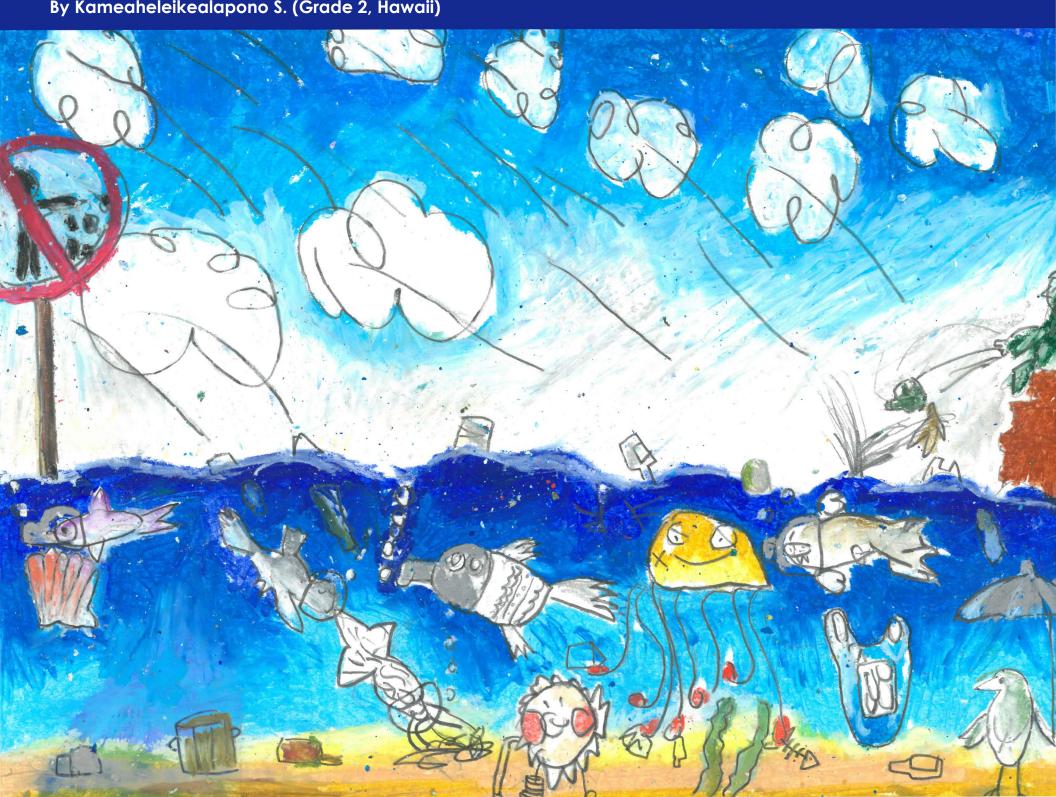
Count and color all the trash items in this turtle's stomach.

How many pieces of marine debris did you find?











 DECEMBER 2017

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 FEBRUARY 2018

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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	New Year's Day					
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Martin Luther King Jr. Day					
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28	29	30	31			

By James S. (Grade 7, Louisiana)





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					Groundhog Day	
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	Lincoln's Birthday		Valentine's Day			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	President's Day					
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MARCH 2018

 FEBRUARY 2018*

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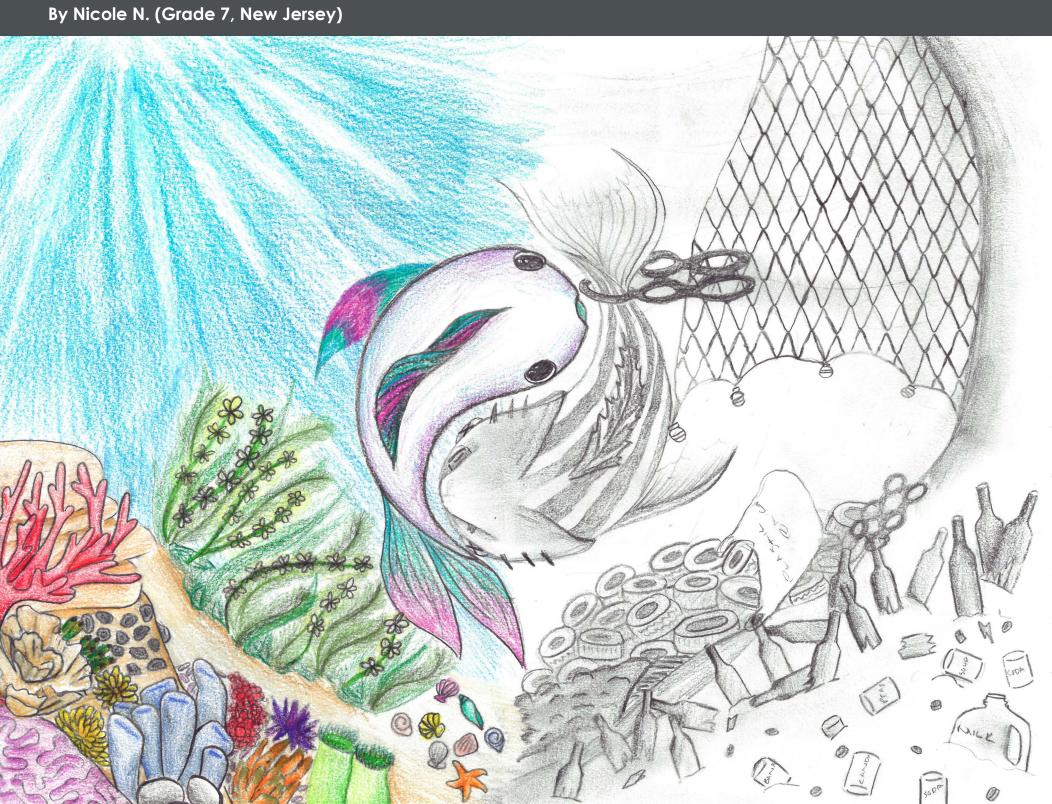
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Daylight Savings						
Time Begins						St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Spring Equinox				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
					Passover Begins	





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Easter Sunday						
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		Tax Day				
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Earth Day						
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By Kelly L. (Grade 7, California)





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						Cinco de Mayo
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Mother's Day		Ramadan Begins				
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	Memorial Day					





MAY 2018								
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SUNDAY	MONDAY TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
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					World Ocean Day		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
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Father's Day				Summer Solstice			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	



IULY 2018

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			Independence Day			
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AUGUST 2018

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By Marguerite A. (Grade 4, California)

SEPTEMBER 2018

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2	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7	8
9 Rosh Hashanah	10	11	12	13	14	International Coastal Cleanup
16	17	18 Yom Kippur	19	20	21	Autumnal Equinox
30	24	25	26	27	28	29

By Sasha H. (Grade 6, California)



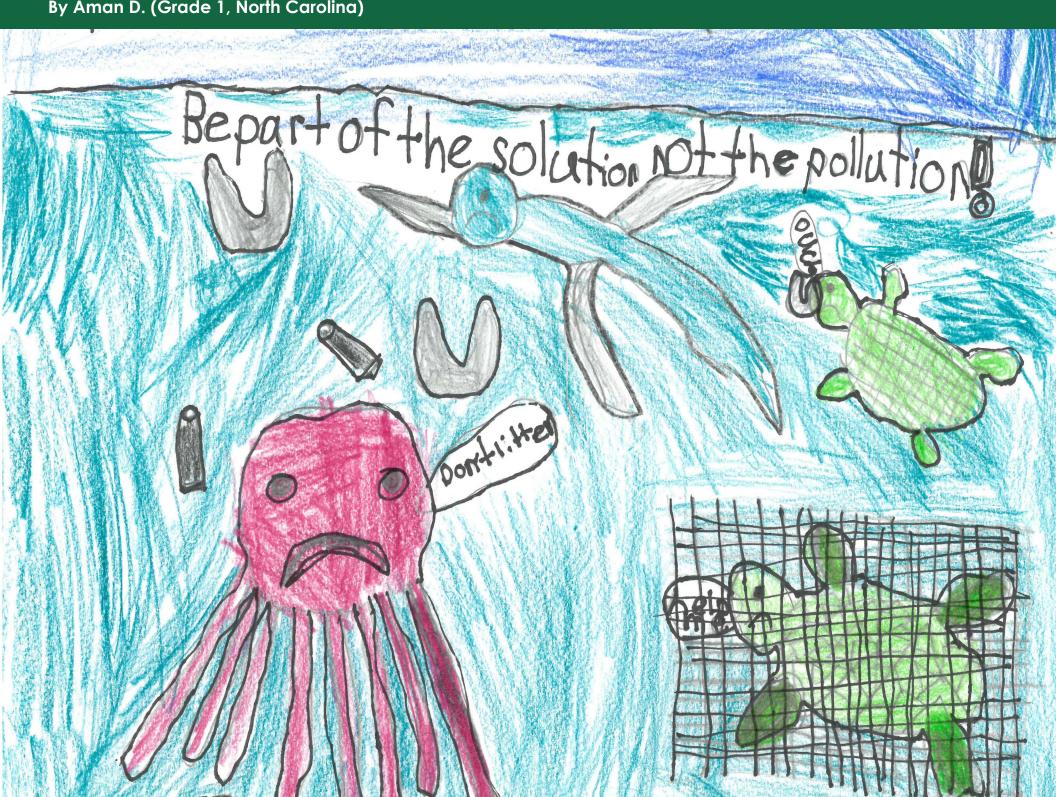
OCTOBER 2018

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Halloween



NOVEMBER 2018

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Daylight Savings Time Ends						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Veterans Day	Veterans Day (Observed)					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
				Thanksgiving Day		
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DECEMBER 2018

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Hanukkah begins						
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					Winter Solstice	
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	31					
30	New Year's Eve	Christmas Day				

2017 "Keep the Sea Free of Debris!" Art Contest Winners



JANUARY

"Marine debris hurts and kills marine life and makes the water dirty and unsafe for people and families to enjoy. To keep our ocean debris free I will ask people not to litter and if they see debris in the ocean and on the ground to please pick it up, and I will do it too."

 Kameaheleikealapono S. (Grade 2, Hawaii)



MAY

"Marine debris impacts all animals that inhabit the ocean. Many people dispose of all of their litter in the ocean/lakes. Numerous amounts of animals mistake the trash for their prey. For example, sea turtles mistake plastic bags for jellyfish. I can help by cleaning litter near the beach and informing others about this harsh havoc."

- Kelly L. (Grade 7, California)



EPTEMBER

"Marine debris can hurt sea animals and we eat fish. We need the ocean. Sometimes turtles think that a plastic bag is a jellyfish and we are the source of it. To stop it I will reuse as much as possible and make something out of it. I will recycle plastic and other things."

- Marguerite A. (Grade 4, California)



FEBRUARY

"Marine debris impacts our ocean and Great Lakes by harming wildlife, both big and small. Birds, fish, and sea turtles mistake plastic for food and can gef tangled in fishing line and six-pack rings. Everyone can make a difference by making better choices. Dispose of trash responsibly. Buy reusable products. Always remember to reduce, reuse, and recycle!"

- James S. (Grade 7, Louisiana)



JUNE

"People litter and it goes into the ocean. Sea life thinks it's food and get tangled in it and it kills them. I will pick up any trash that I see and I will tell others not to litter."

- Carson M. (Grade 4, Georgia)



OCTOBER

"Marine debris has lots of negative impacts on our oceans. First, if can make our oceans look disgusting and no one wants to swim in it. Second, it's really bad for animals and they can choke on it accidentally or by mistaking it for something it already eats. It can also cause alien species to transport, which is when an animal clings onto debris and it floats to a different ocean. I will use less plastic by getting a reusable water jug."

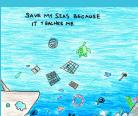
- Sasha H. (Grade 6, California)



signs on the place that have lots of debris. I would clean it up and help the animals in need. I think some people think it's okay to throw trash outside, but I want to stop this."

"I will set up lots of no littering

- Hannah H. (Grade 5, Alaska)



11111

"My picture is about marine debris. I love sea creatures. I will help the ocean by using reusable water bottles and I will pick up trash around me."

- Kelsen S. (Grade 3, Hawaii)



NOVEMBER

"When marine debris gets into the ocean animals can eat it and get sick and die. To prevent marine debris you can pick up your litter instead of letting it go into the storm drain because it will end up in the ocean."

- Aman D. (Grade 1, North Carolina)



APRIL

MARCH

"Marine debris impacts our oceans and Great Lakes by changing life in the ocean and disrupting the food web. If we litter plastics in the ocean, the fish will eat it. They will have an unhealthny life and could be digested by us. For that reason, I shall recycle more and avoid using products containing microplastics."

- Nicole N. (Grade 7, New Jersey)



AUGUST

"Marine debris impacts our oceans by harming or killing sea life. I can help keep our oceans free of debris by organizing a clean the beach day."

- Zachary L. (Grade 4, Rhode Island)



DECEMBER

"One of the biggest issues with debris in oceans and lakes is that animals mistake it for food. This causes a lot of deaths of marine life. My family feels very strongly about this and every time we go to the beach we stay an extra hour to pick up trash."

- Frida S. (Grade 8, Texas)







https://MarineDebris.noaa.gov

Please recycle.