

# 2023 Marine Debris Calendar

Featuring artwork from the  
2022 "Keep the Sea Free of  
Debris!" Art Contest winners



# About this Calendar

This calendar features winning artwork from the 2022 “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 the students (and teachers) for your participation in the 2022 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 by:  
Betty L. (Grade 8, Florida)



“Around 14 million tons of plastics are added into the ocean each year. Plastic debris kills and injures hundreds of underwater animals everyday. Scientists are finding more and more in fish that we eat. Birds are feeding their babies plastics, and our time is running out to make a change. My piece shows an hour glass. The top of the glass being the marine animals being sucked into the bottom, turning into plastic bottles.”

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



<https://marinedebris.noaa.gov>



<https://blog.marinedebris.noaa.gov>



@NOAADebris



@NOAADebris

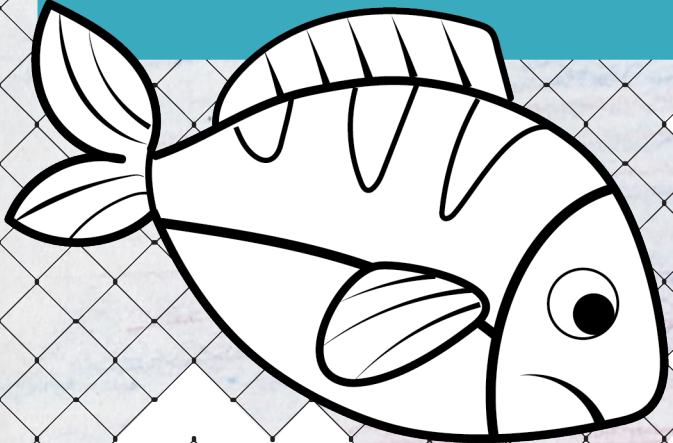


@NOAMarineDebris

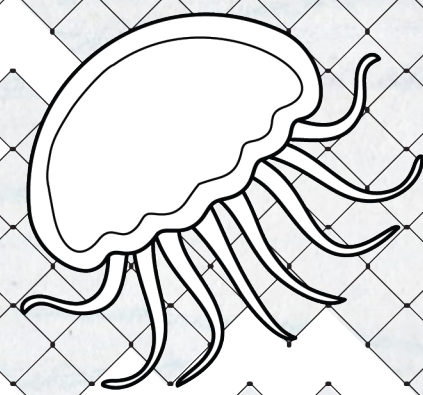
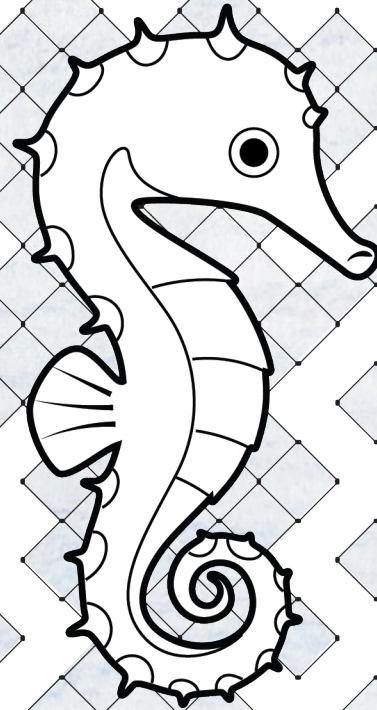
## Coloring Maze Activity

Old nets and other lost fishing gear can be a real danger for ocean life. Loose nets can tangle up sea creatures and damage coral reefs.

Help Fanny the fish make her way through the net maze safely without getting tangled up in a dead end! Color the unlucky sea creatures you find stuck in the net along your way.

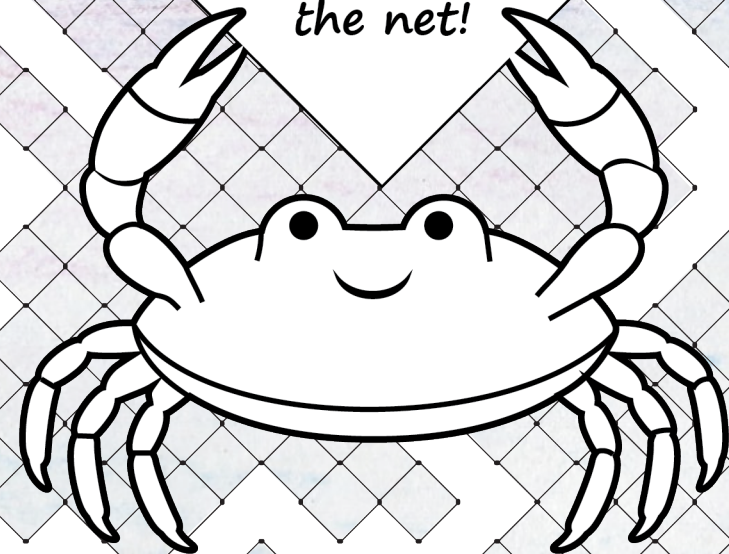
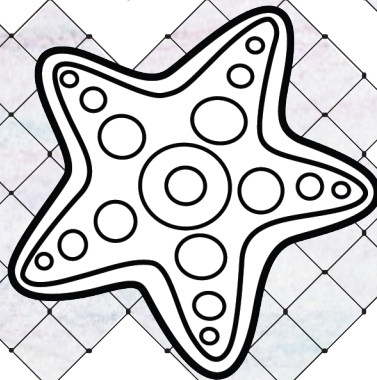
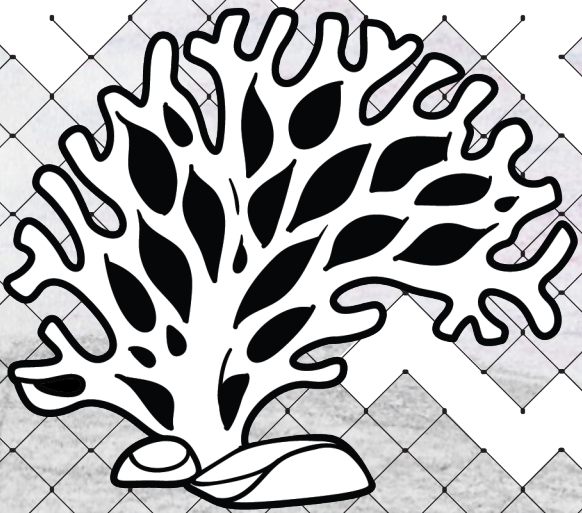


Start  
here!



DONE!

You  
cleared  
the net!



# Keep Our Beaches Debris Free!



NO MORE  
PLASTIC  
PLEASE!!



# JANUARY 2023

DECEMBER 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18	19	20	21
22 Chinese New Year	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				





# FEBRUARY 2023

## JANUARY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## MARCH 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 Presidents' Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				







# MARCH 2023

FEBRUARY 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

APRIL 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Daylight Savings Time Begins					St. Patrick's Day	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Spring Equinox		Ramadan Begins			
26	27	28	29	30	31	





# APRIL 2023

### MARCH 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### MAY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

							1
							April Fools' Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8
			Passover Begins				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15
Easter Sunday							
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22
		Tax Day					Earth Day
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29
30							





# MAY 2023

## APRIL 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
						30

## JUNE 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

	1	2	3	4	5	6
					Cinco de Mayo	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mother's Day						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
	Memorial Day					





# JUNE 2023

MAY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JULY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1	2	3
4	5 World Environment Day	6	7	8	9 World Ocean Day	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18 Father's Day	19 Juneteenth	20	21 Summer Solstice	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30		



#plasticfree





# JULY 2023

JUNE 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

AUGUST 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
		Independence Day					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
			Muharram Begins				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						





# AUGUST 2023

## JULY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## SEPTEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		





# SEPTEMBER 2023

AUGUST 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

OCTOBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

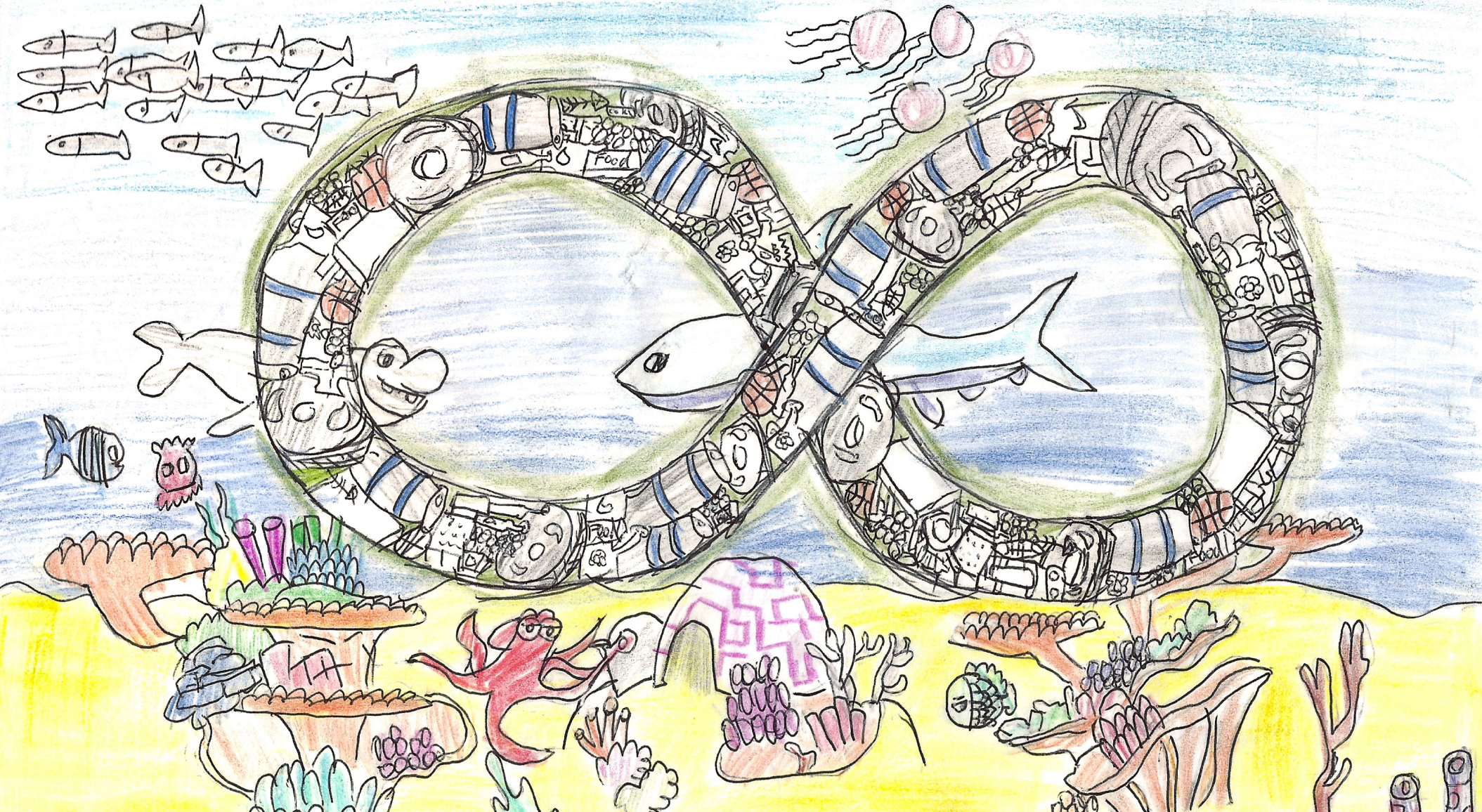
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	Labor Day						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
					Rosh Hashanah	International Coastal Cleanup	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
						Autumnal Equinox	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Yom Kippur							

# Water Is Life Make It Perfect!





# OCTOBER 2023

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**NOVEMBER 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Indigenous Peoples' Day Columbus Day	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween				







# NOVEMBER 2023

OCTOBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

DECEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1	2	3	4
5 Daylight Savings Time Ends	6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Thanksgiving Day		

By Mary Y. (Grade 8, New Jersey)





# DECEMBER 2023

### NOVEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### JANUARY 2024

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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>
				Hanukkah Begins			
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>
				Winter Solstice			
<b>24</b> Christmas Eve	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> New Year's Eve	Christmas Day						

# 2022 "Keep the Sea Free of Debris!" Art Contest Winners



"Marine debris impacts our oceans and Great Lakes by endangering the sea creatures and coral reefs. I will keep our ocean debris-free by not throwing my debris on the roadways, and I will pick up debris on the beaches."

- K'Moya S. (Grade 3, U.S. Virgin Islands)

**JANUARY**



"The marine debris makes marine plants and animals sad and angry. They get sick from the debris, and the debris hurts our environment. I help prevent marine debris by recycling and picking up trash on walks when I see it. I also use a reusable water bottle and not a plastic water bottle."

- Ella K. (Grade 2, Virginia)

**FEBRUARY**



"Marine debris is harming animals everywhere. They get tangled in nets, choke on plastic bags, and get sick or die from ingesting microscopic plastics. We can help them by recycling things instead of throwing them away. We can also use less plastic and participate in Coastal Cleanups. Together we can help clean the oceans!"

- Ella U. (Grade 5, Alabama)

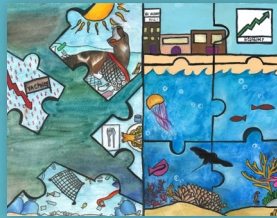
**MARCH**



"I will do everything in my power to help the oceans and Lakes. One thing I do is on Earth day and other days I do an hour of cleaning up trash. My family also uses reusable things like snack containers. My piece is fish swimming in trash, and the message is to help the ocean."

- Cordelia S. (Grade 5, Ohio)

**APRIL**



"This puzzle-inspired artwork shows a contrasting scenario of a debris-infested and debris-free marine environment. The left side shows unsolved puzzle pieces depicting marine pollution that threatens the environment, human health, tourism, and the economy. In contrast, the right side conveys a positive message with interlocked puzzle pieces displaying pleasant marine world without debris."

- Trisha G. (Grade 7, Florida)

**MAY**



"Every year, around 100,000 sea animals die of getting tangled by plastic. The plastic that we thoughtlessly dispose can threaten lives of innocent animals underwater. I want to raise awareness through my artwork that represents fish trapped in a bottle that the guilty humans have thrown out."

- Ian K. (Grade 7, New Jersey)

**JUNE**



"[Why should we help keep our ocean free of debris?] Because we have to, or else we all suffer, humans and marine life."

- Jihun P. (Grade 6, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

**JULY**



"When we throw cans, bottles, bags, and papers into the ocean, the fish, starfish, and eel will all die. This is not a good thing to happen. Why? Because they are just as good as we humans! So, we should not throw our litter into the water. We should use the trash can and recycle bin."

- Paola G. (Grade 1, Virginia)

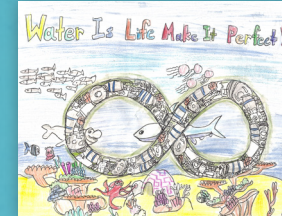
**AUGUST**



"Sea creatures can consume marine debris floating in the oceans and Great Lakes. These animals can possibly get trapped or tangled in pieces of trash we dispose. Debris can also destroy marine habitats. In order to keep our oceans debris free, I will recycle every single piece of plastic I come across, utilize reusable water bottles, and reduce the amount of plastic I use in my daily life."

- Manvitha S. (Grade 7, West Virginia)

**SEPTEMBER**



"Marine debris impacts our ocean and Great Lakes by letting animals like fish, birds, and others eat plastic and trash causing them to get sick. I would use less plastic if I can and pick up trash that is on the road."

- Cliff W. (Grade 6, Pennsylvania)

**OCTOBER**



"Marine debris impacts our ocean by making sea creatures sick or die. This is because if people throw trash into the ocean, the sea creatures will think of it as food and eat it. And if the stomach of the sea creature is full of trash, it will get sick and die. If you want to save our ocean, otherwise the ocean will be devastated. So let's keep our ocean clean!"

- Lydia X. (Grade 4, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

**NOVEMBER**



"Marine debris impacts our oceans and Great Lakes by hurling the organisms that make them so beautiful and unique. In the Great Lakes, birds mistake debris for fish and they eventually starve. In oceans especially, marine mammals, turtles, and more are killed by consuming toxic plastic, and trash breaks and damages coral reefs. I can help by recycling, picking up litter, and obeying rules set in place to prevent marine debris."

- Mary Y. (Grade 8, New Jersey)

**DECEMBER**

NOAA Marine Debris Program  
Office of Response and Restoration  
National Ocean Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce



<https://marinedebris.noaa.gov> | Please recycle.