

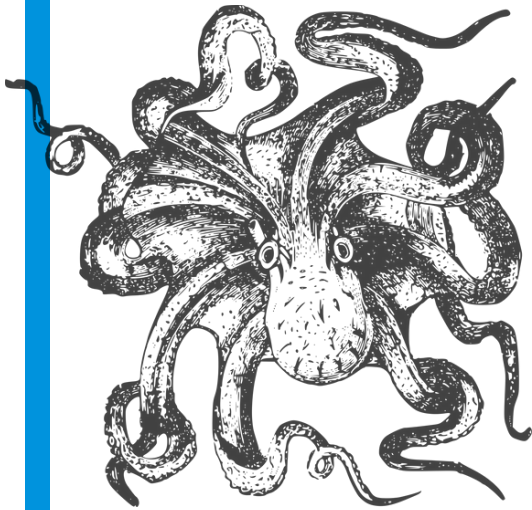
Blurb

FOR READERS OF CHILDREN'S NOVELS

JUNE-JULY 2022

MCCRACKEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, PADUCAH, KY

OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES ISSUE



Do you want to know why this year's Summer Reading theme is Oceans of Possibilities? Because the ocean is so vast and there is so much more to be explored that a lot of what happens under the surface is still a mystery. The possibilities are still endless. Here's some ocean facts to blow your mind.

- Oceans cover more than 70% of the Earth's surface.
- More than 80% of the ocean hasn't been explored or mapped.
- Only 9% of the species in the ocean have been classified.
- Blue whales are larger than any dinosaur that ever lived.
- The deepest part of the ocean is seven miles straight down.

Fins, Stingers, and Crocs

BY RANDY WAYNE WHITE



Famed marine biologist Doc Ford needs some help protecting the creatures in the waters off of Florida, so he puts together a team of three kids who are all dedicated to the cause. Luke, Maribel, and Sabina make up SHARKS, INC. and together, they tackle some highly interesting and sometimes downright dangerous assignments.



In **FINS**, the trio are charged with tagging sharks for research, but circumstances bring them face to face with some dangerous shark poachers who want to kill the sharks for one awful reason...Shark Fin Soup!!



In **STINGERS**, Luke, Maribel, and Sabina travel to the Bahamas to deal with invasive venomous lionfish that are putting people in the hospital. Oh, and they also have to deal with pirates!

In **CROCS**, their latest adventure, the three travel to Sanibel Island to investigate a wild orange tree...that's being guarded by a massive saltwater crocodile!

HOW SALTY IS SEAWATER?

"Water, water
everywhere, nor
any drop to drink"



This is line from the famous poem "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" by Samuel Coleridge about a sailor adrift at sea. He is surrounded by water, but can't drink any because it's too salty.

Seawater is made up of 3.5% salt. In comparison, the Great Salt Lake in Utah is about 30% salt.

**ALL THE BOOKS FEATURED
IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE
AVAILABLE AT THE
MCCRACKEN COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY.**

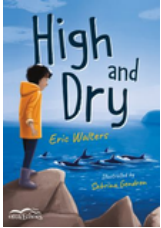
YOU CAN FIND PAST ISSUES OF BLURB AT MCLIB.NET/BLURB

WHALE OF A TALE



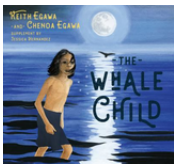
If you ask people to name a book about a whale, I bet most would say *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville.

While *Moby Dick* might be the most famous whale in all of literature, he is hardly the only one. Here are some other books about whales you might enjoy.



High and Dry by Eric Walters

Dylan and his grandfather race against the clock to save a young orca calf that is stranded on some rocks.



The Whale Child

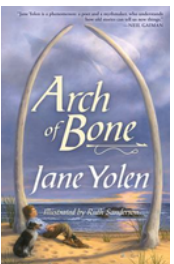
An story from Indigenous authors Keith and Chenoa Egawa about a whale child named Shiny who agrees to be turned into a boy so he can warn the people on land about the harm they are causing to the oceans.



A Whale in Paris

by Daniel Presley and Claire Polders

During WWII, a 12-year-old French girl discovers that a whale has swum up the Seine River, right into the heart of Paris.



Arch of Bone by Jane Yolen

This story picks up where *Moby Dick* left off. Josiah is waiting for his father's whaling ship to return when a sailor named Ismael shows up and says that his father's ship has been sunk...by a white whale. Josiah is suspicious that there is more to the story.

WORDS THAT HOLD THE "SEA"

All the answers to the clues below have the word "sea" somewhere in them. The answers are on the next page.

- Spring, autumn, or to sprinkle salt and pepper on your food.
- The space behind the driver of a car
- Ocean mammal with species called Leopard, Elephant, Bearded, and Spotted.
- To look for something.
- Feeling like you might throw up (2 possible answers)



Big Word in a Small Space Bioluminescence

Bioluminescence is a big word which describes organisms that make their own light through a chemical reaction in their bodies. In Kentucky, we see this most often in fireflies. In the ocean, there are lots of creatures that use bioluminescence, like squid and jellyfish. Tiny creatures called dinoflagellates can collectively glow so bright that they can make waves look like they are glowing. This is a real photo from an island chain called the Maldives.



GREAT PACIFIC GARBAGE PATCH

In the middle of the Pacific Ocean, between California and Japan there are some swirling waters called gyres or vortices. Unfortunately those swirling waters trap a lot of the garbage that end up in our oceans. The area is called the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Some estimates say that the garbage patch is about twice the size of Texas. Mostly it is made up of plastic trash.

Consider the Octopus by Nora Baskin



Jeremy has to join his mother on a research ship where he'll spend his summer bored as he stares out at the endless plastic and other floating debris that make up the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Until he meets 12-year-old Sydney that is.

Garbage Island by Fred Koehler



Archibald Shrew and Mr. Popli, a mouse, live on the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. They have to work together to survive storms, predators, and other perils.

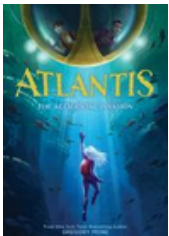


THE LEGEND OF ATLANTIS

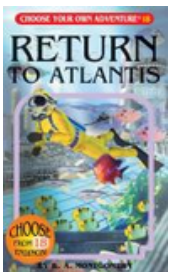
According to myth, Atlantis was a fictional island that sank to the bottom of the sea. The main source of the legend comes from the ancient Greek philosopher Plato who said that Atlantis existed about 11,000 years ago, somewhere near the Mediterranean Sea. He wrote that it was a very wealthy kingdom, and a very greedy one, and it was because the island was so wicked that a series of earthquakes caused it to sink.

Though Atlantis is only a legend that tells a moral tale about the dangers of greed and power, there have been lots of people over the centuries who thought the legend was based on a real story. Map makers, archaeologists, and deep sea divers have spent countless hours trying to locate the lost city of Atlantis. To date, no evidence has been found that it ever existed. But that doesn't stop people from imagining what it must have been like and writing new stories about it.

Atlantis: The Accidental Invasion by Gregory Mone



Two kids, Lewis from the surface and Kaya from Atlantis, cross paths during a powerful tsunami. Together they'll pair up to help fight climate change.



Return to Atlantis by R.A. Montgomery

You are a deep sea explorer who has stumbled onto the lost city of Atlantis. This Choose-Your-Own-Adventure has 18 possible endings.



Atlantis Rising by T.A. Barron

Two adventurous kids, Promi and Atlanta, team up to help save their magical land Ellegandia from evil forces. Little do they know that their actions might bring about the creation of the island of Atlantis.

MARINE INVERTEBRATES

Over 90% of the species on our ocean waters are invertebrates. Invertebrates are animals that don't have a backbone. They may have an outer shell, but they don't have a skeletal structure on the inside of their bodies. Including octopuses, squid, jellyfish, sponges, shrimp, coral, crabs, lobsters, starfish, and more, marine invertebrates are crucial to the ocean ecosystem; they clean the water, provide shelter and protection, and serve as a food source for many species, including us.

Starfish by Lisa Fipps



Ever since Ellie wore a whale swimsuit and made a big splash at her fifth birthday party, she's been bullied about her weight. But she still feels safe in the water where she can stretch out like a starfish and be herself.

The Benefits of Being an Octopus by Ann Braden



Seventh-grader Zoey doesn't think she's as good as other kids at school who have nice things. She also doesn't have the inclination to do homework because she's too busy taking care of her siblings.

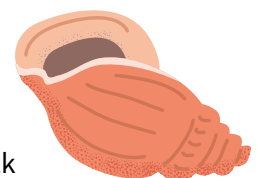
The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin



12 year old Suzy is out to prove that her best friend didn't just drown, that she was actually stung by a rare jellyfish. She'll travel the world alone to prove it if she has to.

WORDS THAT HOLD THE "SEA" ANSWERS

1. Season
2. Backseat
3. Seal
4. Search
5. Nausea or Seasick





Buried Treasure Real or Fake?

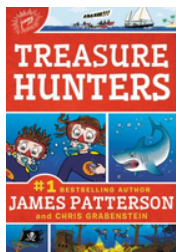
When I think about pirates, one of the first things that comes to mind is buried treasure complete with secret maps and chests filled with gold. The idea of finding buried treasure is just so exciting. But in reality, buried treasure is pretty rare. In fact, only one pirate in all of history, William Kidd, is known to have buried his treasure. The rest of the stories about buried treasure are just that...stories. In reality, buried treasure seems like a bad idea. Imagine you were a pirate with a whole bunch of plunder. Would you leave it buried on a deserted island where it could be lost, found by someone else, exposed by the storms, dug up by animals, and more? I think not.

So how did the idea of buried treasure become so popular? You can almost trace the idea to one book of fiction...*Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson. *Treasure Island* was published in 1883, and the book was so popular that everything it mentioned about pirates soon became a commonplace way to describe every pirate, including buried treasure, deserted islands, peglegs, and parrots. The fictional pirate in *Treasure Island* also lent his name to a fast food restaurant...Long John Silver.



Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson

A Classics Starts version of the original. A young boy finds treasure map that leads to a pirate fortune as well as great danger.



Treasure Hunters by James Patterson

Twelve-year-old twins Bickford and Rebecca Kidd sail from the Caribbean to New York City with their siblings to finish the dangerous quest of their world-famous treasure-hunting parents



Judy Moody and Stink: It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad Treasure Hunt by Megan McDonald

Judy and Stink follow the clues in a treasure hunting game.

SELKIES

Selkies are mythological sea creatures from the Celtic and Scandinavian tradition. The word selkie is a mixed-up word meaning "seal folk" and refers to a seal that can shed its skin (or pelt) and become human. Kind of like mermaids but with seals instead of fish. Selkies become all seal again by putting their skin back on, and a lot of the tales about selkies involve cruel humans who hide selkie skins so they can't turn back.



The Turning by Emily Whitman

Aran has never truly fit in with his selkie clan. He was born in his human form, without a pelt to transform him into a seal. What if his pelt never comes?



Summer of the Sea Serpent by Mary Pope Osborne

In this Magic Tree House adventure, Jack and Annie travel in their magic tree house to the land of the mystical selkies to seek a magical sword.



Girl from the Sea by Molley Ostertag

15-year-old Morgan is ready to escape the island where she lives. One night, however, she is rescued from drowning by a mysterious girl named Keltie and her whole life changes.



WHY IS THE OCEAN BLUE?

It all has to do with wavelengths of light. White light, which is the light that comes from the sun, is made up of all the colors of spectrum. The ocean looks blue because red, orange and yellow (long wavelength light) are absorbed more strongly by water. When white light from the sun enters the ocean, it is mostly the blue (or short wavelength light) that remains for us to see. When ocean water looks more green or red, it is because there is some sediment in the water that filters light differently.