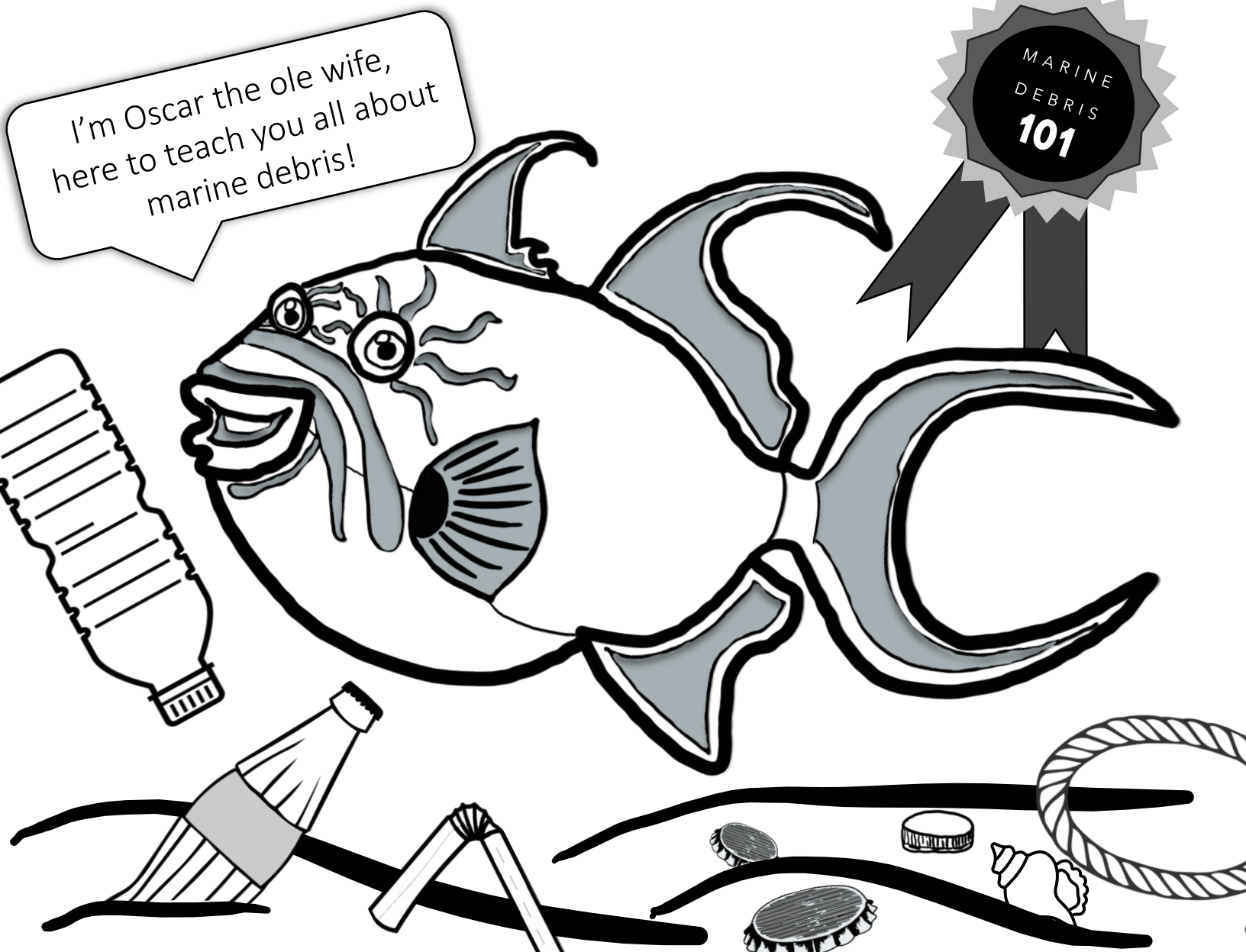


# UNDERSTANDING MARINE DEBRIS

GAMES & ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

I'm Oscar the ole wife,  
here to teach you all about  
marine debris!

MARINE  
DEBRIS  
**101**



U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS EDITION



NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Response and Restoration  
Marine Debris Program



1 Identifying the Problem  
*What is Marine Debris?*

2 Picture Crossword  
*Types of Marine Debris*

3 Marine Debris Word Find  
*Tons of Trash!*

4 Coloring Activity  
*Go Fish!*

5 I Spy Debris  
*Mangrove Cleanup*

6 Debris Match Up  
*What Do We Find?*

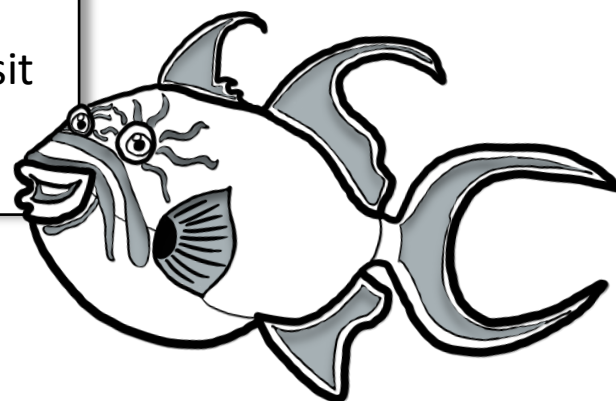
7 Coloring Activity  
*Beach Cleanup*

8 Secret Code  
*Be a Debris Detective!*

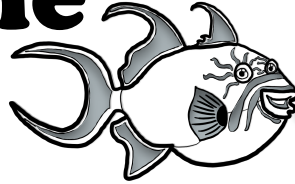
9 Debris Disposal Maze  
*Where Should You Toss It?*

10 Answer Key

For more great activities, information, and what you can do to prevent marine debris visit <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/>



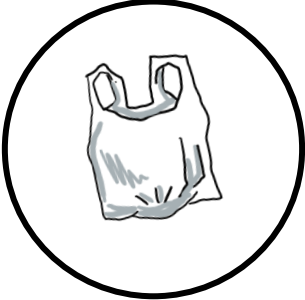
# What is Marine Debris?



When you have finished, write down what the non-circled pictures have in common. Can you guess what "Marine Debris" is? (Answers on page 10).

Take a look at the pictures below. Circle the items which you believe **ARE NOT** types of marine debris or ocean trash.

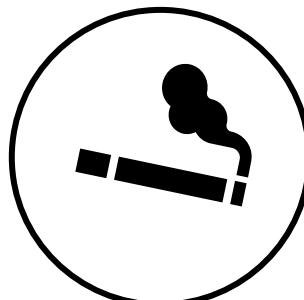
PLASTIC BAG



COCONUT



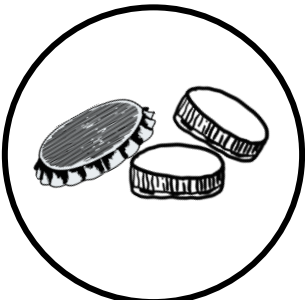
CIGARETTE



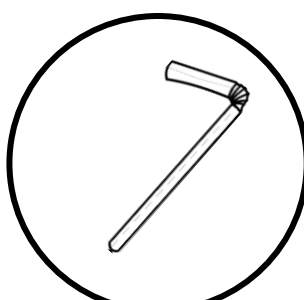
FOOD WRAPPERS



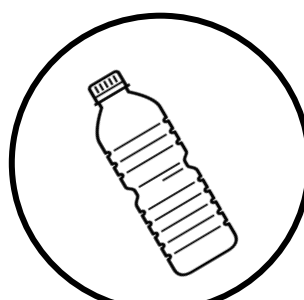
BOTTLE CAPS



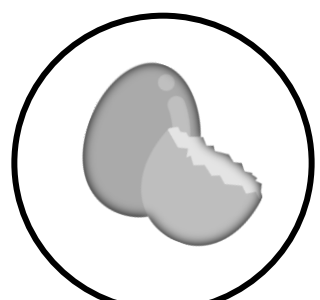
STRAW



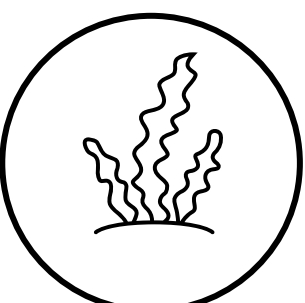
PLASTIC BOTTLE



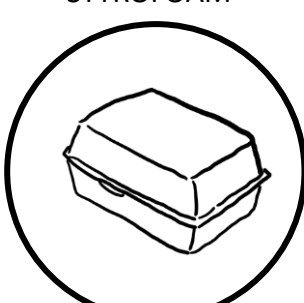
EGG SHELLS



SEAWEED



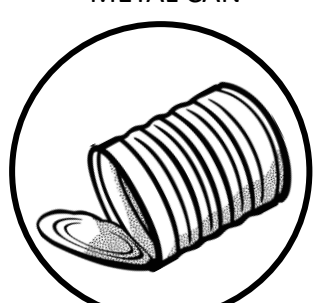
STYROFOAM



CAR TIRE



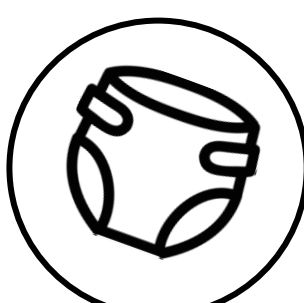
METAL CAN



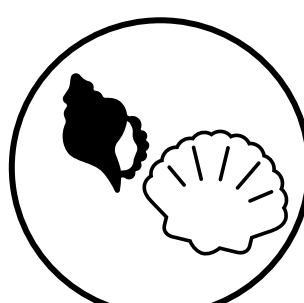
OVEN



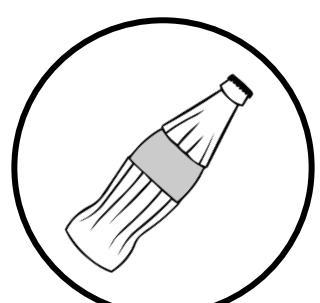
DIAPER



SEASHELLS



GLASS BOTTLE



# Types of Marine Debris



1 DOWN: BABY \_\_\_\_\_



2 DOWN: \_\_\_\_\_  
CAR TIRE OR GLOVES



3 DOWN: \_\_\_\_\_  
HOLDER



4 DOWN: FOOD OR CANDY \_\_\_\_\_

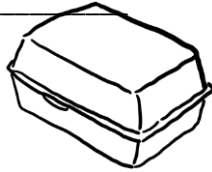


7 DOWN: \_\_\_\_\_  
CAPS

10 ACROSS: \_\_\_\_\_  
WATER BOTTLE



11 ACROSS: STYROFOAM \_\_\_\_\_



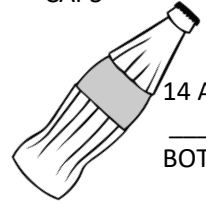
12 DOWN: \_\_\_\_\_  
CAN



14 DOWN: PLASTIC \_\_\_\_\_  
BAG



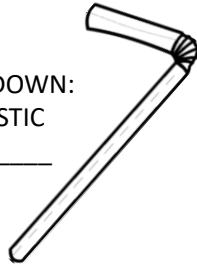
14 ACROSS: \_\_\_\_\_  
BOTTLE



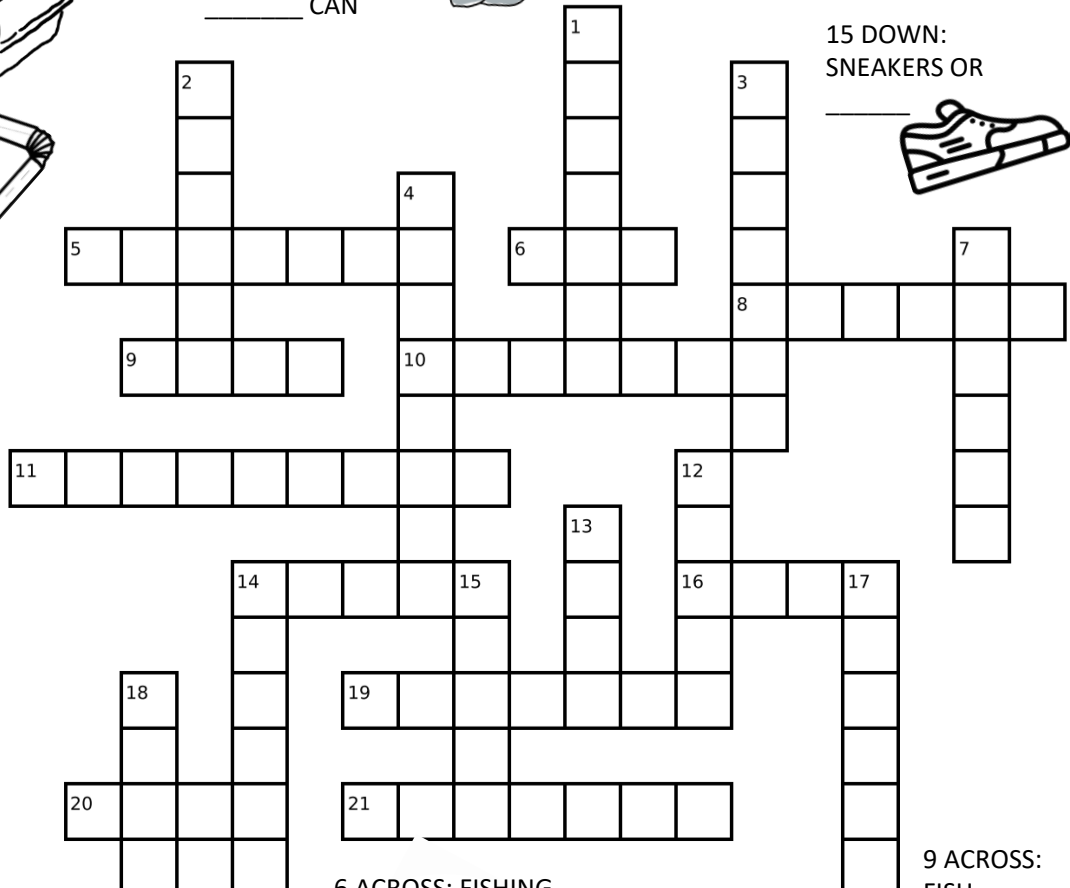
16 ACROSS: CHILDREN'S \_\_\_\_\_



17 DOWN: PLASTIC \_\_\_\_\_



15 DOWN: SNEAKERS OR \_\_\_\_\_



MARINE DEBRIS COMES FROM MANY SOURCES

**ABOVE:**

The litter items at the top of the page come from people on land such as beachgoers, picnickers, and those who improperly dump their trash.

**BELOW:**

The litter items at the bottom of the page are generated by people at sea such as boaters, fisherman, and passengers on cargo or cruise ships.

(Answers on page 10)

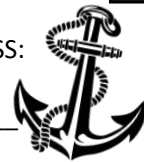
5 ACROSS: \_\_\_\_\_ TRAP



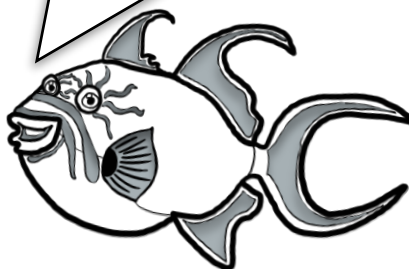
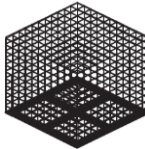
6 ACROSS: FISHING \_\_\_\_\_



8 ACROSS: \_\_\_\_\_  
BOAT



9 ACROSS: \_\_\_\_\_  
FISH



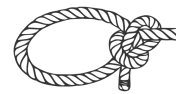
13 DOWN: \_\_\_\_\_  
FISHING



18 DOWN: \_\_\_\_\_  
FLOAT OR \_\_\_\_\_



19 ACROSS: \_\_\_\_\_  
GEAR

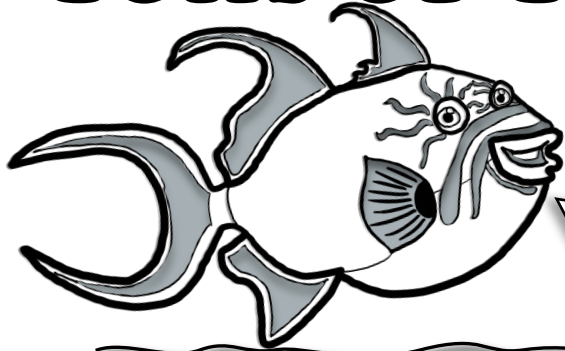


20 ACROSS: \_\_\_\_\_  
KNOTTED \_\_\_\_\_

21 ACROSS: \_\_\_\_\_  
LINE



# Tons of Trash!



Litter comes from many sources, from boats on the water to beachgoers and fisherman along the shore. Even litter from your house can make it into the ocean if it's not disposed of correctly! Hidden below are just some of the marine debris that litter our oceans. See if you can find them all!

U	R	P	B	A	Z	N	Q	U	L	N	P	H	P	X	M	N	I	O	R	G	Z	P	E	Q
T	G	L	O	V	E	S	Z	H	Q	M	I	D	L	V	W	E	Z	C	M	R	Q	R	L	K
Z	U	W	C	L	F	E	L	K	N	J	E	E	A	Q	D	N	V	Y	Z	P	F	C	F	A
S	Y	S	K	J	I	P	M	U	O	D	C	W	S	Y	T	T	C	D	C	U	W	R	O	F
P	H	V	P	T	S	N	L	G	M	Z	M	M	T	I	O	O	B	A	S	Q	E	E	A	O
G	Z	O	E	S	H	E	L	A	U	B	N	Q	I	G	Y	M	C	N	R	H	P	N	M	O
N	Y	N	E	C	I	X	N	M	S	U	E	X	C	N	S	L	R	Q	L	P	L	X	C	D
R	Q	K	T	E	N	H	C	O	Y	T	V	R	B	C	F	I	I	O	V	V	A	W	O	W
R	P	F	I	T	G	Z	F	I	Y	Y	I	Q	A	Z	G	D	J	B	P	H	S	R	N	R
R	M	E	T	A	L	C	A	P	Y	M	Z	C	G	G	I	B	O	U	Y	E	T	R	T	A
R	G	J	T	I	I	S	W	U	B	X	C	G	P	H	Y	O	R	O	H	N	I	H	A	P
G	P	B	S	T	N	H	Z	V	Q	Z	U	T	B	A	M	U	V	Y	D	O	C	V	I	P
U	B	S	O	T	E	T	T	H	N	H	Z	X	D	A	C	S	T	R	A	W	C	B	N	E
R	V	P	P	M	S	E	V	Q	G	N	J	J	I	B	L	K	M	F	D	G	A	F	E	R
B	J	T	X	V	R	A	F	D	J	A	G	O	A	C	U	L	A	R	L	A	P	Q	R	W
X	H	L	O	B	S	T	E	R	T	R	A	P	P	U	V	C	O	G	Q	O	T	T	P	G
L	Y	R	Z	L	U	W	Q	S	K	D	J	W	E	P	P	X	K	O	I	Y	A	J	T	B
K	U	T	E	N	S	I	L	S	F	C	G	B	R	U	D	R	U	E	N	N	S	T	S	X
D	A	E	F	I	S	H	I	N	G	N	E	T	F	W	P	J	T	T	T	C	G	H	B	T
V	H	S	G	D	P	L	A	S	T	I	C	B	O	T	T	L	E	V	S	X	Q	U	K	K
R	T	C	E	S	Y	K	B	Q	M	I	C	P	C	I	G	A	R	E	T	T	E	F	T	X
K	X	I	C	B	E	A	Y	A	T	I	N	Y	T	R	A	S	H	S	O	D	A	C	A	N
X	U	U	R	U	F	N	G	L	A	S	S	B	O	T	T	L	E	C	F	Z	Z	L	D	A
W	A	N	G	E	G	R	U	N	W	R	A	U	K	I	Y	O	L	U	G	U	M	J	I	Y
M	Y	T	F	P	N	J	O	W	Q	D	L	F	Q	E	H	N	A	Q	I	Y	C	B	E	B

*These hidden words are found horizontally, vertically, and diagonally. (Answers on page 10).*

BALLOON  
BUCKET  
BUOY  
CAR PART  
CIGARETTE  
CUP

DIAPER  
FISHING NET  
FISHING LINE  
FLOAT  
FOAM CONTAINER  
FOOD WRAPPER

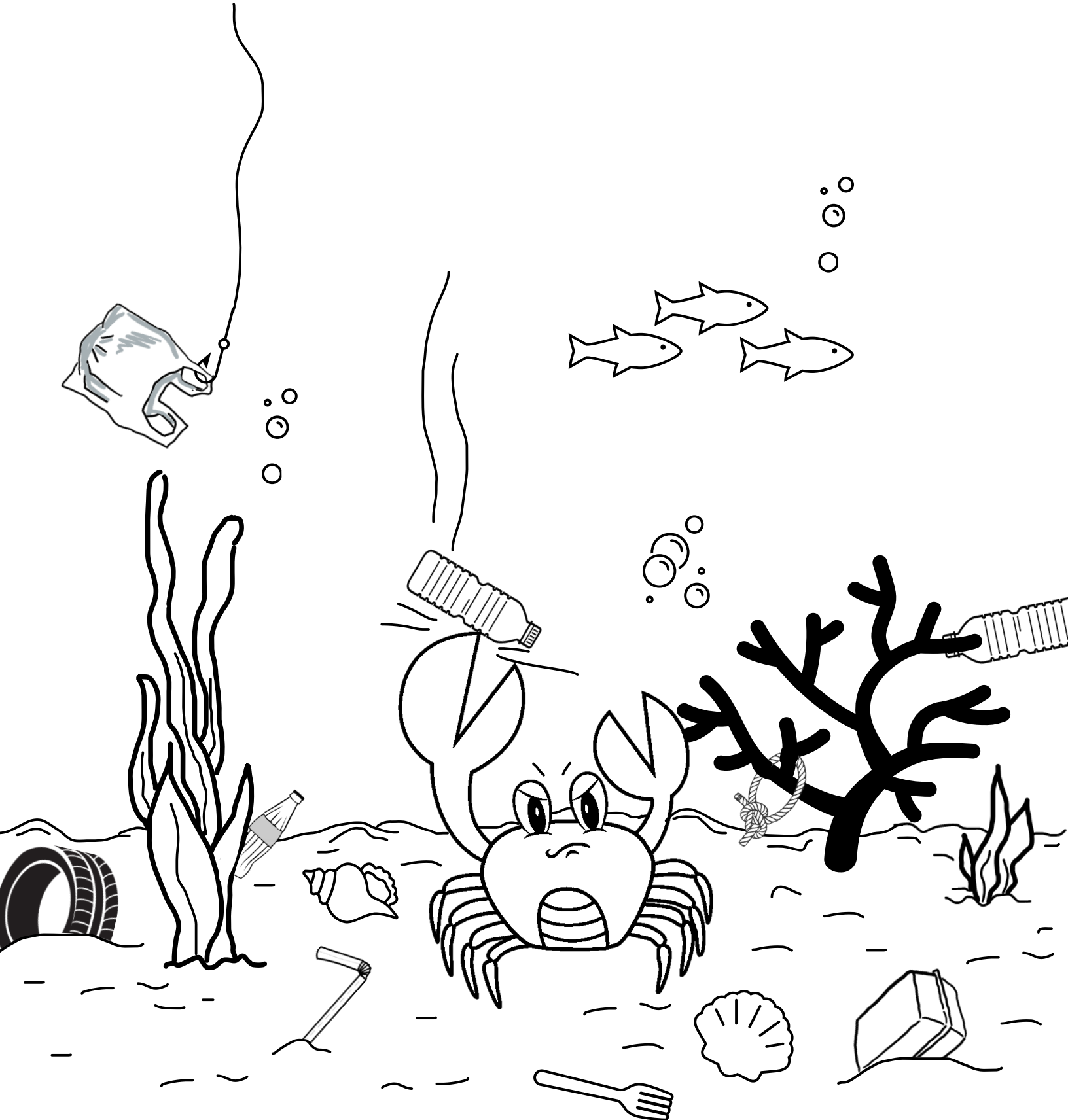
GLASS BOTTLE  
GLOVE  
LID  
LOBSTER TRAP  
LUMBER  
METAL CAP

PLASTIC BAG  
PLASTIC BOTTLE  
PLASTIC CAP  
PLASTIC PACKAGING  
ROPE  
SHOE

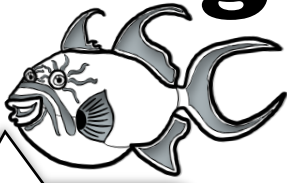
SODA CAN  
STRAW  
TINY TRASH  
TIRE  
TOY  
UTENSIL

# Go Fish!

virgin islands  
MARINE ADVISORY  
**VIMAS**  
SERVICE



# Mangrove Cleanup



- 5 plastic water bottles
  - 2 foam food containers
  - 3 rope pieces
  - 3 plastic bags
  - 5 plastic straws
- (Answers on page 10)*

Oh no! These mangroves sure are a mess! Help me clean them up by circling all the debris hidden in this picture.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The debris you see in this picture represent debris that volunteers have picked up in mangroves at the St. Thomas East End Reserve during the 2018 & 2019 Annual Great Mangrove Cleanup Events!

## TOP ITEMS FOUND IN MANGROVES

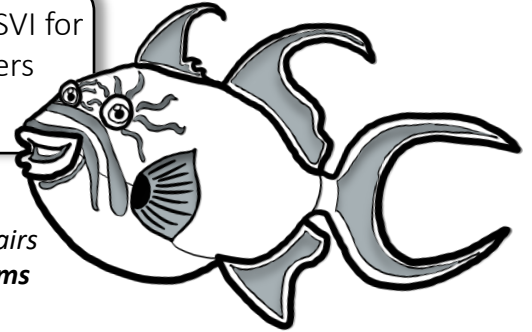
- 1) 2370 Plastic Bottles
- 2) 1133 Plastic Pieces (represented by straws; these would be too small to see in a photo like this!)
- 3) 668 Foam Packages or Pieces
- 4) 563 Plastic Bags.



# What Do We Find?



Did you know that beach cleanups have been going on in the USVI for more than 30 years? Let's take a look at the things that volunteers find the most when picking up debris on our sandy beaches.



Listed below are the 5 most commonly found items from past beach cleanups. Match up each debris item with its rank by drawing a line between matching pairs (ex: 1 = item found most often, 5 = item found least often). **HINT: count the items in the picture frame for a clue.** (Answers on page 10).

FOOD WRAPPERS

1

GLASS BOTTLES

2

STRAWS & STIRRERS

3

PLASTIC BOTTLES

4

CAPS/LIDS

5



# Beach Cleanup

virgin islands  
MARINE ADVISORY  
VIMAS  
SERVICE



# Be a Debris Detective!

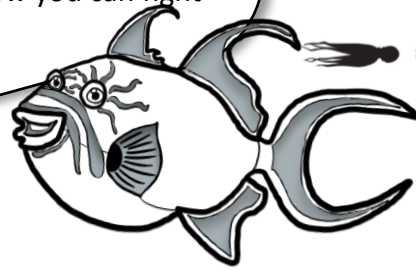


virgin islands  
MARINE ADVISORY  
**VIMAS**  
SERVICE

There are 4 easy things you can do to help fight marine debris. We call them the "4 Rs:"

- 1 Refuse *As much as possible, say "no thanks" to items that are made of or packaged in plastic, and reach for ones that are reusable!*
- 2 Reduce *If you have to use plastic, try to cut back on the amount.*
- 3 Reuse *We have to get creative! Whenever you can, find ways to recycle and reuse your trash with new purposes. When things break, try to repair them before tossing them out.*
- 4 React *If you see debris, clean it up! Remind others to practice these four Rs.*

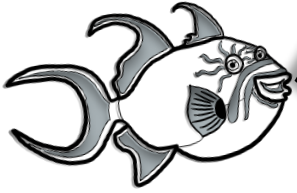
Unlock the secret message below for one example of how you can fight marine debris. (Answer on page 10).



- = A
- = B
- = E
- = G
- = I
- = L
- = N
- = O
- = R
- = S
- = T
- = U
- = W
- = Y

A large grid of marine life and plastic bottle silhouettes for a word search. The silhouettes are arranged in rows and columns, with some bottles placed vertically and others horizontally. The marine life includes various fish, crabs, seagulls, eels, pelicans, starfish, scorpions, sea urchins, dolphins, turtles, and jellyfish.

# Where Should You Toss It?



Even when we refuse, reduce & reuse, sometimes we still end up with things to throw away. But did you know that not all trash needs to end up in the dumpster? You can dispose of some items in different ways, and by doing so, you can help to send less trash to the landfills, which means, less trash in our ocean! Help me solve the maze below to find out alternate ways to toss you trash.



You can use a glass crusher to break up used glass bottles into sand. The sand can then be used to fill sandbags that your family can use during hurricane season.



The Virgin Islands Marine Advisory Service (VIMAS) has a glass crusher on STT, and plans to expand to STX and STJ. You can contact [howard.forbes@live.uvi.edu](mailto:howard.forbes@live.uvi.edu) to learn how you can recycle your glass bottles.

GLASS BOTTLES

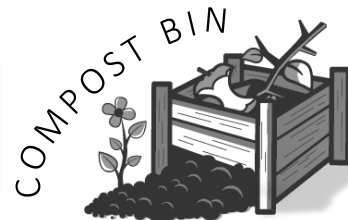
STYROFOAM FOOD CONTAINERS

FOOD SCRAPS & CARDBOARD

DUMPSTER

Make sure these items make it to the dumpster.

To cut down on your waste headed to the landfill, you can work with your family to create a compost bin where you can turn your carboard and food scraps into rich soil for your plants.

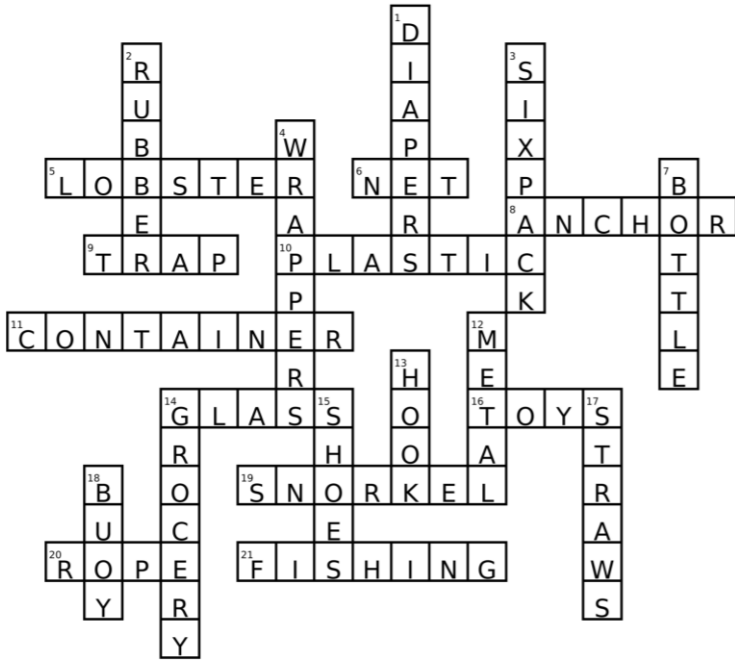




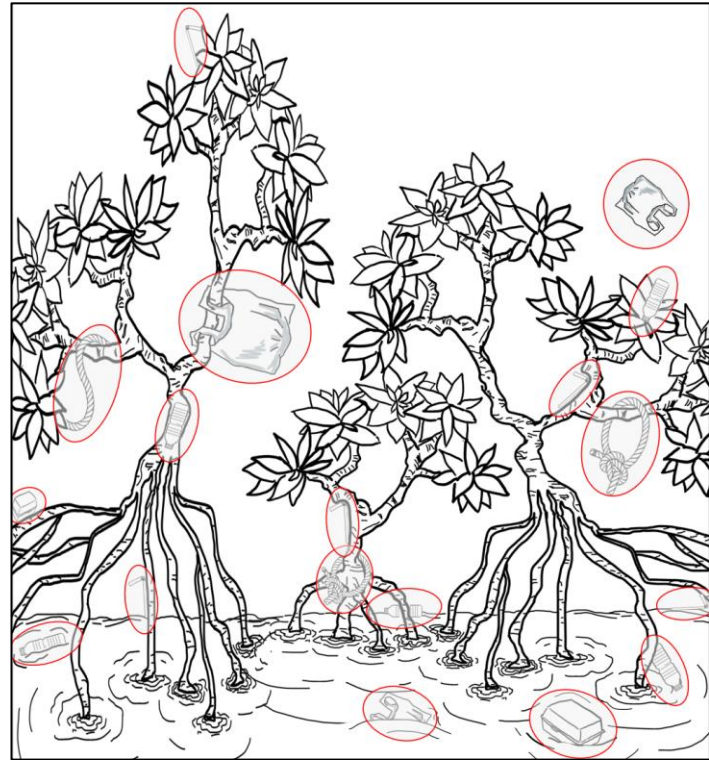
## Identifying the Problem (Page 1)

Coconut, Egg Shells, Seaweed, Seashells. All Marine debris items come from people! Marine Debris is any solid man-made object discarded, disposed of, or abandoned into the marine environment.

## Picture Crossword (Page 2)



## I Spy Debris (Page 5)



## Debris Match Up (Page 6)

1= Caps/Lids, 2= Glass Bottles, 3= Plastic Bottles, 4= Food Wrappers, 5= Straws & Stirrers

## Secret Code (Page 8)

Always try to bring a reusable water bottle.

## Word Find (Page 3)

