

A coastal adventure with The Snail and the Whale

by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

Enjoy a great day out with everything
you need to explore your coast



Natural England and the Marine Management Organisation in partnership with Macmillan Children's Books



How to Make the Most of Your Day Out

Before you set off on your coastal adventure:

- Keep an eye on the weather and have sunscreen and a hat with you
- Before you visit the coast you should look at the Maritime & Coastguard Agency's Coastal Safety Guide: www.coastguardsafety.campaign.gov.uk/

Countryside Code: Respect - Protect - Enjoy

It's important to remember the Countryside Code.

- Respect other people:
leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available
- Protect the natural environment:
leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home

Staying safe on the coast

- Do not enter areas where there could be mud or water and do not climb or go near cliff edges
- At the beach, be aware of coastguards and flag warnings and remember the sea is very powerful
- When exploring rock pools, check high tide times and make sure you can always get back to shore safely
- Arrange a meet-up place in case you become separated from your family and friends



Who Lives Here?

Match up the animals to their coastal homes

A. Seagrass



B. Rocks



C. Nest in Cliffs



D. Rock Pool



E. Den near Wetlands



1. Hermit crab



2. Fulmar (Seabird)



3. Otter



4. Seahorse



5. Seal





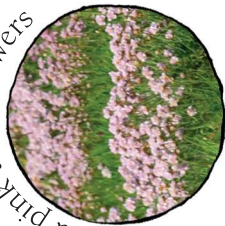
Things You Might See on the Coast

Sanderling (seabird)



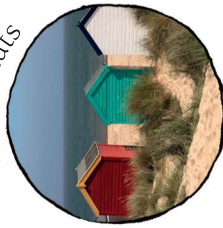
Small, energetic wading bird with black legs

Sea pink thrift flowers



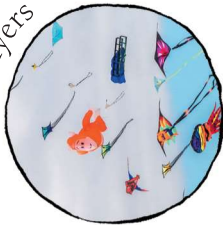
Pink flowers that grow in dry and salty areas like the coast

Beach huts



Small wooden huts on beaches (often brightly coloured)

Kite flyers



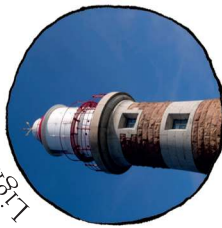
Look out for these on a windy day

Mudflats



Coastal wetlands that can form when the tide is out

Lighthouse



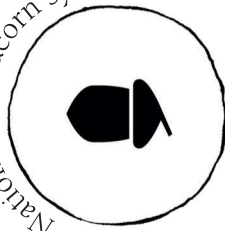
Tall building on the coast that uses light to show boats the way to land

Pier



Long structure that has been built all the way out to sea

National Trail acorn symbol



This symbol marks National Trails, which are long distance paths



The Snail and the Whale Wordsearch

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

Can you find all the words on the grid above?

CHILDREN

MOON

PENGUIN

TEACHER

BLACKBOARD

WHALE

FIREMAN

VOLCANO

SNAIL

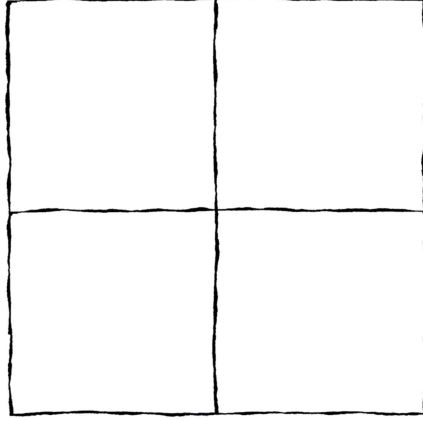
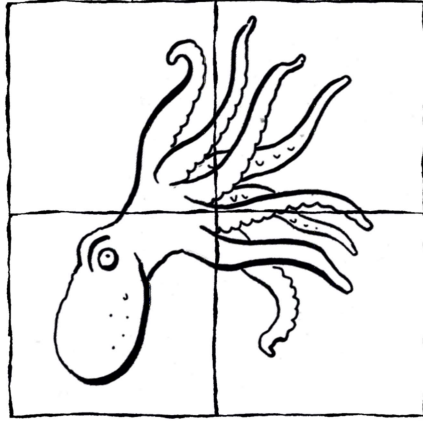
WAVES



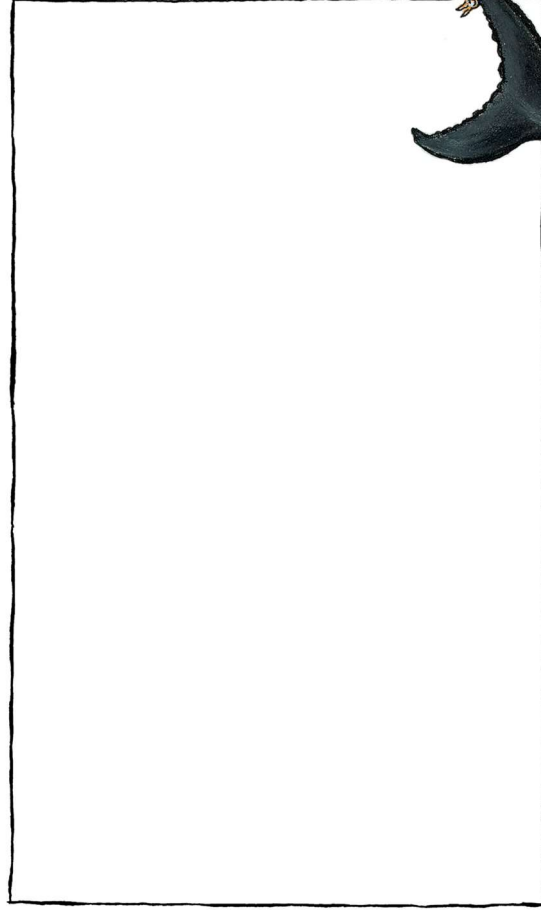


Drawing and Colouring

Use the grid to copy the picture of an octopus, then colour it in.



Draw your favourite thing you spotted on your coastal adventure in the box below.



Things to Spot on the Beach and in the Sea

Seaweed



Algae that grows in the ocean

Anemone



Soft bodied marine animal that is related to corals and jellyfish

Sea snails



Snails with spiral shells that live in saltwater

Starfish



Star shaped marine invertebrate with tube feet and a mouth

Oystercatcher



A black and white wading bird that likes to eat cockles

Mermaid's purses



Egg cases that once held the eggs of sharks and rays

Crabs



Crustaceans with two claws

Limpets



Dome shaped molluscs that attach themselves to rocks using a muscular 'foot'

It's not just wildlife in the sea.
Can you spot surfers, divers, fishing boats, ferries or wind farms?

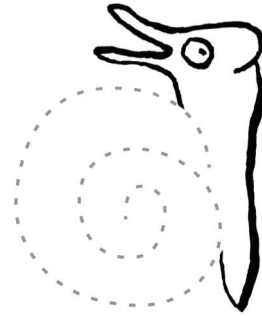
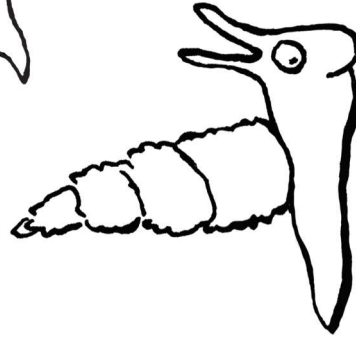
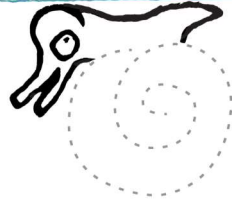




Drawing and Colouring

Draw and decorate shells for all these snails.

Don't forget to colour them in!



Fun Marine Animal facts

Did you know?

The world's second largest shark is the basking shark, a common visitor to our waters. It is harmless and feeds on teeny tiny plankton.



Did you know? Some species of sharks give birth to live young, while some lay eggs.

Did you know? Rays are closely related to sharks as their skeleton is made up of cartilage — just like the end of your nose and your ears.



Did you know? Whales and dolphins are mammals like us — they give birth to live young, breathe air and feed their babies milk.

Did you know? A killer whale or Orca is actually a dolphin. It is the largest species of dolphin.



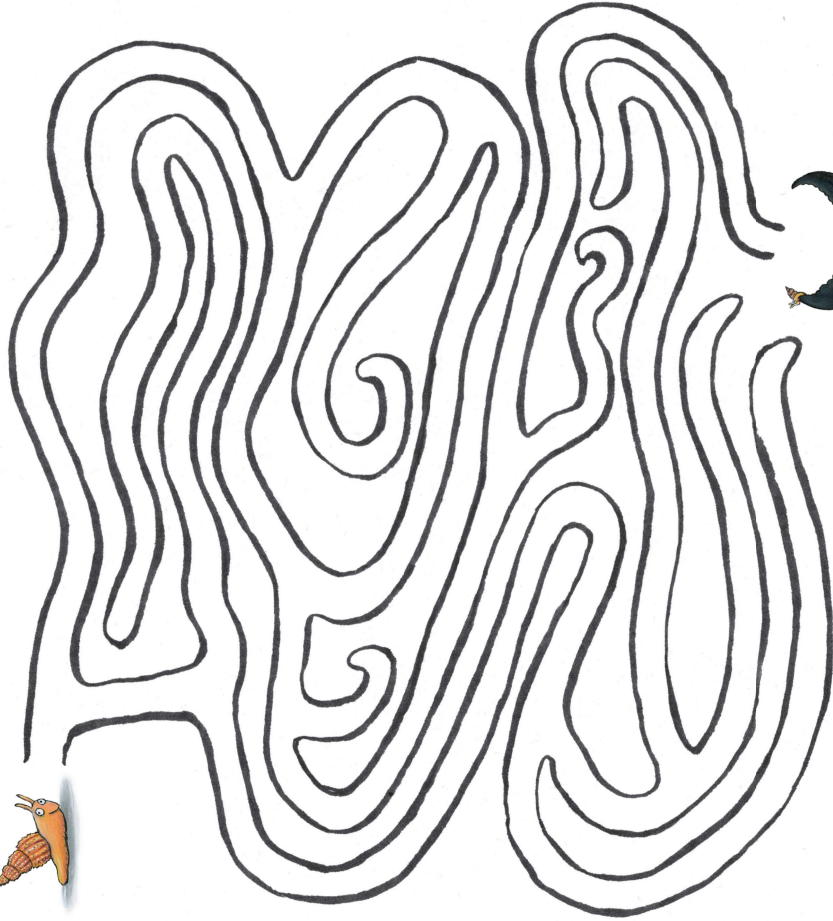
Did you know? There are at least 21 species of shark living in UK waters all year round, and over 40 species can be found in the UK if you include seasonal visitors.





Off on an Adventure

Can you help the snail find a path through the maze to hitch a ride on the tail of the whale?



Look After Our Coast!

Marine litter

One problem we can all help with is marine litter, particularly plastics. Plastic takes many years to disappear and if it gets into the ocean it can kill wildlife, destroy their homes and pollute water. Why not take a bag or bucket on your visit to the beach to collect any litter you see and put it in the bin? There might be a beach clean event close to where you live that you can get involved in too:

www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch/events/gbbc

The England Coast Path

The England Coast Path will be a 2,700 miles long National Trail around the whole of the English coast. Once completed it will be the longest coastal walking route in the world. It will link up the best existing coastal paths and create new ones where there were none before, as well as joining up with the Wales Coast Path and walking rights in Scotland. Check out the National Trail website for more information.

www.nationaltrail.co.uk

Protecting the environment for future generations

This year the government released its 25 Year Environment Plan. The plan sets out action to help the natural world regain and retain good health. It aims to deliver cleaner air and water in our cities and rural landscapes, protect threatened species and provide richer wildlife habitats. Read more:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/25-year-environment-plan



Celebrating 15 years of *The Snail and the Whale*

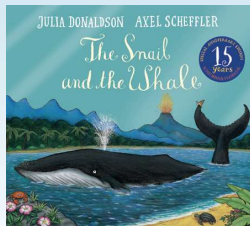
The Snail and the Whale is a delightful tale of adventure and friendship by the unparalleled picture-book partnership of Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler, creators of *The Gruffalo*. In 2018, we're celebrating 15 years since the publication of *The Snail and the Whale*, which has sold over 2 million copies worldwide and has become a favourite family adventure.

The sea is something we can all enjoy. If you look at the sea you might see wildlife, fishing boats, ferries, swimmers, surfers, wind farms and lots more, but have you ever thought about who looks after it? The Marine Management Organisation manages activities in England's seas so they're done in a sustainable way. This means that the sea can continue to be enjoyed by people for many years to come.

England has some beautiful landscapes and Natural England helps to protect these. Going outside and enjoying nature is important. It makes us feel good and keeps us active and healthy.

Find out more:

marinedevelopments.blog.gov.uk | [@The_MMO](#)
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england | [@NaturalEngland](#)
www.Gruffalo.com | [@TheRealGruffalo](#)
More activity sheets available at Gruffalo.com




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