



The adventures of Anees the Anemonefish

Coral reefs are very important, not just for Maldivians but for everyone around the world.

They provide us with jobs and food, and they protect us from waves and storms. Many sea creatures including the fishes we eat are also dependent on coral reefs for feeding, shelter and for a place to raise their young.

Coral reefs are very fragile and grow extremely slowly. They are in danger all around the world because man is destroying our reefs faster than they can grow.

"The Adventures of Anees the Anemonefish" is a story about a brave young anemonefish

that goes on an adventure to find a safe place to live. He encounters many dangers on the way, but also makes some good friends on his journey. He comes across many threats to the reef including rubbish, anchor damage, over fishing, and the warming of our oceans by climate change, until eventually he arrives in the safe haven of a marine protected area.

"The Adventures of Anees the Anemonefish" was produced by the Land and Marine Environmental Resources (LaMer) Group, Biosphere Expeditions, Marine Conservation Society (MCS) and Soneva Fushi by Six Senses to increase awareness of threats to our coral reefs in children throughout the Maldives.

Sponsored by Six Senses Resorts & Spas Maldives, Biosphere Expeditions and the LaMer Group.

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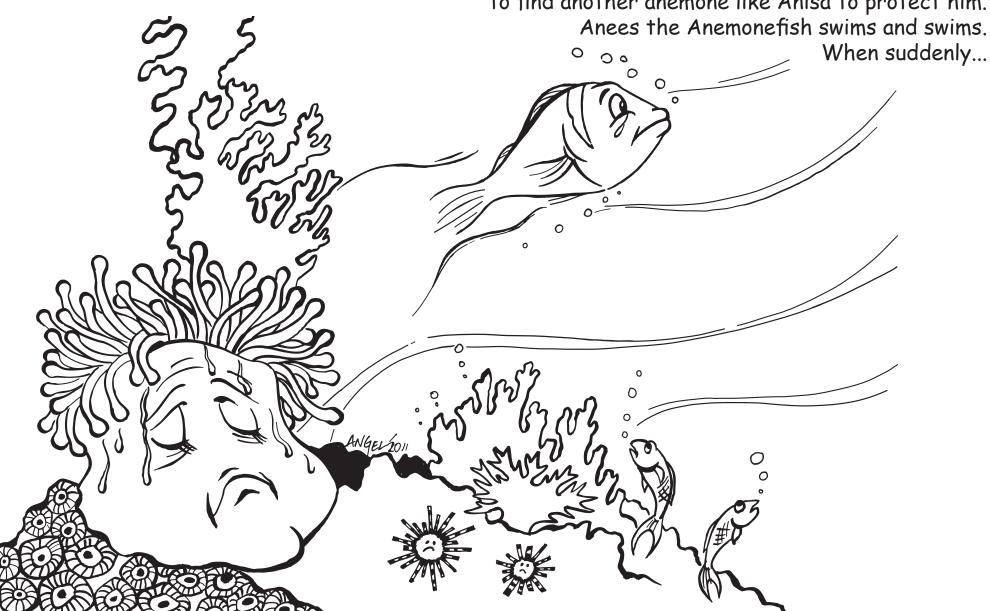
Illustrated by Angel Shujau, this booklet is based on an original story and cartoon booklet developed by MCS and the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) for Sabah, Malaysia. It has been adapted for the Maldives by Kate Wilson (Soneva Fushi by Six Senses) and Dr. Elizabeth Wood (MCS).

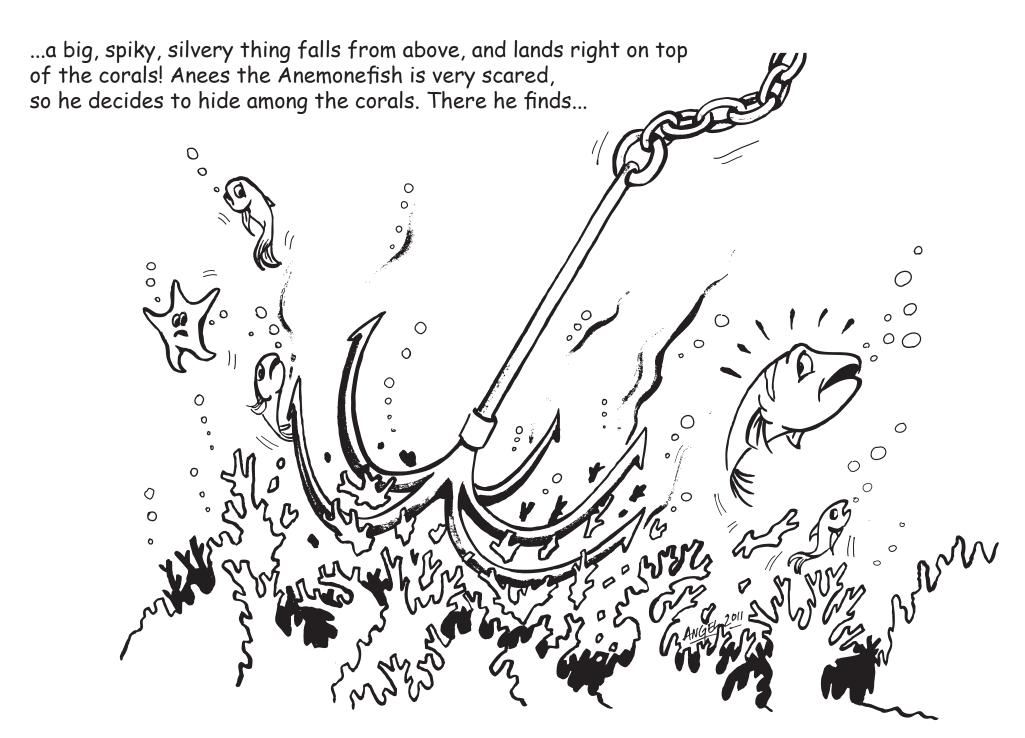
This Maldives version of the booklet was designed by Malika Fettak and instigated by Dr. Matthias Hammer (both Biosphere Expeditions).

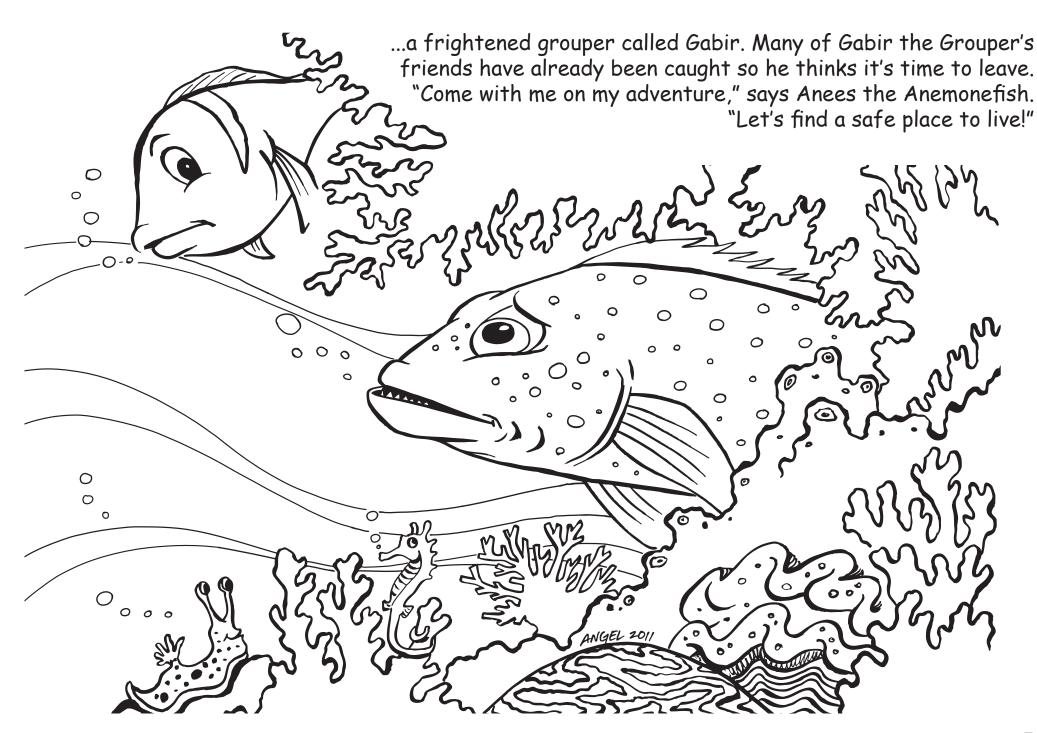
Anees is a Maldivian anemonefish. He feels right at home on the rainbow-coloured coral reefs of the Maldives. He has a safe and cosy home inside the tentacles of Anisa the Anemone.

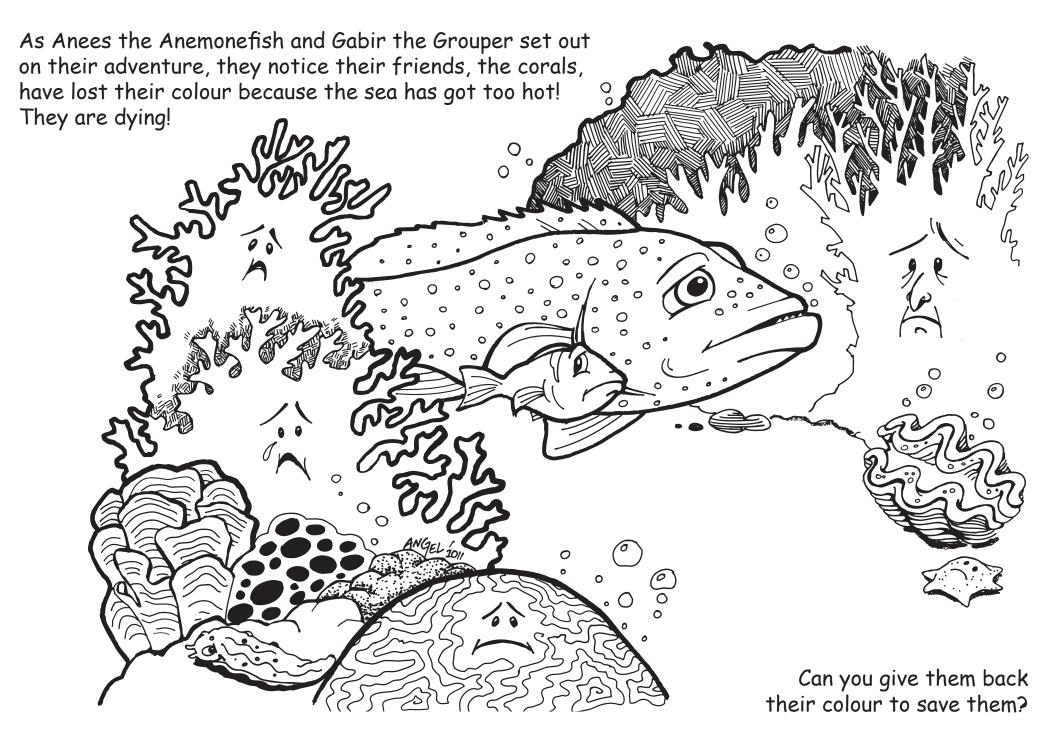
One day, Anisa the Anemone gets sick. She can't cope with the rising temperature of the ocean.

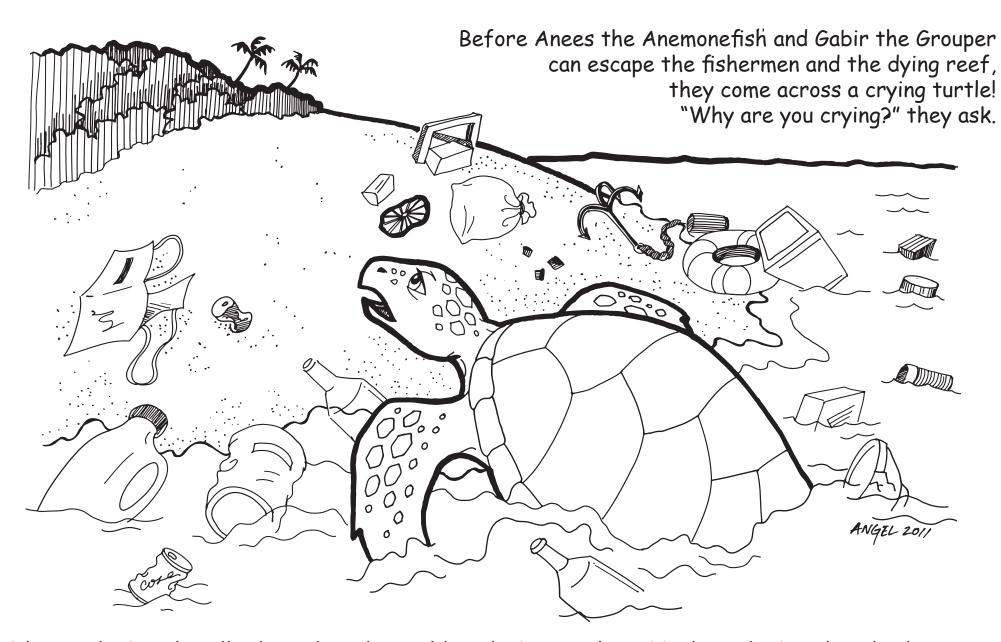
So Anees the Anemonefish has to go on an adventure to the great outside to find another anemone like Anisa to protect him.







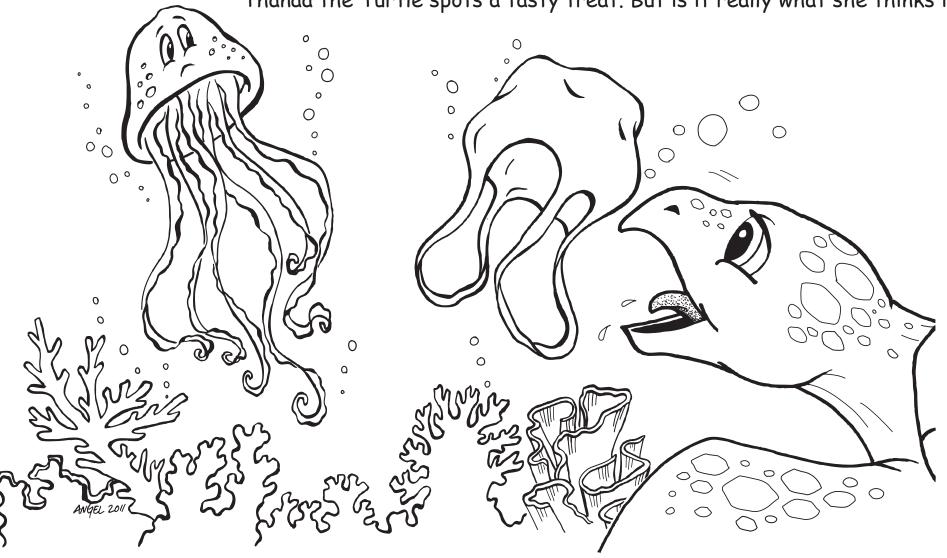




Thanaa the Turtle tells them that she couldn't climb over the rubbish on the beach to lay her eggs.

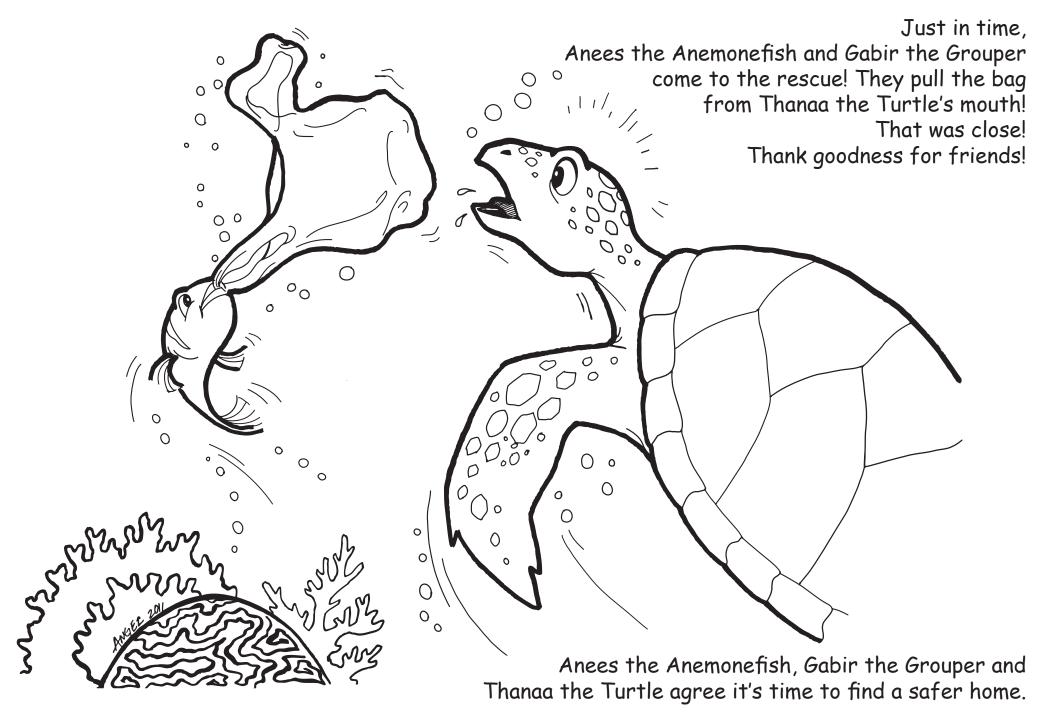
Thanaa the Turtle joins Anees the Anemonefish and Gabir the Grouper in their adventure in the hope of finding a safe and clean place to lay her eggs.

Anees the Anemonefish, Gabir the Grouper and Thanaa the Turtle are all rather hungry after all that swimming. As Anees the Anemonefish swallows his dinner, Thanaa the Turtle spots a tasty treat. But is it really what she thinks it is?

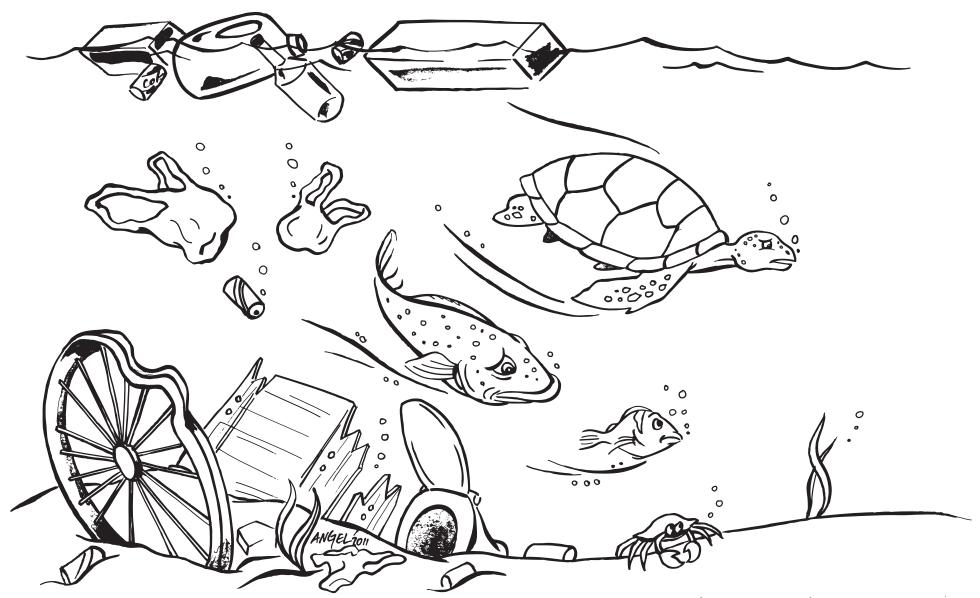


A deadly plastic bag is about to get stuck in Thanaa the Turtle's throat!

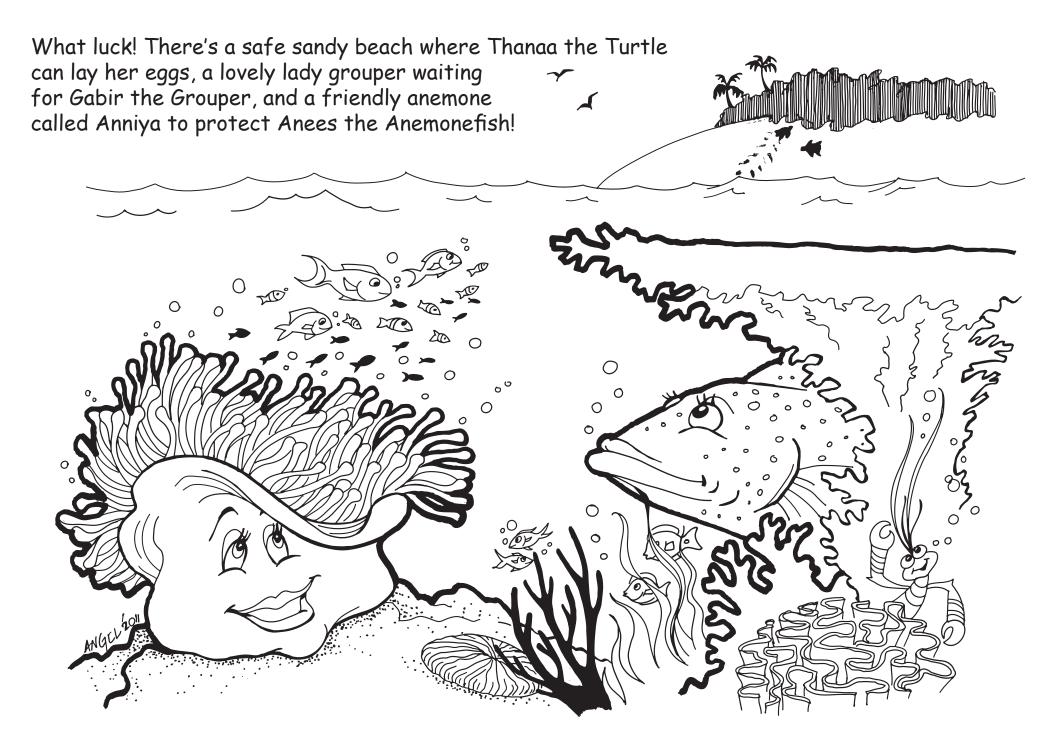
Can the others save her?

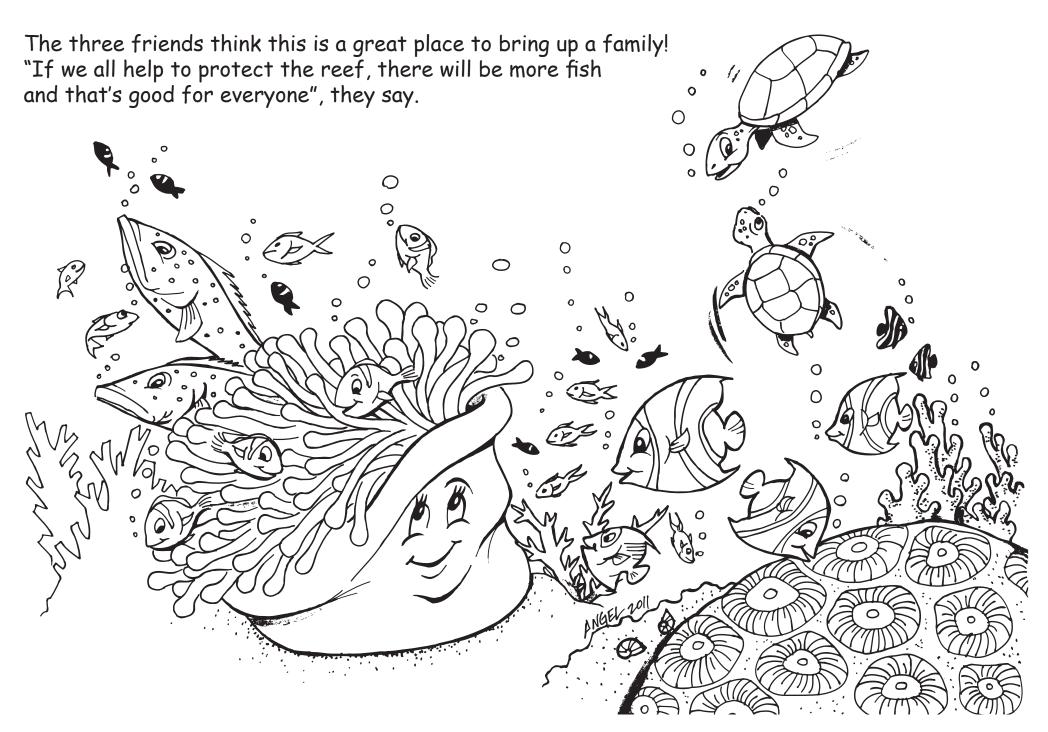


Leaving the rubbish behind, the three friends head for a place where they will be out of danger - clean seas and a protected area where the local fishermen have agreed to leave them alone.



How many dangerous things can you count?



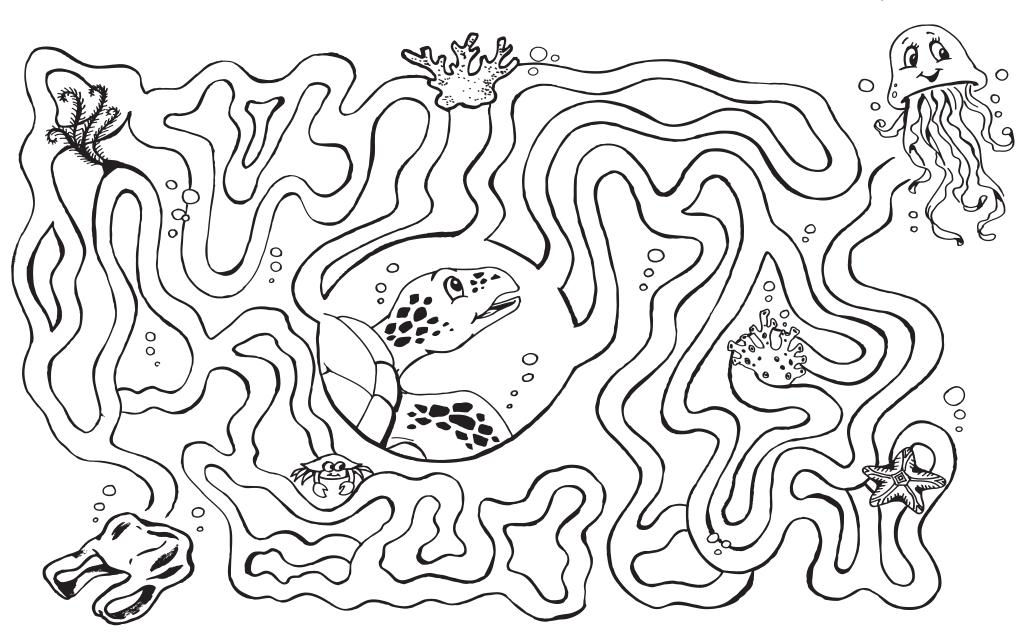




Soon there are so many fish in the protected area that they begin to move out - and that makes the fishermen happy too! THE END

The watery labyrinth

Help Thaana the Turtle find her way away from the nasty plastic bag to the tasty jellyfish!



What can you do to help protect coral reefs and other animals such as Anees the Anemonefish, Gadir the Grouper and Thanaa the Turtle?

Share this book with your family and friends and get them to support the actions being taken in the Maldives to reduce the global warming that is threatening our reefs.

Enjoy, support and be proud of your local Marine Protected Area. They have been set up to make life better, not just for the reef inhabitants themselves, but for local people whose jobs depend on healthy reefs.

Treat the reef very carefully. Corals take years to grow, but are easily broken if we tread on them, drop anchors or crash into them with our boats.

Help keep the sea and reefs clean by not dropping plastic bags or any other litter into the water or onto the beach. Perhaps even organise a beach clean-up - get your classmates or school involved too.

