

JANUARY

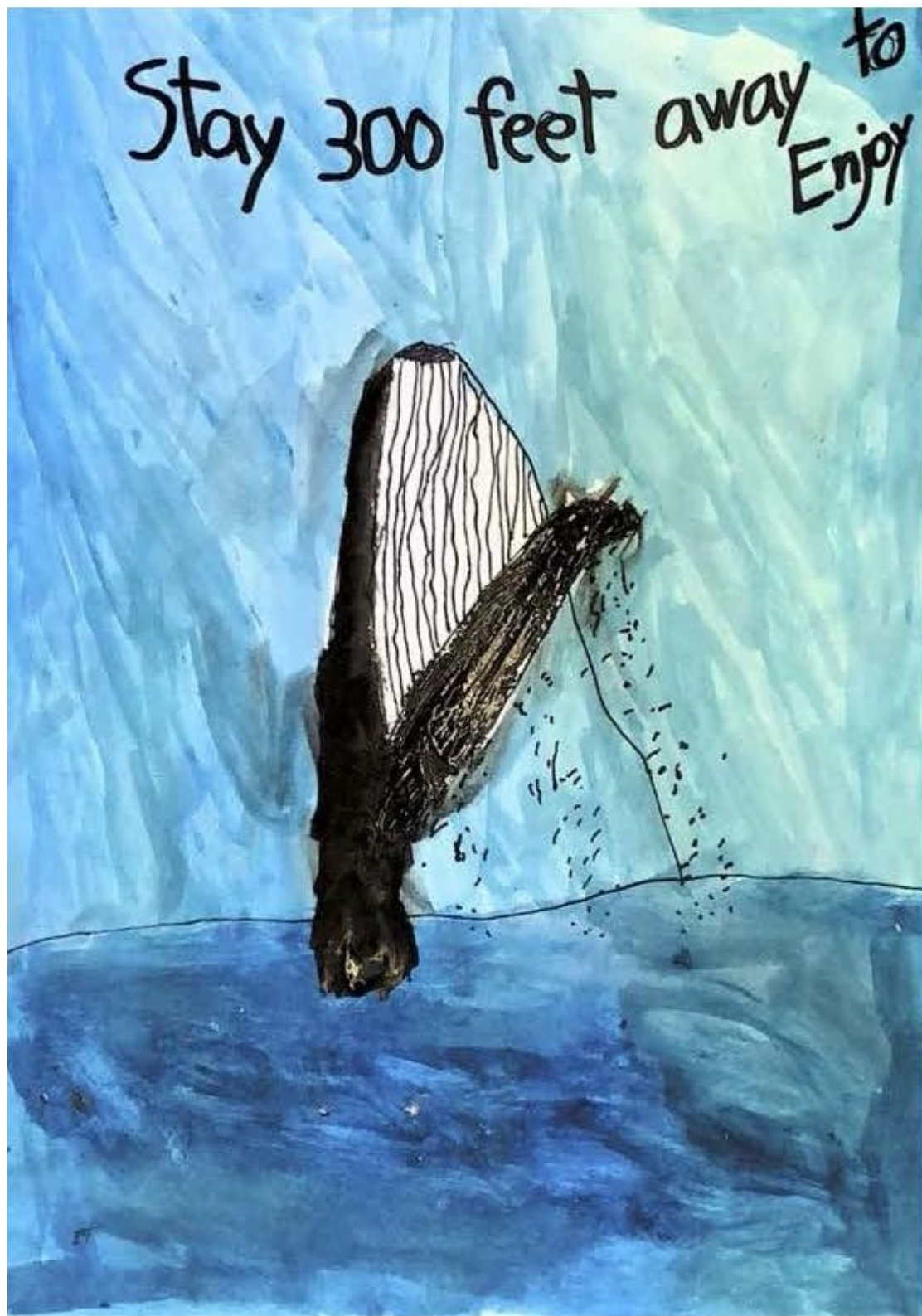
Protect the wildlife by watching from a distance
 Paint
 Sophia Wang Zilan, Grade 11
 Northern Mariana Islands

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 Full Moon ○	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18	19	20	21 New Moon ●
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	<p style="text-align: center;">Viewing Distances</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  Corals No touching or standing on </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Sea turtles 10 FEET </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Monk seals 50 FEET Mom/pup pairs 150 FEET </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Small whales/ dolphins 50 YARDS* </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Large whales 100 YARDS* </div> </div> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">*Required by law for spinner dolphin and humpback whales in Hawai'i</p>			

Support Resilience in a Changing Climate

Climate change has major impacts on marine ecosystems—from the decline of the tiny krill that whales need for food, to disappearing shorelines that endangered Hawaiian monk seals rely on for rest and to nurse pups. Kick off the year by sharing the shore and sea with marine life to prevent disturbance in an already difficult environment. You can also help marine life, like corals—and all of the species that depend on them—by getting involved in land- or ocean-based restoration efforts in your community.





FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 Full Moon ○	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
WHALE WEEK						
19 World Whale Day New Moon ●	20 President's Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK			

Stay 300 Feet Away to Enjoy
Watercolor
Quentin Leleu, Grade 1
Hawai'i

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT: Humpback Whale

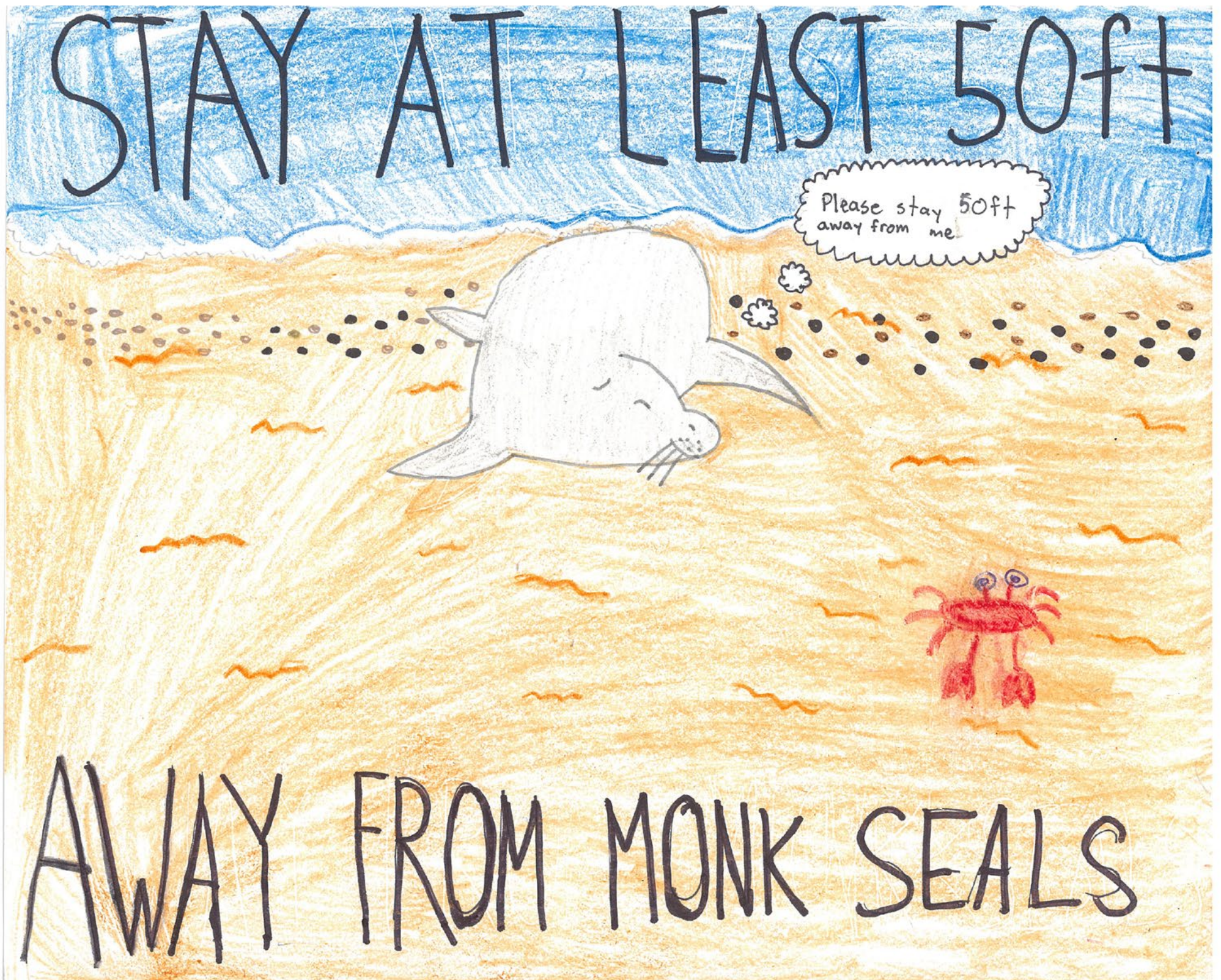
Megaptera novaeangliae

Humpback whales have one of the longest migrations of any mammal on the planet. Some populations swim 5,000 miles from tropical breeding grounds to colder, more productive feeding grounds. Humpback whales feed on shrimp-like crustaceans (krill) and small fish, straining huge volumes of ocean water through their baleen plates, which act like a sieve or filter.

VIEWING DISTANCE: 100 yards
(required by law in Hawai'i)



Credit: NOAA



MARCH

Admire me from a distance
Crayon, marker
Lily Yasuda, Grade 3
Hawaii'i

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Report all Hawaiian monk seal sightings to the NOAA Marine Wildlife Hotline: (888) 256-9840.			1	2	3 World Wildlife Day	4
NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK						
5	6	7 Full Moon ○	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 New Moon ●	22 International Seal Day World Water Day	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

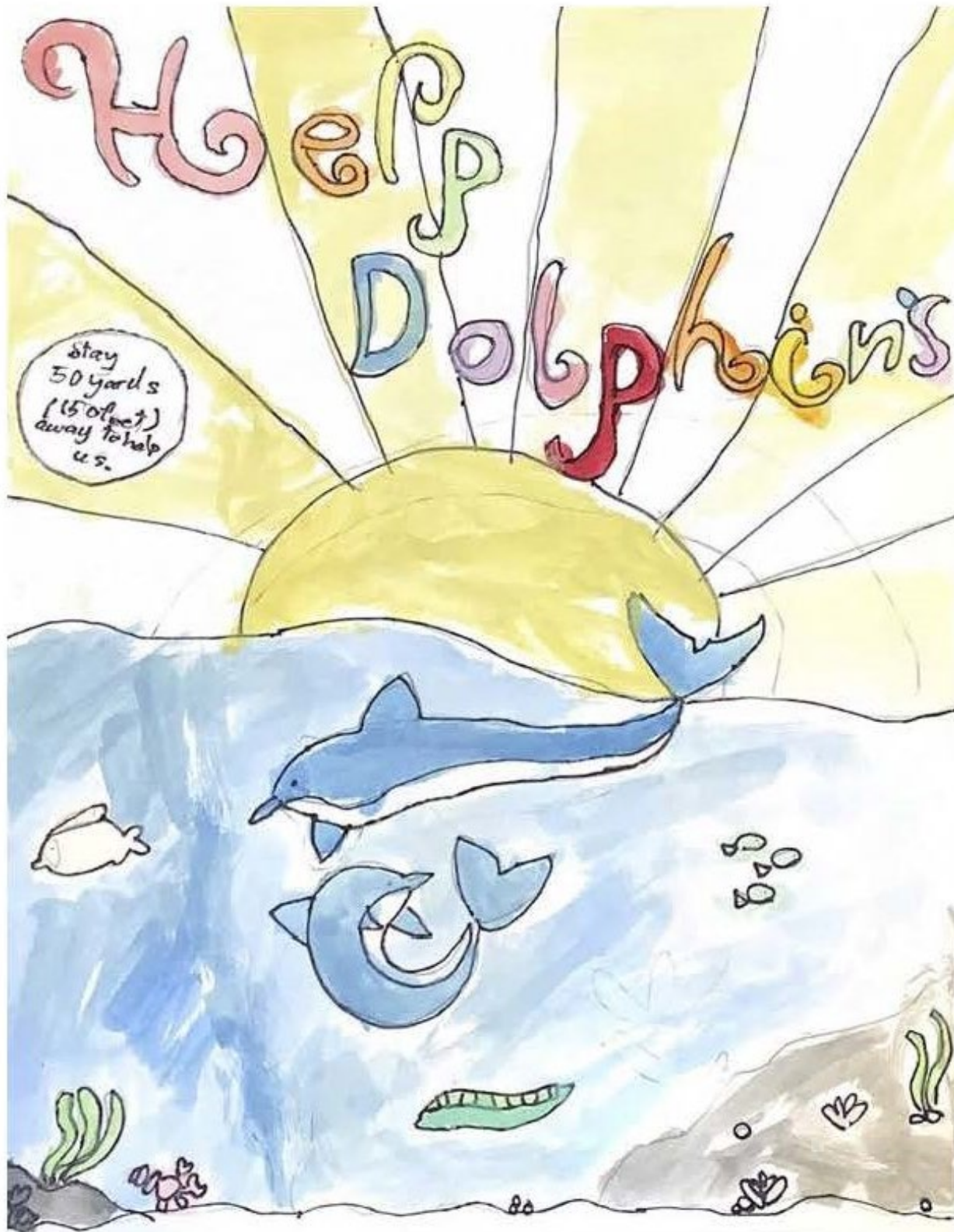
SPECIES SPOTLIGHT: Hawaiian Monk Seal

Neomonachus schauinslandi
The Hawaiian monk seal (or 'ilioholoikauaua, meaning "dog that runs in rough water" in Hawaiian) is one of the most endangered seal species in the world. This time of year marks the beginning of peak pupping season, which lasts from spring through summer. After giving birth, mother monk seals will nurse their pups for 5 to 7 weeks. During this time, nursing moms can be very protective and may react aggressively to anyone who gets too close, which is why moms and pups need ample space to nurse and rest.

VIEWING DISTANCES: 150 feet for mom and pup pairs, 50 feet for individuals



Credit: NOAA



APRIL

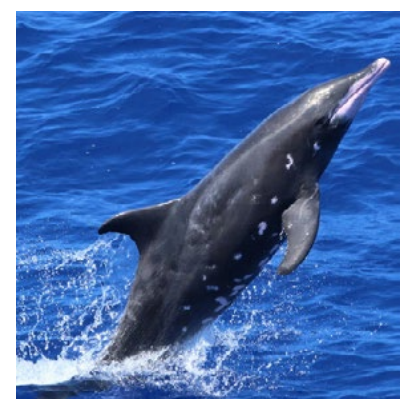
Help Dolphins
Watercolor
Jiyu Kwak, Grade 1
Hawai'i

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Full Moon ○			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Easter						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			New Moon ●			Earth Day
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT: Rough-Toothed Dolphin

Steno bredanensis

Rough-toothed dolphins are relatively small compared to other dolphins. They have a small head with a long rostrum (beak) and no distinction between their gently sloping melon (or forehead) and rostrum. This gives them a "reptilian" or dinosaur-like appearance that is also unique among dolphins. Despite their relatively small body size, rough-toothed dolphins have the highest brain size relative to their body compared to any other whale or dolphin in the world.



Credit: NOAA Fisheries



MAY

Zoom in: Enjoying nature from a distance
 Pencil, marker, acrylic paint
 Skylar Nikael Montalbo, Grade 4
 American Samoa

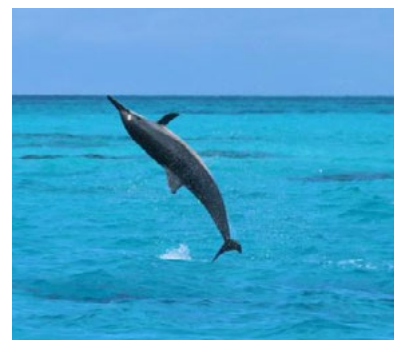
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 World Tuna Day	3	4	5 Full Moon ○	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Endangered Species Day New Moon ●	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK						
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT: Spinner Dolphin

Stenella longirostris

Spinner dolphins are one of the most commonly encountered dolphins in American Samoa, Hawai'i, and the Mariana Islands. They're well known for their habit of leaping from the water and spinning up to seven times in the air before falling back into the water. Experts believe that spinner dolphins use these behaviors primarily for acoustic signaling or communication, but the activity can also be a way to remove ectoparasites, such as remoras.

VIEWING DISTANCE: 50 yards
 (required by law in Hawai'i)



Credit: NOAA Fisheries



Sea Turtle

Paint

Mary Crisostomo, Grade 9
American Samoa

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 World Reef Day	2	3 Full Moon ○
4	5	6	7	8 World Oceans Day	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 World Sea Turtle Day	17 New Moon ●
SEA TURTLE WEEK						
18	19 Juneteenth	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT: Green Turtle

Chelonia mydas

The green sea turtle is the largest hard-shelled sea turtle. They are unique among sea turtles in that they are herbivores, eating mostly seagrasses and algae. This diet is what gives their fat a greenish color (not their shells), which is where their name comes from.

VIEWING DISTANCE: 10 feet




Credit: NOAA



JULY

Beauty comes from a distance
 Digital illustration
 Esther Wang, Grade 11
 Northern Mariana Islands

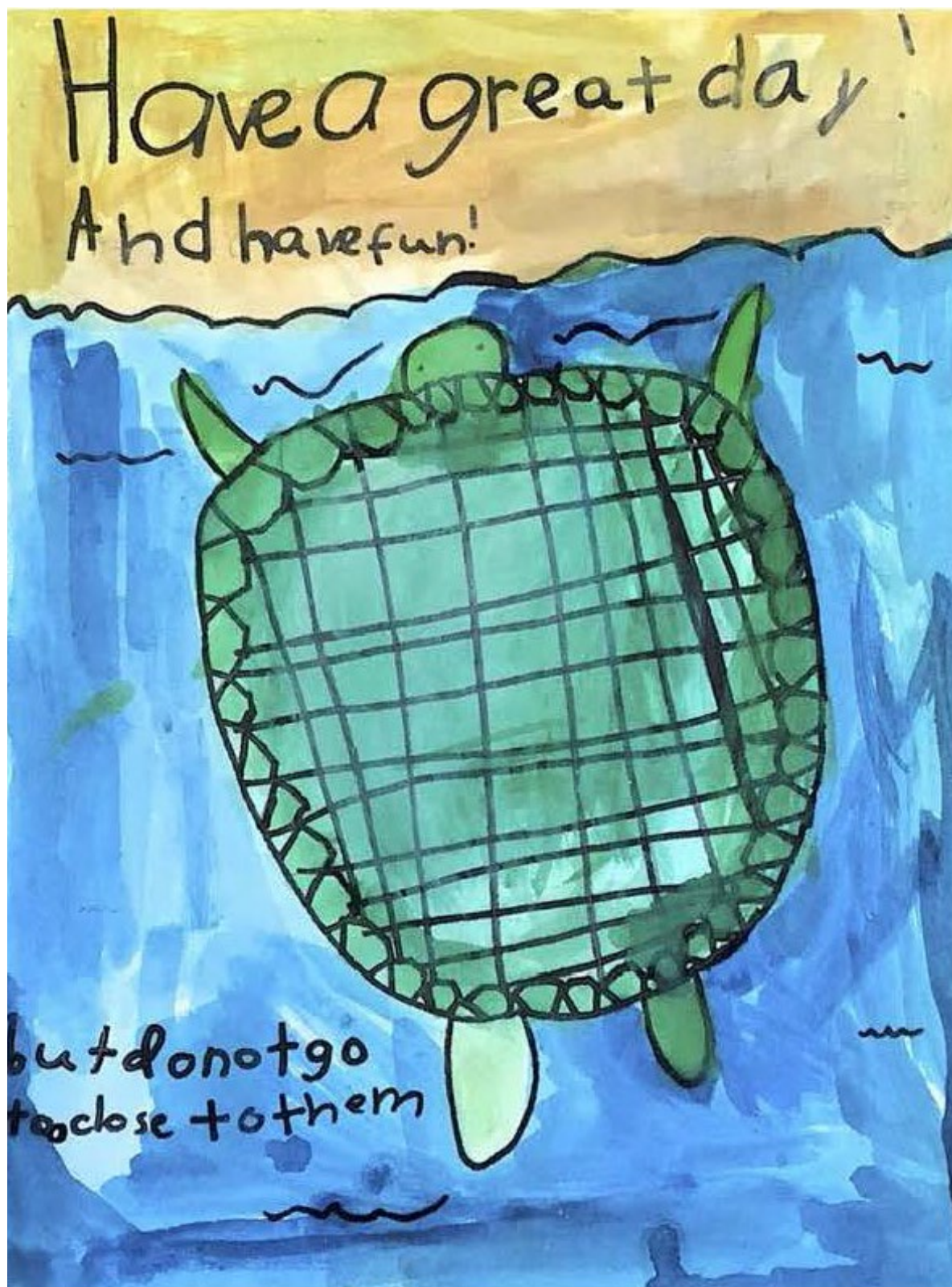
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Full Moon ○	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Shark Awareness Day	15
16	17 New Moon ●	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT: Branching Corals

Family: Acroporidae
 Branching corals are a type of stony (or hard) coral, and this group of corals is one of the most important builders of reefs! They're characterized by having numerous branches, usually with secondary branches, and are important habitats to invertebrates and fishes. One species in this group called *Acropora globiceps* is considered threatened under the Endangered Species Act. It can be found in Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument.



Threatened branching coral known as *Acropora globiceps*. Credit: Doug Fenner



AUGUST

Have a great day! And have fun! But do not go too close to them
 Watercolor
 Lia Kodama, Grade 1
 Hawai'i

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Full Moon ○	2	3	4	5 National Oyster Day
6 <i>Maecenas id cursus nisi, in imperdiet sapien. Ut commodo diam quis ipsum auctor, a consequat lectus faucibus.</i>	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 New Moon ●	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Full Moon ○	31		

Go Slow, Turtles Below!

Sea turtles live most of their lives in the ocean, but they have to come up to the surface for air and can be difficult to see on the water. Boat strikes are a serious threat to them. Post a lookout to watch for sea turtles and other wildlife. Go slow (5-10 knots) over shallow reef areas and near harbors and boat launches to keep you and turtles safe!



Credit: D. McLeish



Just agree to let them be
Pencil and marker
Bella Toyomura, Grade 6
Hawai'i

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 New Moon ●	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Full Moon ○

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT: Pantropical Spotted Dolphin

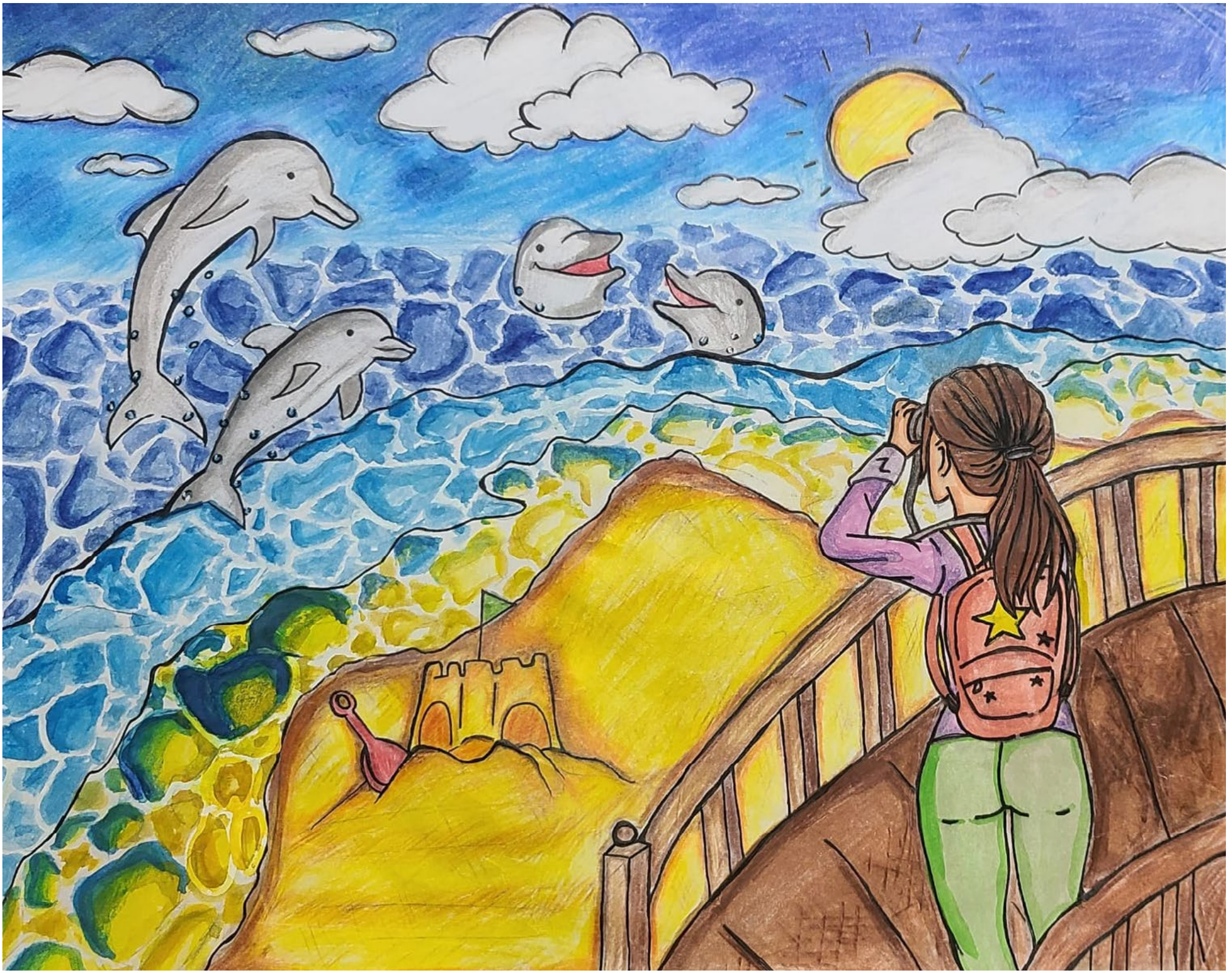
Stenella attenuata

Pantropical spotted dolphins are found in all tropical and subtropical waters worldwide. These relatively small dolphins are quite social and often associate with other dolphin species, including the rough-toothed dolphin, short-finned pilot whale, and spinner dolphin. Sometimes people mistake them for the more-common spinner dolphin. However, they acquire white spots as they age and are also distinguished by their white-tipped rostrum (beak).

VIEWING DISTANCE: 50 yards



Credit: NOAA Fisheries



OCTOBER

Looking out for you
 Pencil, color pencil, watercolor
 Fiona Zhu, Grade 7
 Northern Mariana Islands

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Columbus Day	10	11	12	13	14 New Moon ●
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Marine Mammal Protection Act Anniversary
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Full Moon ○
29	30	31	<div data-bbox="762 2778 1114 2927" data-label="Text"> <p>NATIONAL SEAFOOD MONTH Explore sustainable seafood options at www.fishwatch.gov.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1132 2741 1503 2961" data-label="Image"> </div>			

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT: Common Bottlenose Dolphin

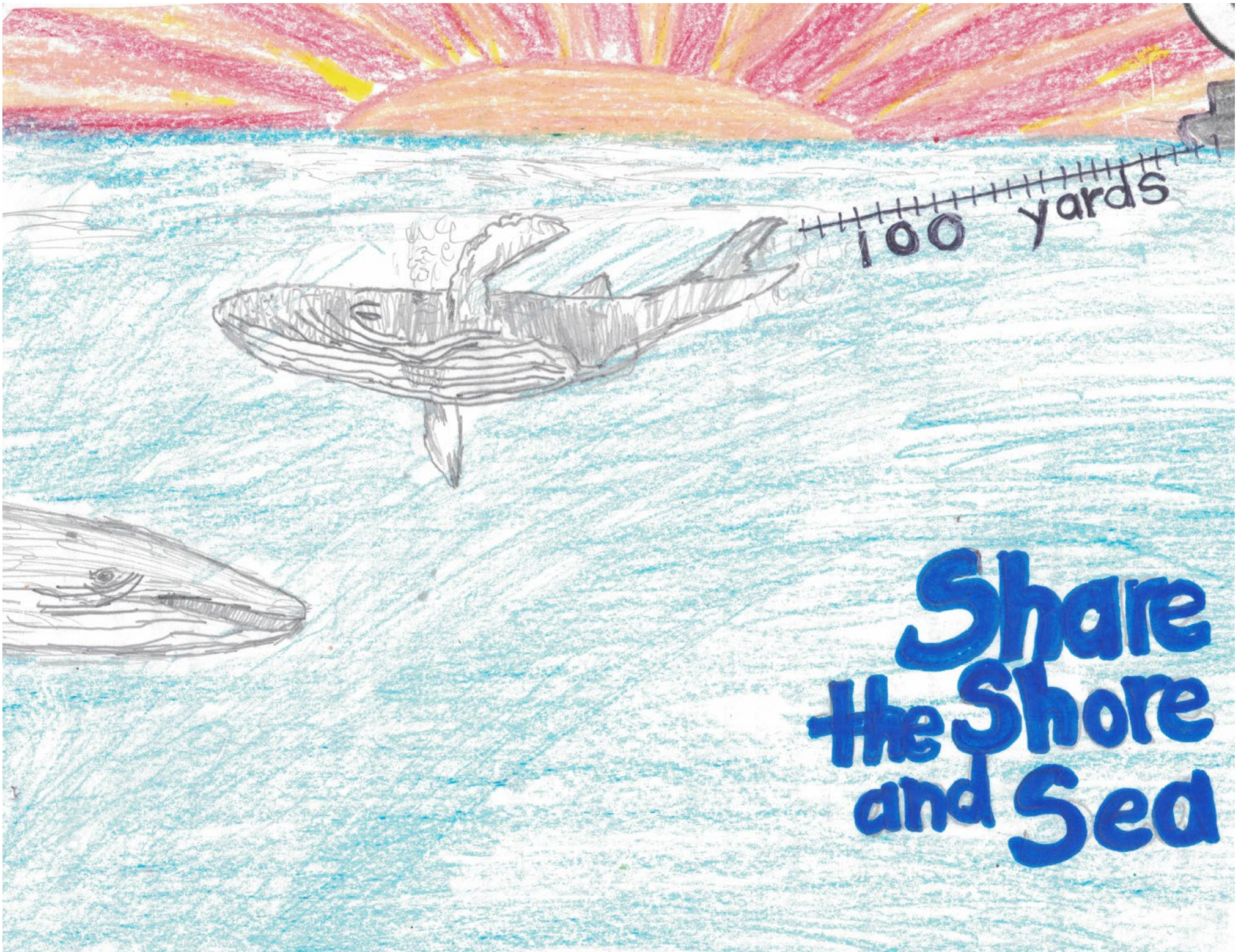
Tursiops truncatus

Bottlenose dolphins are found throughout the world in both offshore and coastal waters, including harbors, bays, gulfs, and estuaries of temperate and tropical waters. They are one of the most well-studied marine mammals in the wild. In addition, they are easy to view in the wild because they live close to shore and are distributed throughout coastal and estuarine waters. But this puts bottlenose dolphins at increased risk of human-related injuries and death. They are a highly intelligent species and use sound both for communication and to hunt for food.

VIEWING DISTANCE: 50 yards



Credit: NOAA Fisheries



NOVEMBER

100 yards of Aloha
Pencil, crayon, pen
Koa Shirota, Grade 3
Hawai'i

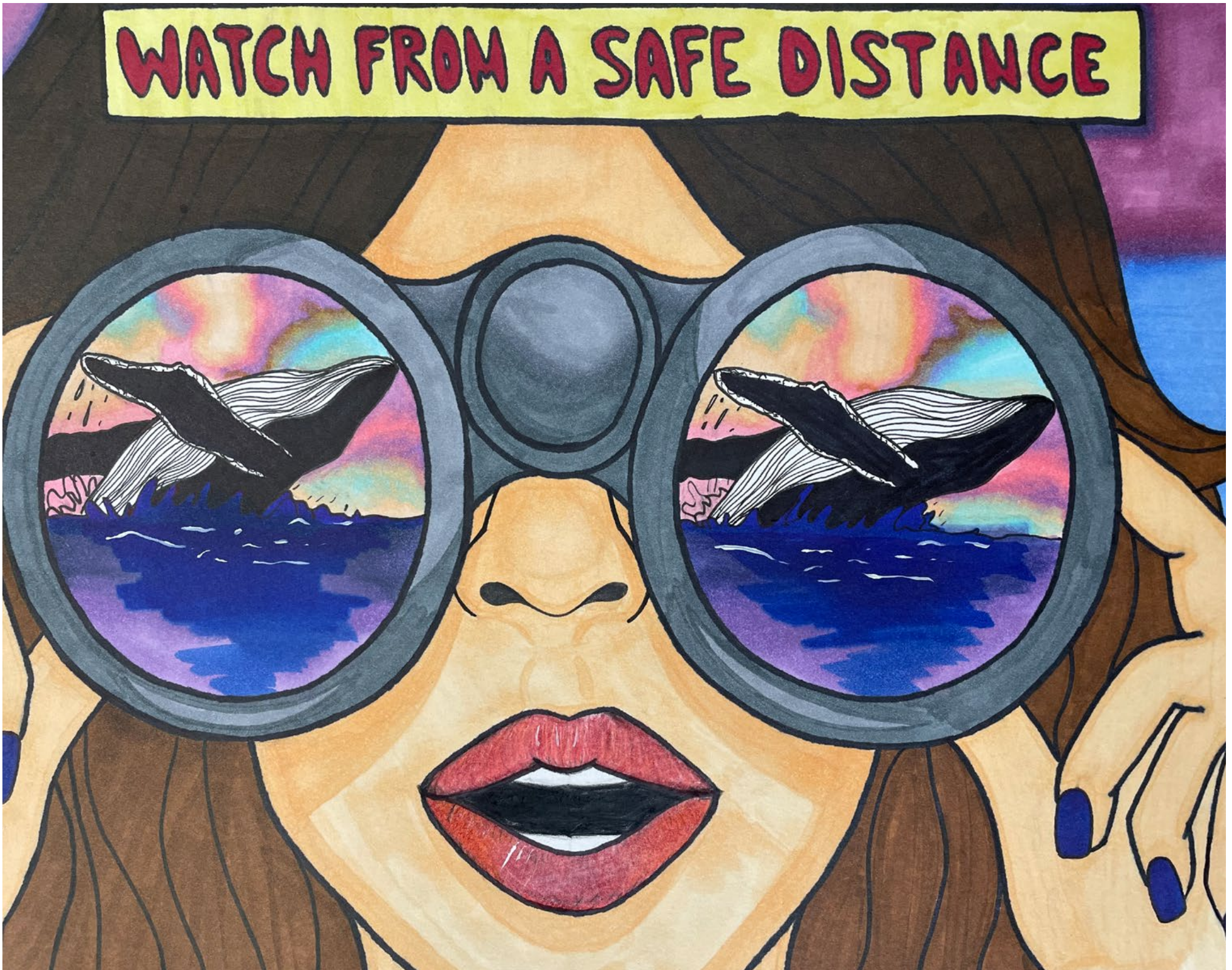
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Election Day	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day
12 New Moon ●	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 World Fisheries Day	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26 Full Moon ○	27	28	29	30		

Space to Survive and Thrive

Humpback whales return to warmer waters to mate and give birth. These places have less predators and are safer for raising young calves, but they also have less food (like krill) for moms. Calves measure about 13 to 16 feet when they are born and can weigh up to a ton! To feed their hungry not-so-little ones, mother humpback whales must produce rich, nutritious milk for up to a year. Give space to hard-working mother humpback whales to prevent disturbance from this important work during their calf's first year of life.

VIEWING DISTANCE: 100 yards

WATCH FROM A SAFE DISTANCE



DECEMBER

Whale watching
 Marker, color pencil
 Asa Parks, Grade 8
 Hawai'i

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 New Moon ●	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Christmas Day		Full Moon ○		Endangered Species Act Anniversary		

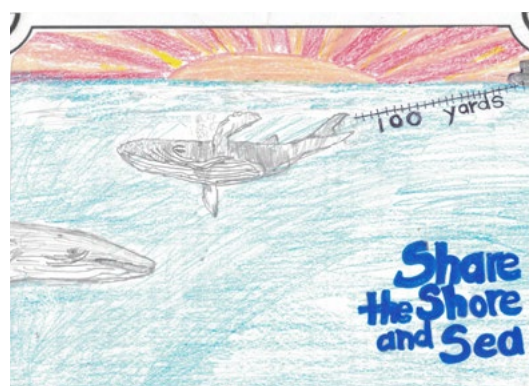
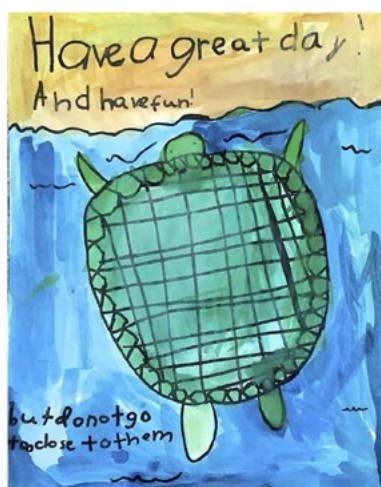
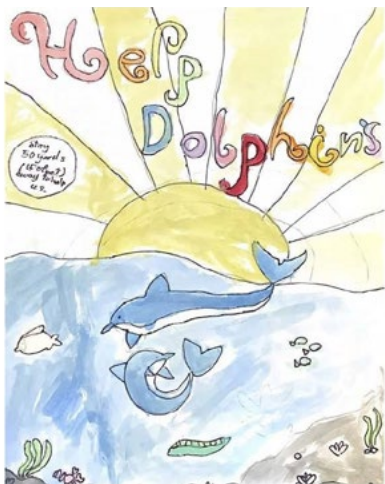
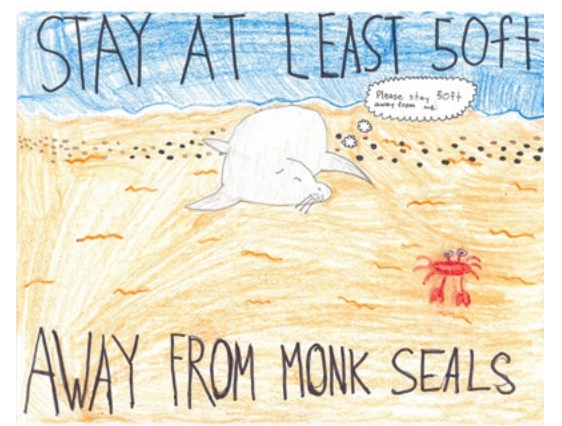
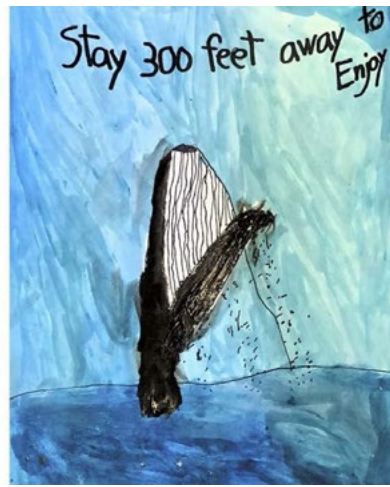
Toothed or baleen?

Whales are among the largest and oldest animals on Earth. They belong to a group of marine mammals called cetaceans, which includes whales, dolphins, and porpoises. The two types of cetaceans are baleen whales (also known as Mysticetes) and toothed whales (Odontocetes). Baleen whales have baleen plates which filter prey, like krill, from the water. Toothed whales have teeth and feed on fish, squid, and other marine mammals. How does your favorite whale eat their prey—with teeth or baleen?

VIEWING DISTANCE:
 Small whales/dolphins 50 yards,
 large whales 100 yards



A view of baleen inside a whale's mouth.
 Credit: NOAA Fisheries



NOAA Fisheries is thrilled to showcase the winners of the inaugural Share the Shore & Sea Youth Art Contest in our 2023 Share the Shore & Sea Calendar! More than 250 students from NOAA's Pacific Islands region and the continental United States competed to raise awareness about responsible wildlife viewing in the Pacific Islands region through art.

This calendar features the winning art from each division: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

Please enjoy the students' incredible artwork and help us share the shore and sea in 2023!

For more information about the Share the Shore & Sea Youth Art Contest, visit us on the web!



Viewing Distances

Corals
No touching or standing on

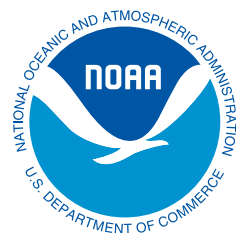
Sea turtles
10 FEET

Monk seals
50 FEET
Mom/pup pairs
150 FEET

Small whales/dolphins
50 YARDS*

Large whales
100 YARDS*

*Required by law for spinner dolphin and humpback whales in Hawai'i



NOAA FISHERIES