



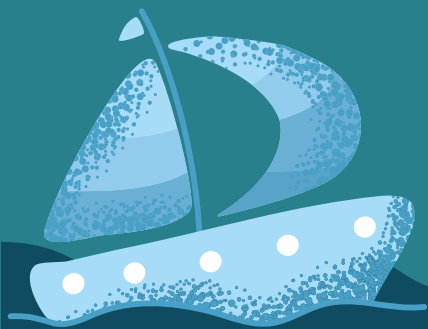
REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.



We want to encourage our children in the kindergarten to behave in an environmentally conscious way. It is important to us that children develop more knowledge about waste and how to recycle it.

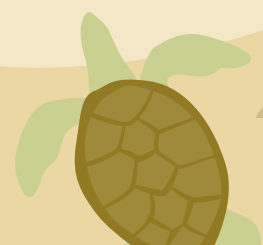
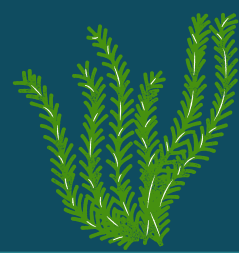
The children are offered, to develop their environmental awareness, we would like to take a picture book review with the children about environmental pollution in the North Sea. For this we read a book written by Andrea Reitmeyer.

SYDNEY THE SEAL SAVES THE SEA



Introduction

The beginning starts with a visit from Sydney in the kindergarten. Sydney introduces himself to the children and wants to tell them about his adventure. First, the children are involved in finding out who Sydney is. Then, Sydney tells us some information about seals. At the beginning of the book there is an extra page where Sydney is depicted and facts about the body of seals are listed, for example facts about its ears and fins. We will then discuss these with the children. He talks to the children about the North Sea. Sydney tells sadly the children that he has found a lot of garbage in the sea and on the beach. The children talk about their experiences with garbage in the North Sea. Then, Sydney tells the children what the consequences of the garbage in the North Sea can be and begins to recount his adventure.



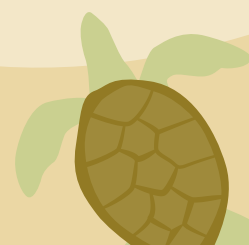
Implementation

On the next few pages, Sydney talks a little bit about his family, who he hangs out with on the beach. One day he meets another seal while he lolls with his family and they become friends in the process of the story. Her name is Roberta and she came from another beach carrying a red object in her mouth. The red object was an empty can and she asks Sydney for his help so he goes with her. A walrus got caught in the garbage and together with Sydney she wants to free it. They discover more and more garbage in the sea, so it is not a nice place to play in and Sydney gets sad because of it.

With the help of the pictures of Sydney and the sad animals that have to live in the garbage, the children are encouraged to think for themselves about how to get the garbage out of the sea. In a discussion circle, the story is interrupted in an entertaining way.

Sydney and Roberta start collecting the garbage together. But there is no place in the sea for all the garbage! They decided to give the garbage back to the people. They get support from other sea creatures. Together they bring back the garbage to the beach where the people live. When the people notice how much garbage is lying around on the beach, they also start to collect the garbage together and recycle it. In the end, everyone helps. Fishing nets full of garbage are collected and the animals and people work together to get the sea clean again. When the sea is clean again, Sydney and his friends have a lot of space to play. But what can we do to keep the sea clean?

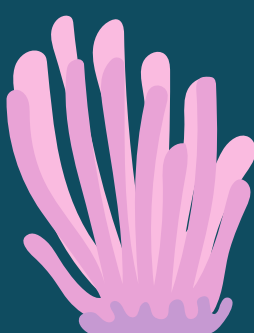
Andrea Reitmeyer used pictures to bring the issue of environmental litter closer to the children and explained it in a very child-friendly way. The children can see what happens when waste is carelessly thrown away. And, that it can also endanger and injure animals. It is important that the story has a good ending so that the children realize that environmental protection is important.





Conclusion

Finally after the story of Sydney, there are "did you know - facts" about the seals written on the last page. Sydney will present and explain these facts to the children. These facts will teach the children, for example they also learn about the behavior of seals. Among other things, how seals behave when they are happy and content. The children can see the same behavior in Sydney and conclude that Sydney is happy now. He confirms the children's conjecture and informs them about the reason. Now, Sydney can be happy and satisfied because he and his friend Roberta have cleared the North Sea of garbage. Now no more animals can injure themselves, Roberta's family has no longer to live in garbage and the North Sea is habitable again. The children are allowed to express their thoughts and feelings about Sydney's adventure. From this, the children draw their own conclusions about the waste pollution in the North Sea. Sydney asks the children if they can do something with the garbage and encourages them to continue the recycling process.



In the following the recycling process will be discussed in the kindergarten to broaden the children's understanding of the environment. Further information can be found in our letter to parents and in our brochure.



Our source

Reitmeyer, A. (2020). Sydney the Seal Saves the Sea: An Earth Day Book: Protect the Planet Together. CLEVER PUB.

