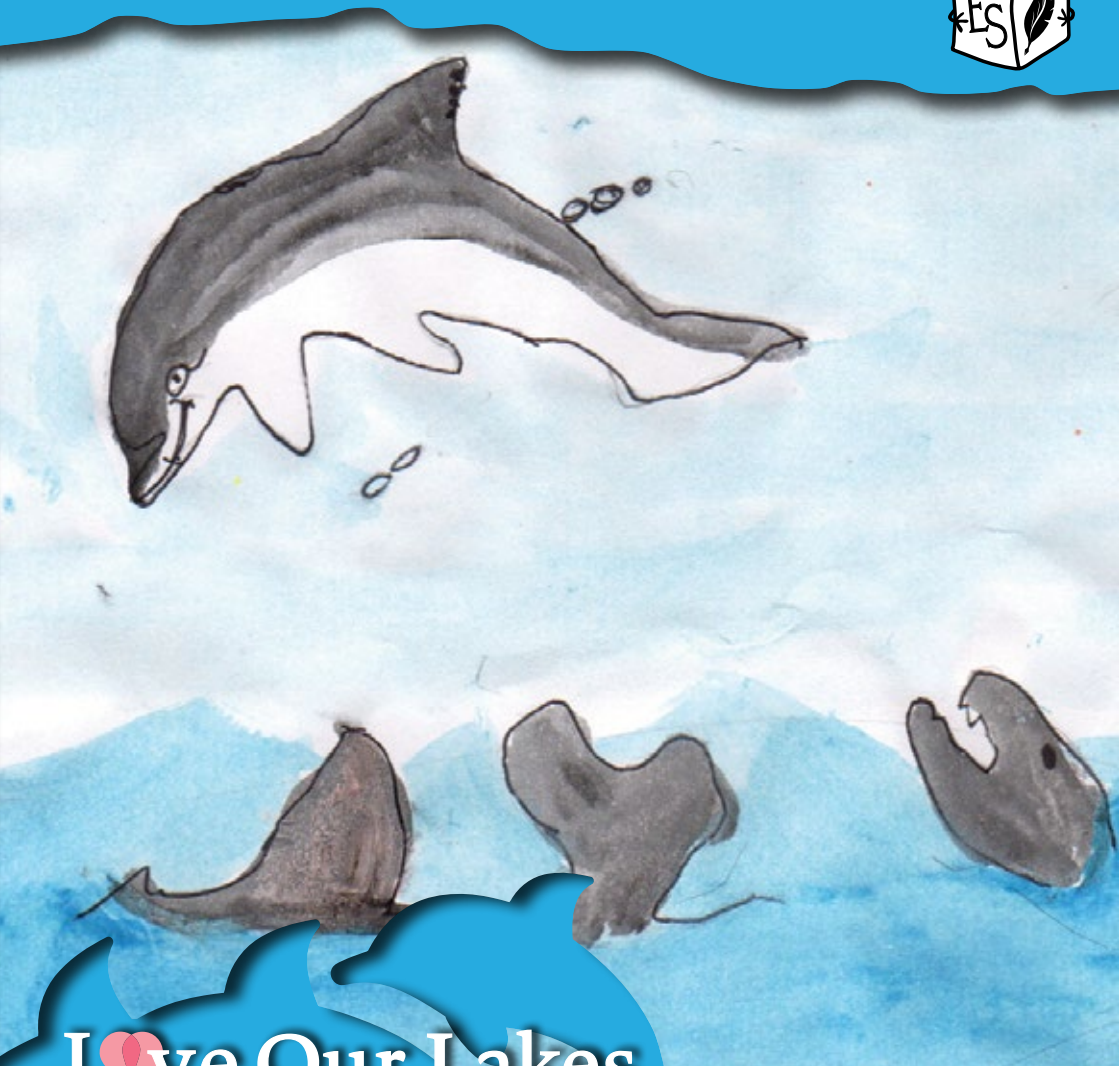


# Jimmy Four-Nicks the Burrunan Dolphin

Year 3/4C

Lakes Entrance Primary School



Love Our Lakes

## Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee

The Gippsland Lakes are precious; we need to protect them and pass them on to future generations. 'Love our Lakes' is about a shared responsibility to participate in caring for the Lakes and catchment. The Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee has an important role in assisting the Victorian Government and the community to Love Our Lakes. [www.loveourlakes.net.au](http://www.loveourlakes.net.au)

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## Victorian Association of Environmental Education

The Victorian Association for Environmental Education (VAEE) is an independent professional association whose purpose has energised educators from all sectors to contribute their time and expertise to ensuring that environmental education and education for sustainability continue to be valued. [www.vaee.vic.edu.au](http://www.vaee.vic.edu.au)

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## James Yeates Printing

James Yeates Printing are a family company and produce commercial printing from simple flyers, business stationery and cards, to books and full color promotional brochures. James Yeates Printing have kindly supported this Enviro-Stories program. [www.jamesyeatesprinting.com.au](http://www.jamesyeatesprinting.com.au)

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Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource and catchment management issues. Developed by PeeKdesigns, this program provides students with an opportunity to publish their own stories that have been written for other kids to support learning about their local area. [www.envirostories.com.au](http://www.envirostories.com.au)

# Jimmy Four-Nicks the Burrunan Dolphin

Authors: Year 3/4C

Teacher: Laura Barton

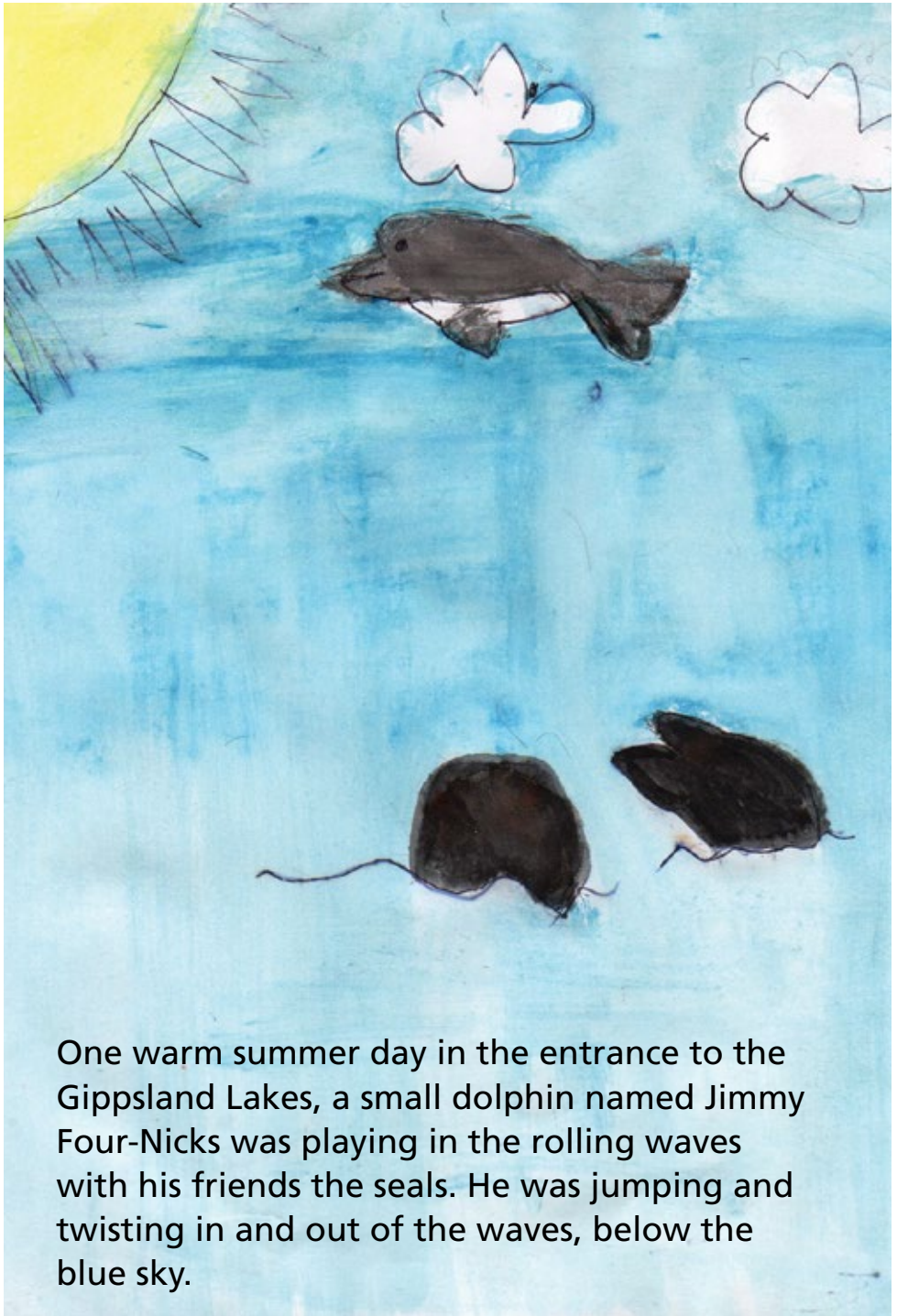
School: Lakes Entrance Primary School



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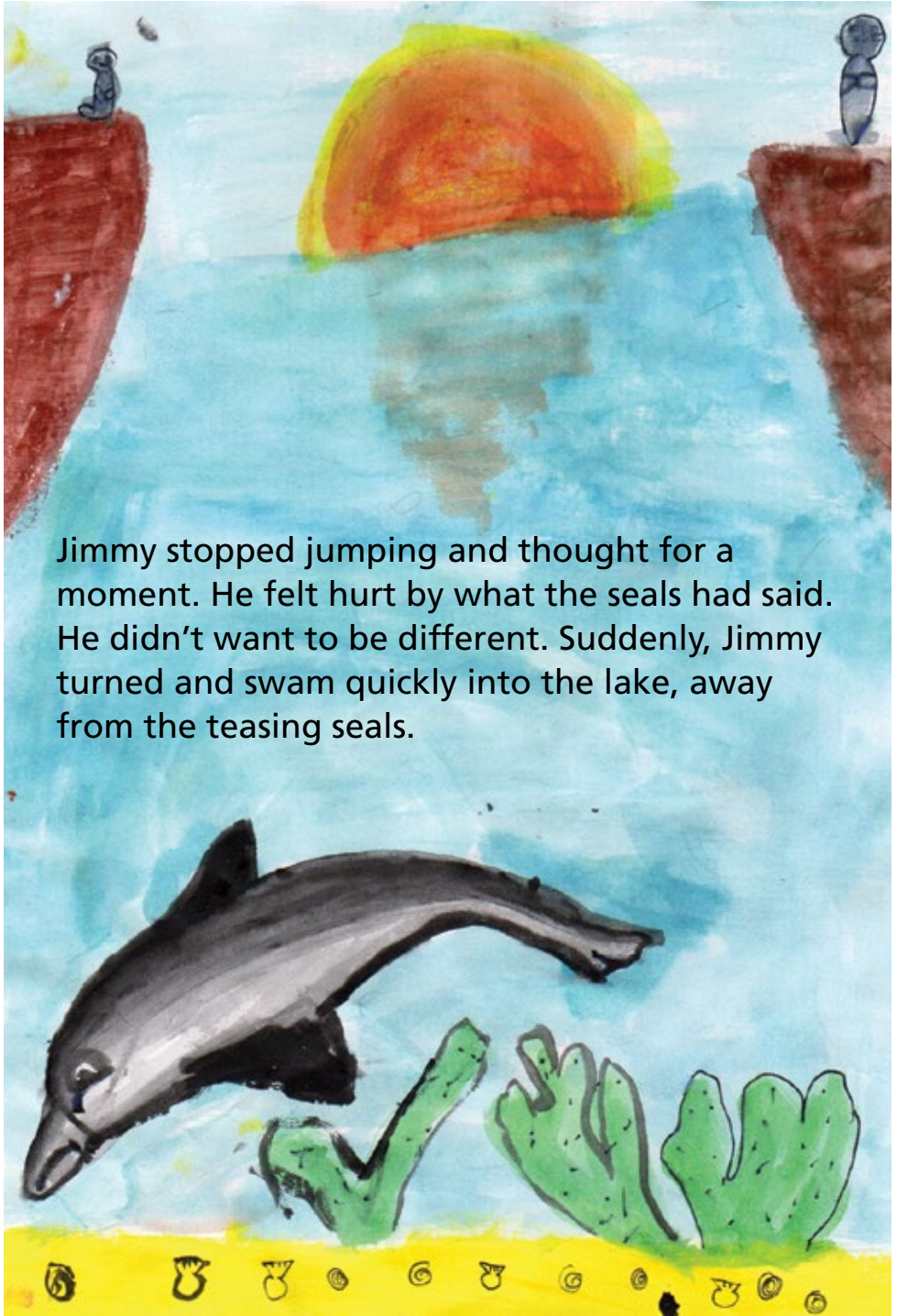
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One warm summer day in the entrance to the Gippsland Lakes, a small dolphin named Jimmy Four-Nicks was playing in the rolling waves with his friends the seals. He was jumping and twisting in and out of the waves, below the blue sky.

As Jimmy took a giant leap, one of the seals shouted out, "Jimmy! Why are you always in the air? I've never seen other dolphins doing that!" Another chimed in, "You look different too. You aren't like the others!"





Jimmy stopped jumping and thought for a moment. He felt hurt by what the seals had said. He didn't want to be different. Suddenly, Jimmy turned and swam quickly into the lake, away from the teasing seals.

Jimmy rushed into Cunninghame Arm and slipped into a big clump of seagrass.

"I'll hide in here, then no one can see me and tease me," he whispered to himself sadly.

Just then a luderick came swimming along.





As the luderick went to take a nibble at the seaweed, she saw Jimmy.

“What are you doing in my food?” she asked.

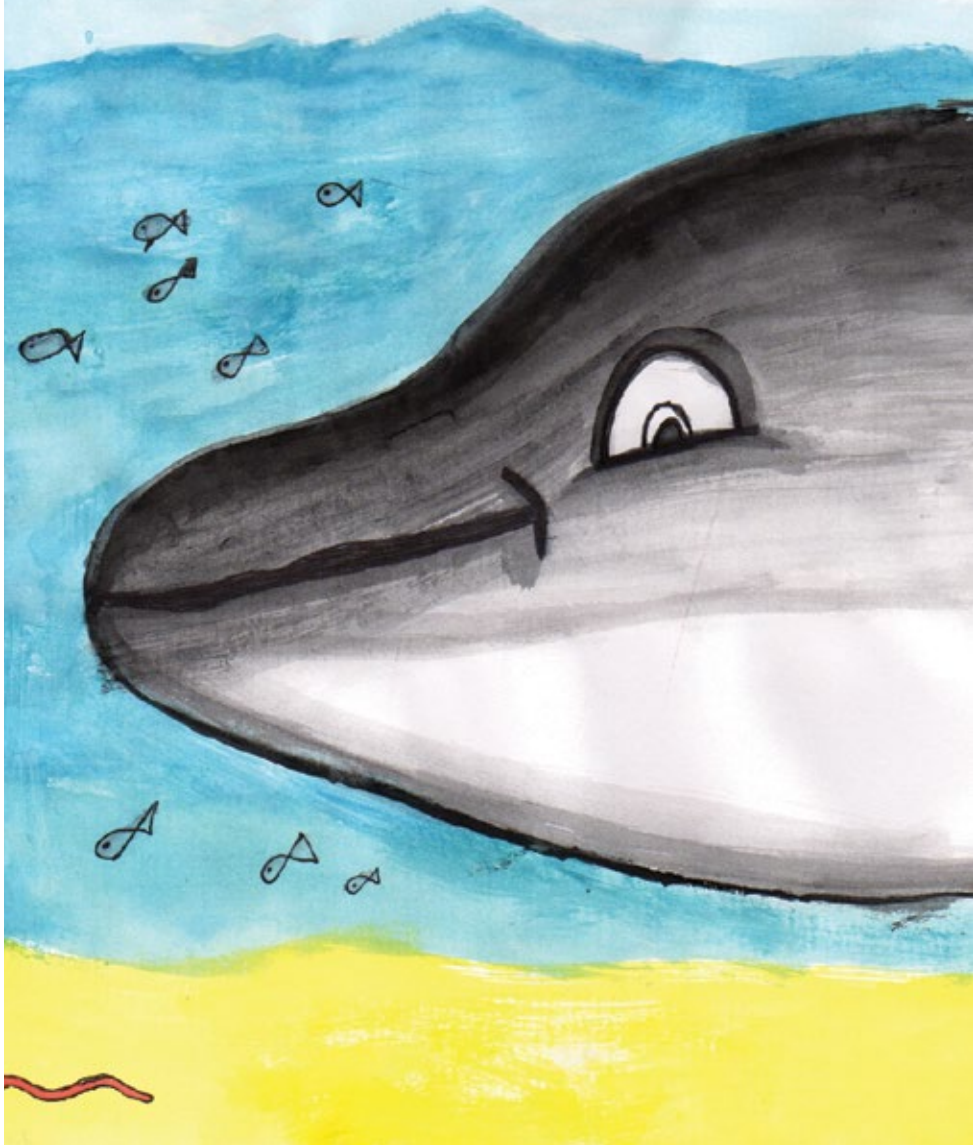
Jimmy slowly shook off the seagrass and sighed, “I’m hiding. Everyone is teasing me because I look different to other dolphins.”

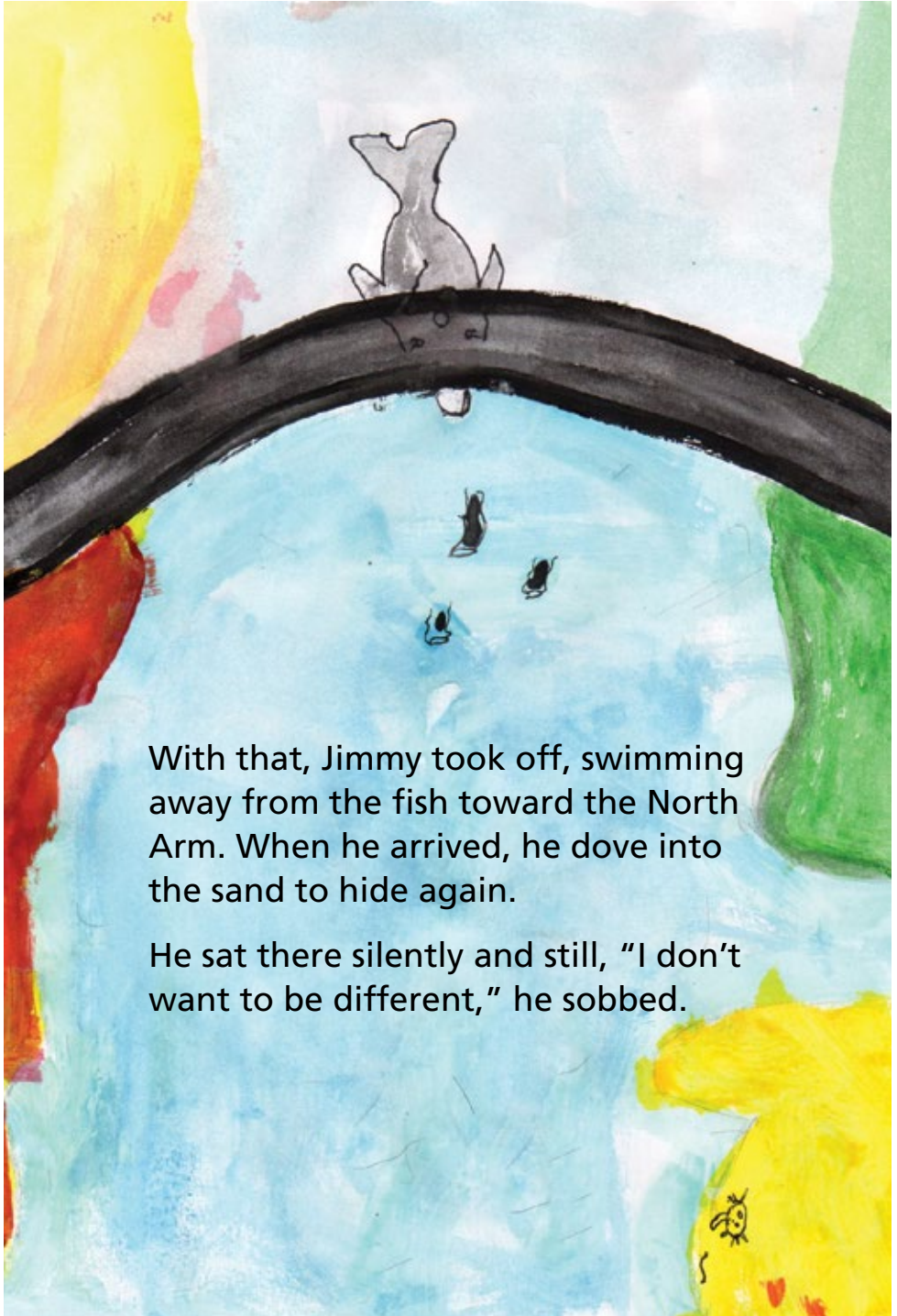




As he emerged from the seagrass, the luderick noticed Jimmy's skin. It was dark grey on top, then faded to light grey and then a pure white belly.

"You do look different!" said the luderick.





With that, Jimmy took off, swimming away from the fish toward the North Arm. When he arrived, he dove into the sand to hide again.

He sat there silently and still, "I don't want to be different," he sobbed.



At that moment, a soldier crab scuttled along and tiptoed right on to Jimmy's beak. They both jumped with fright.

"What are you doing near my house?" asked the crab.

"Everybody is saying I'm different, but I don't want to be," replied Jimmy.

Jimmy shook off the sand and the crab could see Jimmy's unusual short beak. "Wow, your nose is much shorter than the other dolphins I have seen. You are different!" marveled the crab.



Jimmy slowly, sadly swam further away towards Lake King. On the way, he jumped in the air and as he did a young tern called out to him from her perch on a nearby rock.



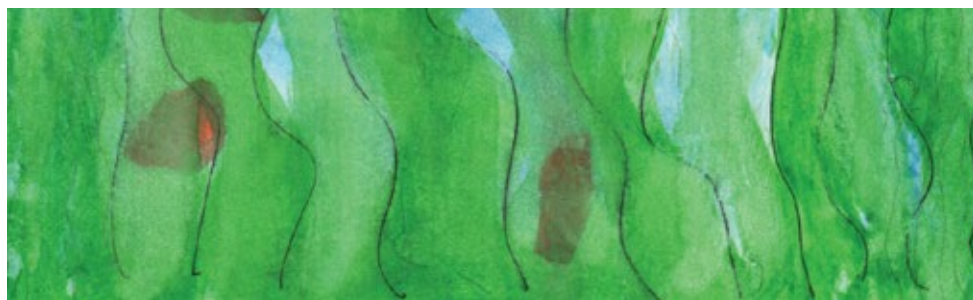
“Wow! What an acrobat you are! Your skin is stunning too. You must be someone pretty special to be so wonderfully different!” exclaimed the tern.

Jimmy answered, “Do you really think so?” The tern smiled and flew away.





Jimmy felt as if his heart had filled with hope. Perhaps being different was okay, maybe even special. He decided it was time to swim home again, but as he started, he felt something tug on his dorsal fin. He was tangled in fishing line.

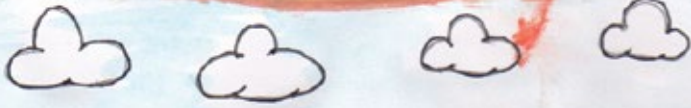


Jimmy started to struggle, but the tangled line wouldn't let him move. Suddenly he heard human voices and a boat engine, "Quick! Dr Kate, get the knife!" It was Dr Kate Charlton-Robb and her team who were the leading experts in Jimmy's type of dolphin.

Dr Kate cut the fishing line and Jimmy was free. He heard her telling her team, "This is a perfect example of the beautiful, rare Burrunan dolphin. They are only found in this area."

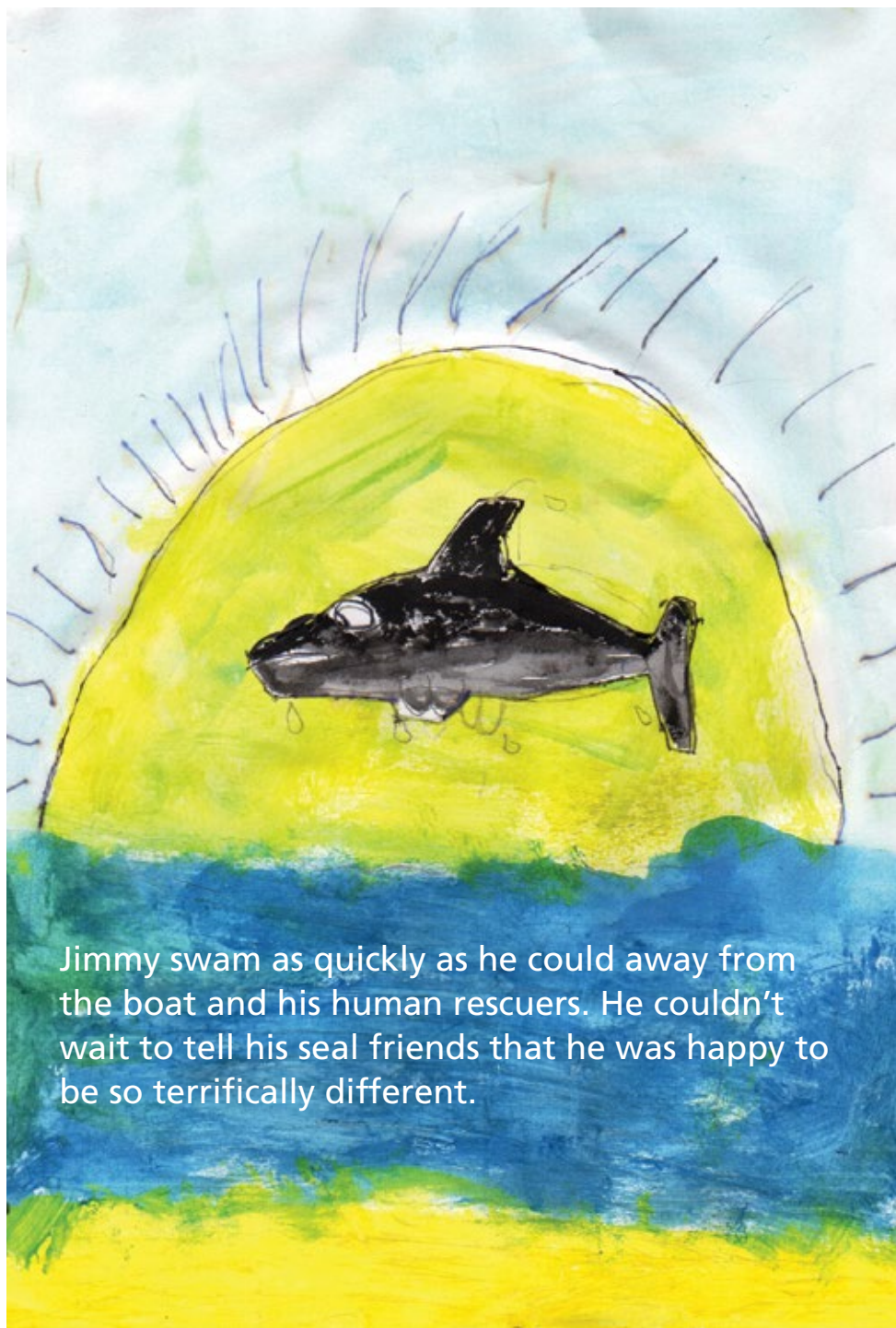






“The Burrunan dolphin has a short beak, magnificent skin that fades from dark grey through to a white belly and they are known to spend more time jumping into the air than any other bottlenose dolphin species” said Dr Kate. “They are very special!”





Jimmy swam as quickly as he could away from the boat and his human rescuers. He couldn't wait to tell his seal friends that he was happy to be so terrifically different.

*Lakes Entrance Primary School would like to thank Dr. Kate Charlton-Robb from the Australian Marine Mammal Conservation Foundation for sharing her knowledge and experiences of researching, identifying and naming the Burrunan dolphin.*

AUSTRALIAN  
MARINE MAMMAL  
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION



research+protection+conservation



2014 Year 3/4C

Lakes Entrance Primary School

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[www.loveourlakes.net.au](http://www.loveourlakes.net.au)



Gippsland  
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Ministerial  
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