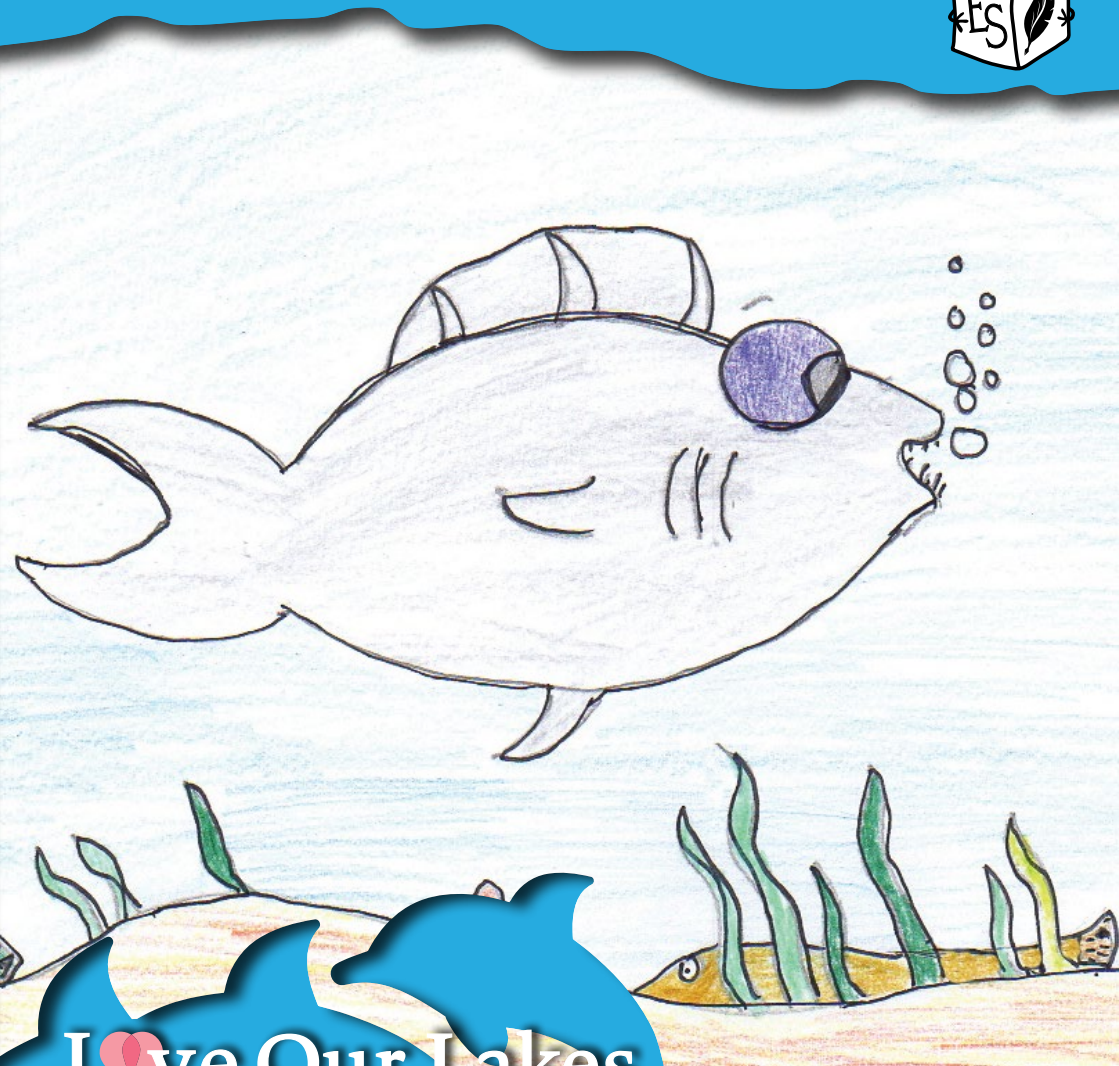


The Story of a Tambo River Bream

Jack Cole, Cooper Paterson, Jasmine De Bona and Kyowa Tholen
Tambo Upper Primary School



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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

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

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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



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

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Authors: Jack Cole, Cooper Paterson,
Jasmine De Bona and Kyowa Tholen

Teacher: Simon Blake

School: Tambo Upper Primary School



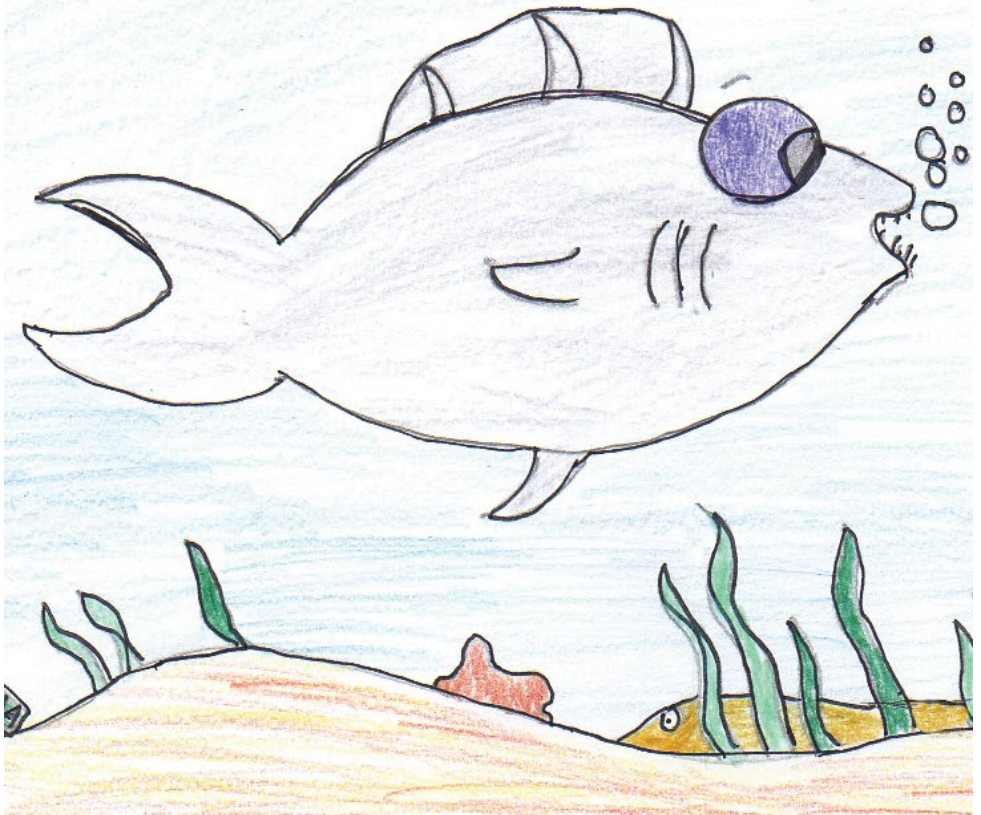
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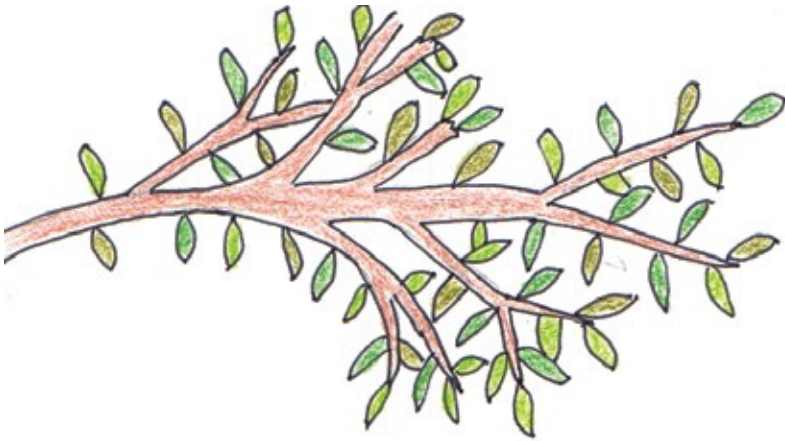
Design by PeekKdesigns, www.peekdesigns.com.au

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Hi, my name is Bream and this is my friend Flatty.

This is the story of a scary adventure we once had travelling down our river.



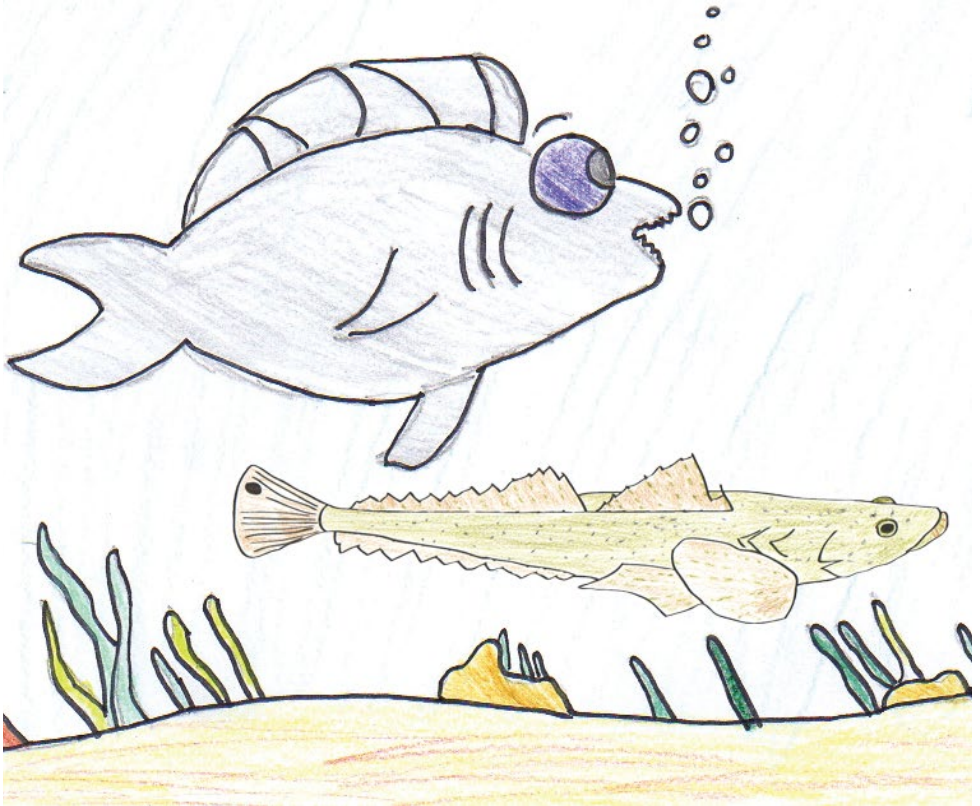


Flatty and I live in the Tambo River, in a little East Gippsland area known as Tambo Upper.

It is a great place for fish to live with lots of snags, rocks, branches and cliffs where we can make our homes.

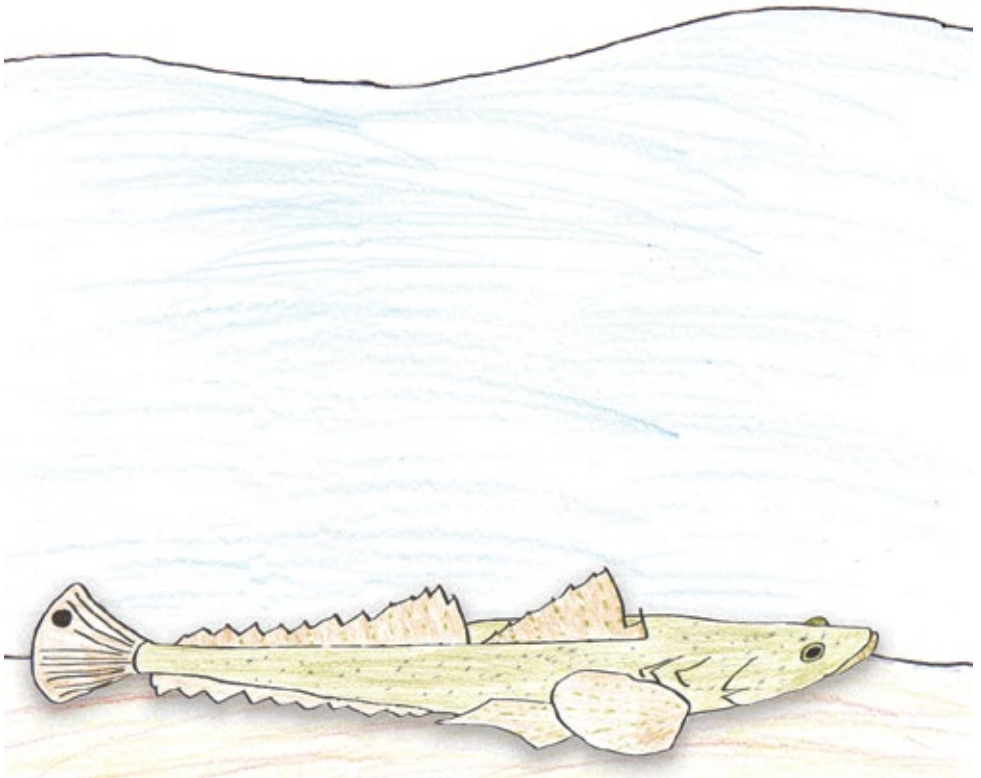


One cool, autumn morning I decided to go for a swim with Flatty. We had heard that there were loads of shrimp to eat down at Metung near the mouth of the river.



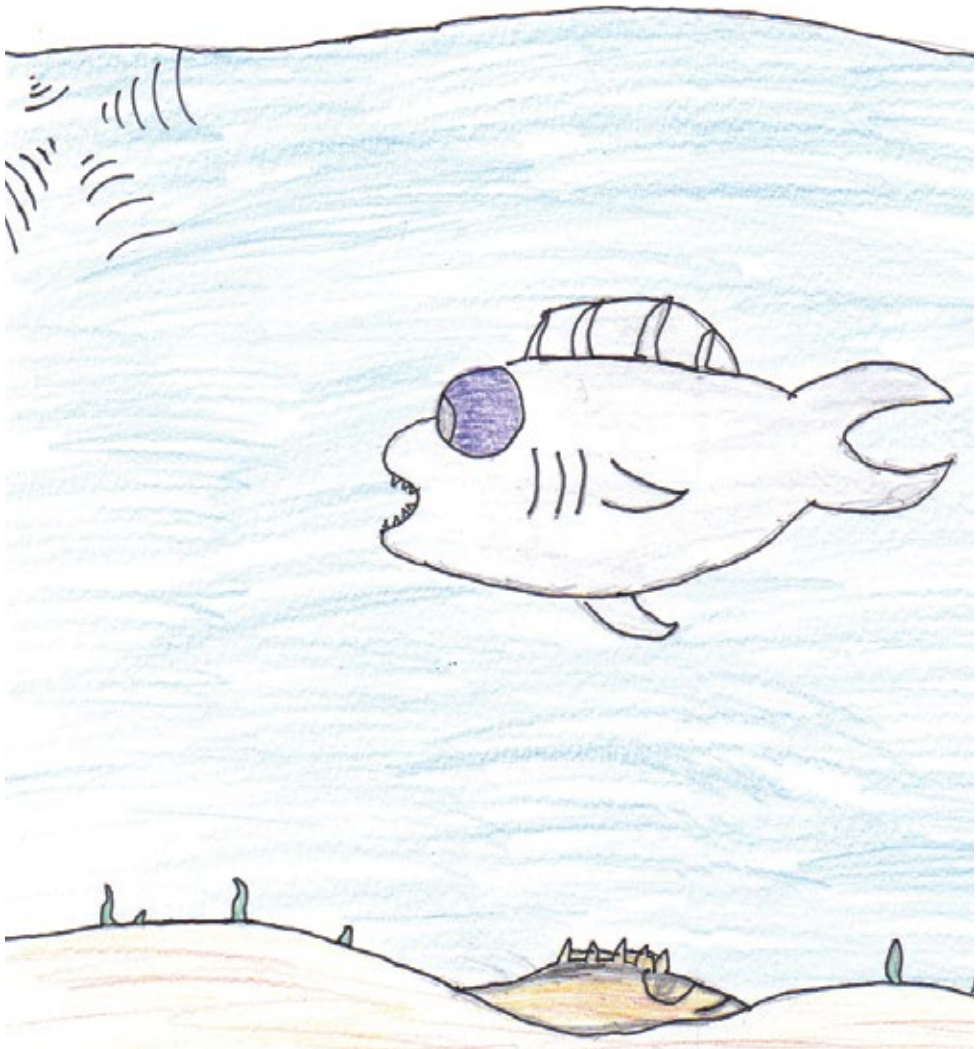
We had been swimming for hours when Flatty declared, "I need a rest."

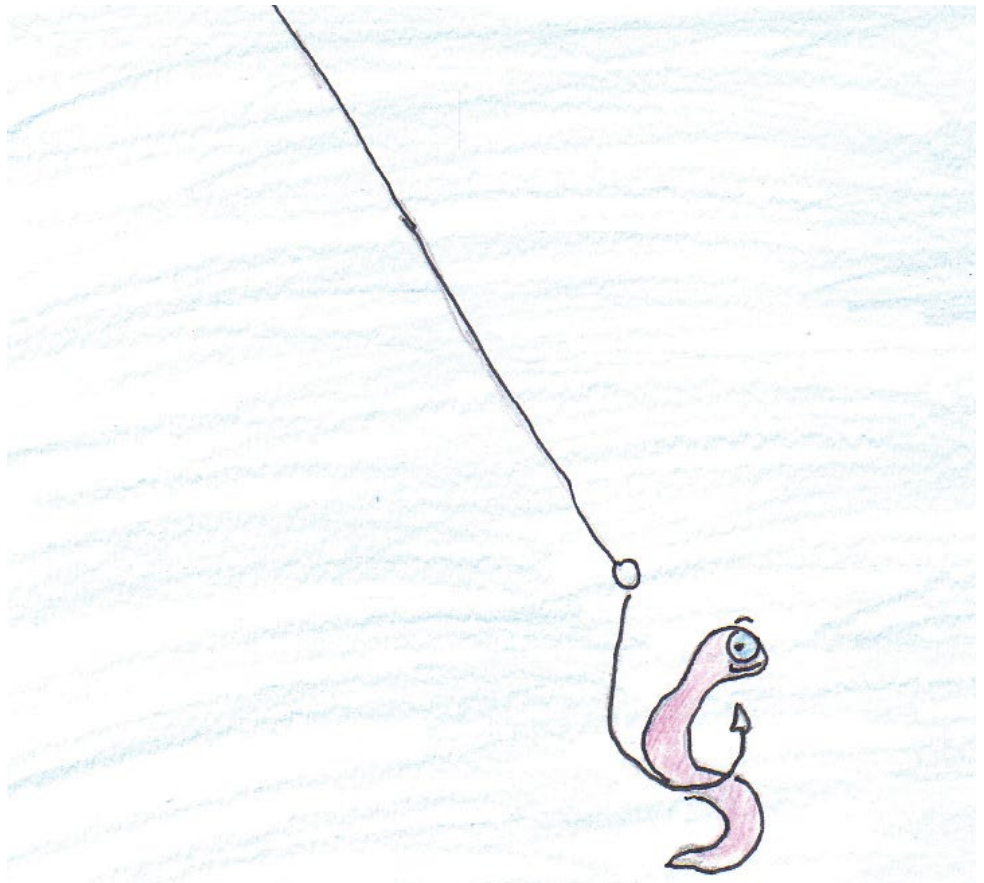
So he settled himself on a sandy part of the river.



I amused myself while I was waiting for Flatty by chasing smaller fish and looking for food amongst the seagrass beds.

All of a sudden there was a splash on the surface of the water.



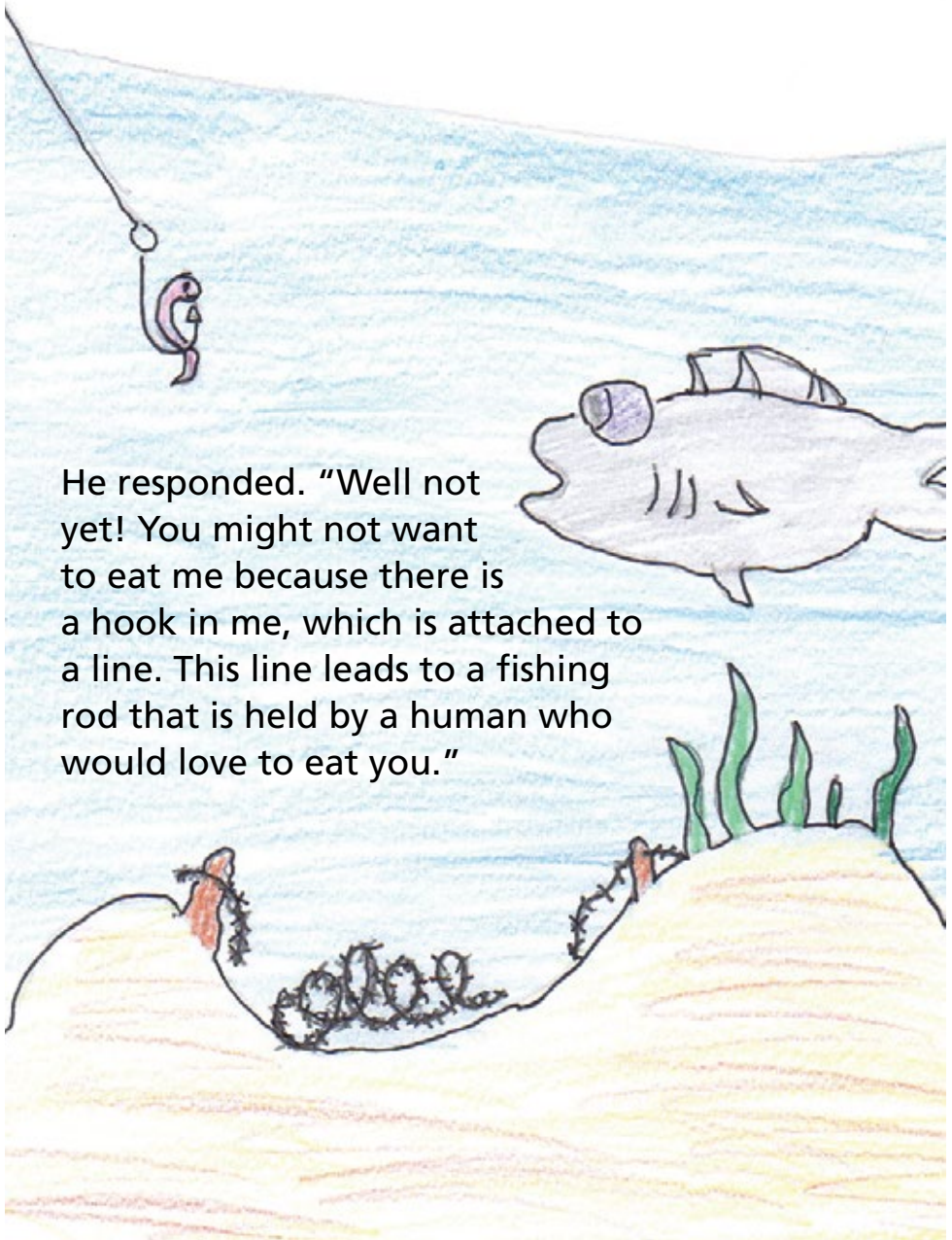


I saw a big juicy sandworm come floating down through the water.

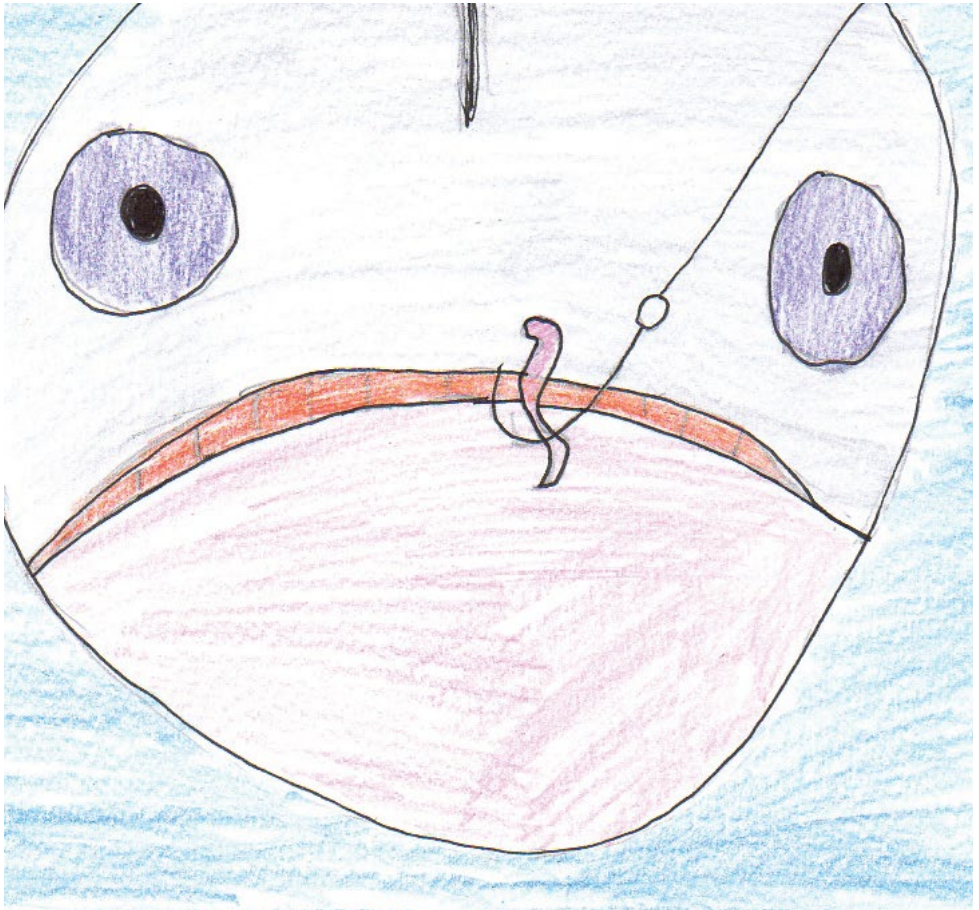
I thought the worm was dead and went to investigate. I opened my mouth to gobble him up and got the shock of my life when he said, "Hi mate."

I suddenly jerked backwards.

"I thought you were dead," I said to the worm.



He responded. "Well not yet! You might not want to eat me because there is a hook in me, which is attached to a line. This line leads to a fishing rod that is held by a human who would love to eat you."

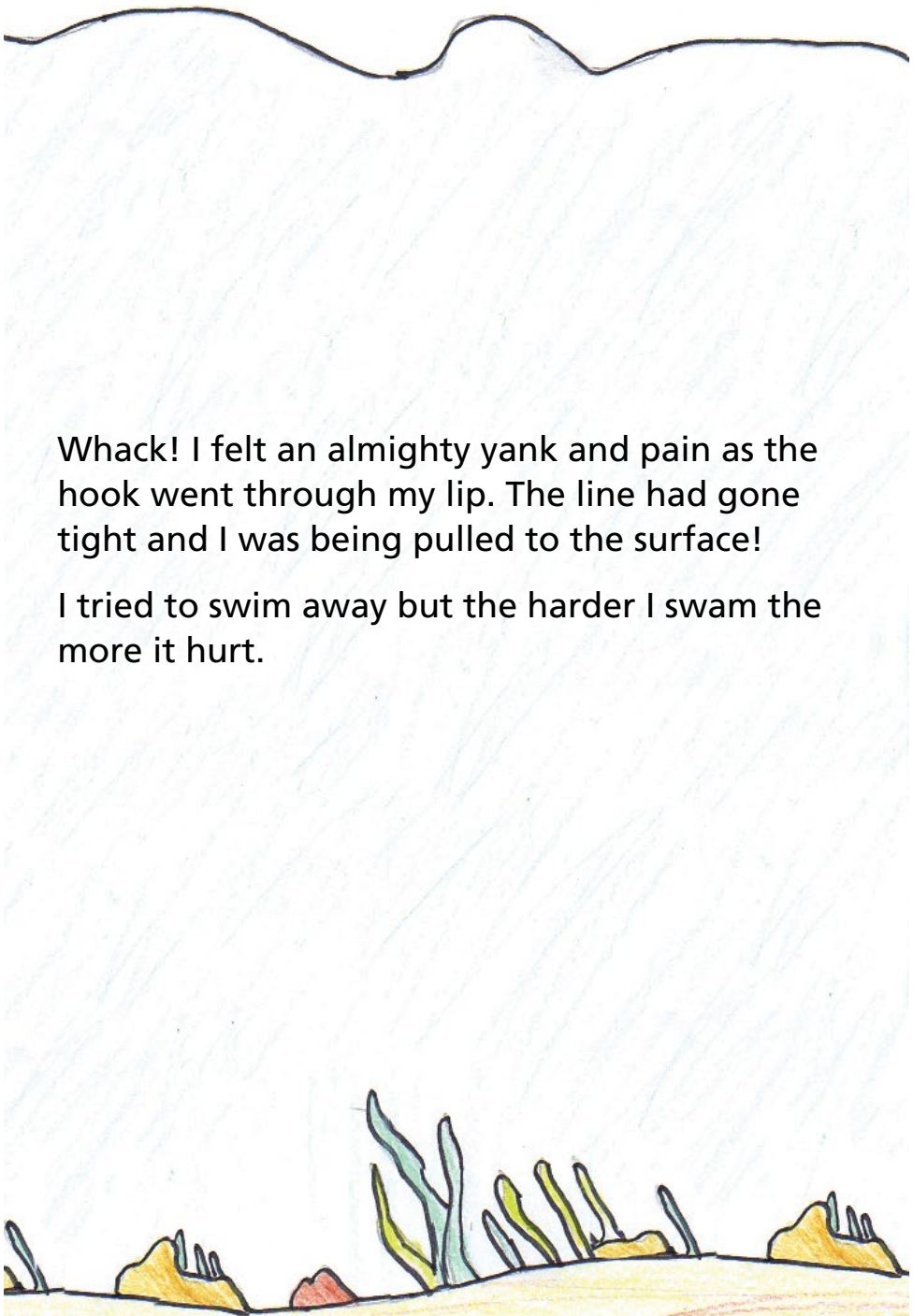


I was very cautious of this worm now and very thankful he had warned me.

"Do you need some help," I asked.

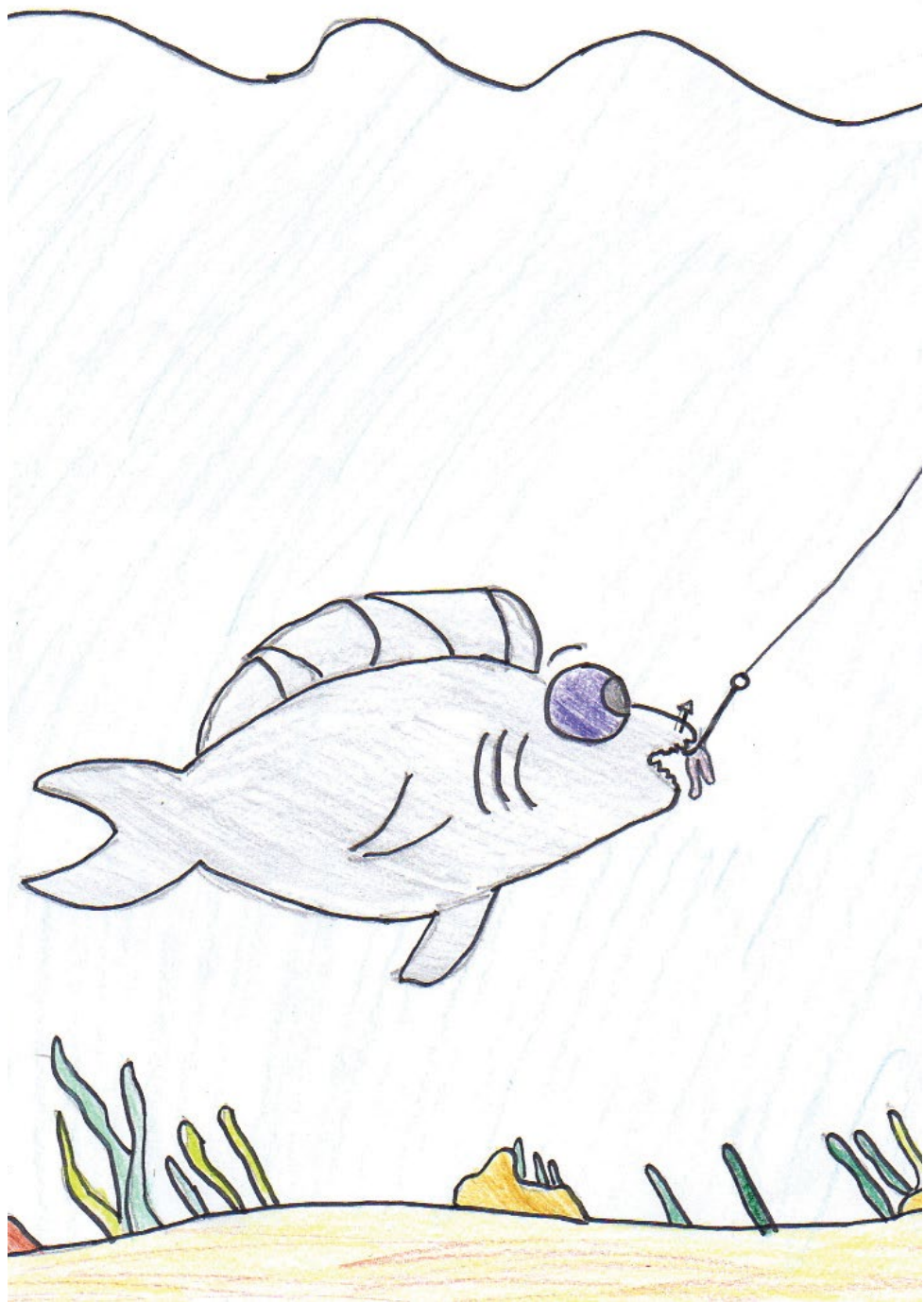
"Yes please," he replied.

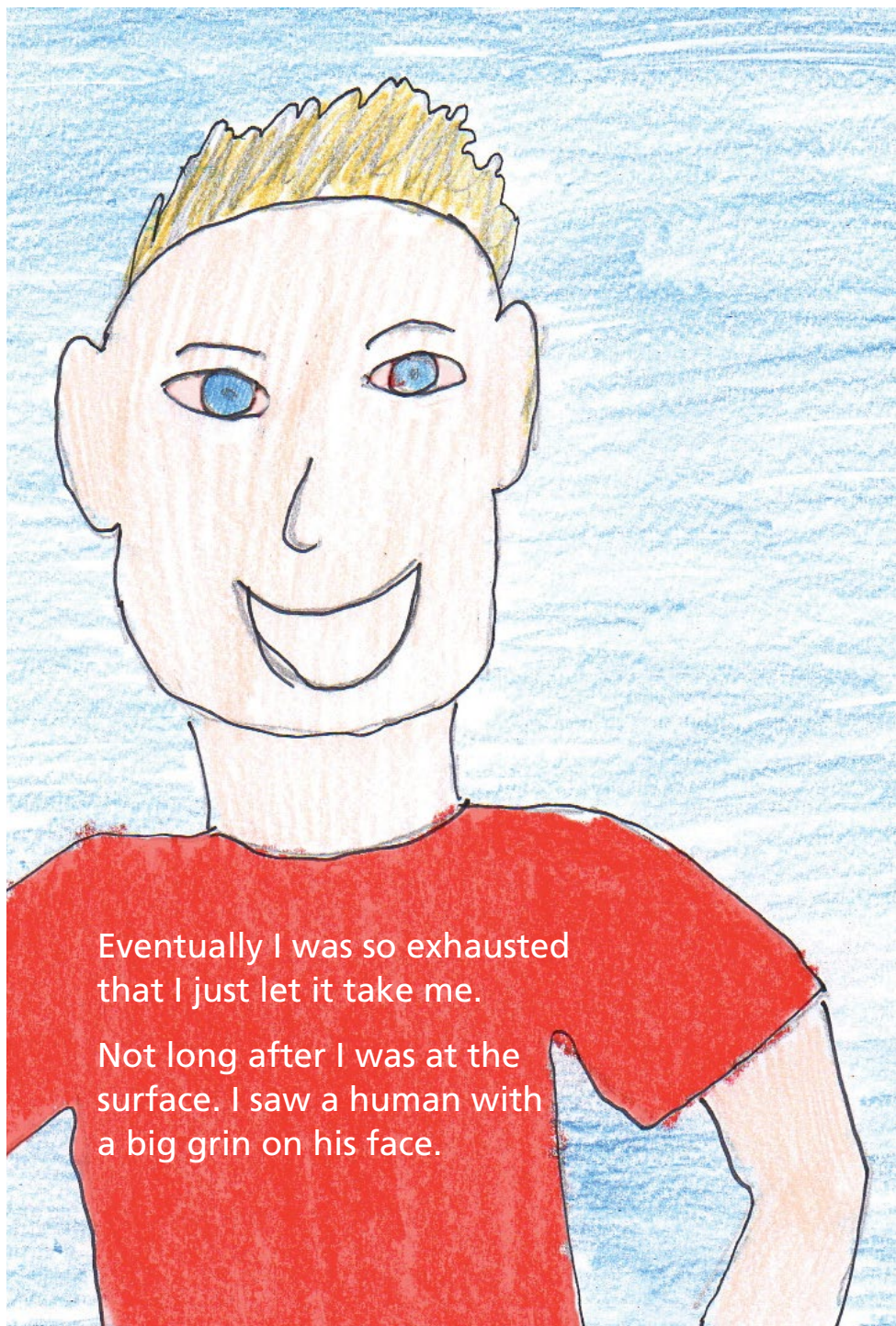
So I slowly started to pull him off with my teeth.



Whack! I felt an almighty yank and pain as the hook went through my lip. The line had gone tight and I was being pulled to the surface!

I tried to swim away but the harder I swam the more it hurt.





Eventually I was so exhausted
that I just let it take me.

Not long after I was at the
surface. I saw a human with
a big grin on his face.

The human took the hook out of my mouth and pushed me up against a measuring stick.

I heard him say to his friend, "Whoa! That's a beauty. It is much bigger than the 28 centimetre size limit. This one is 42 centimetres long on our measuring stick."



He threw me in a big box with some other fish. I thought I was a goner as I gasped for air. My gills were not made to breathe out of the water.

The humans danced around extremely happy with catching me.

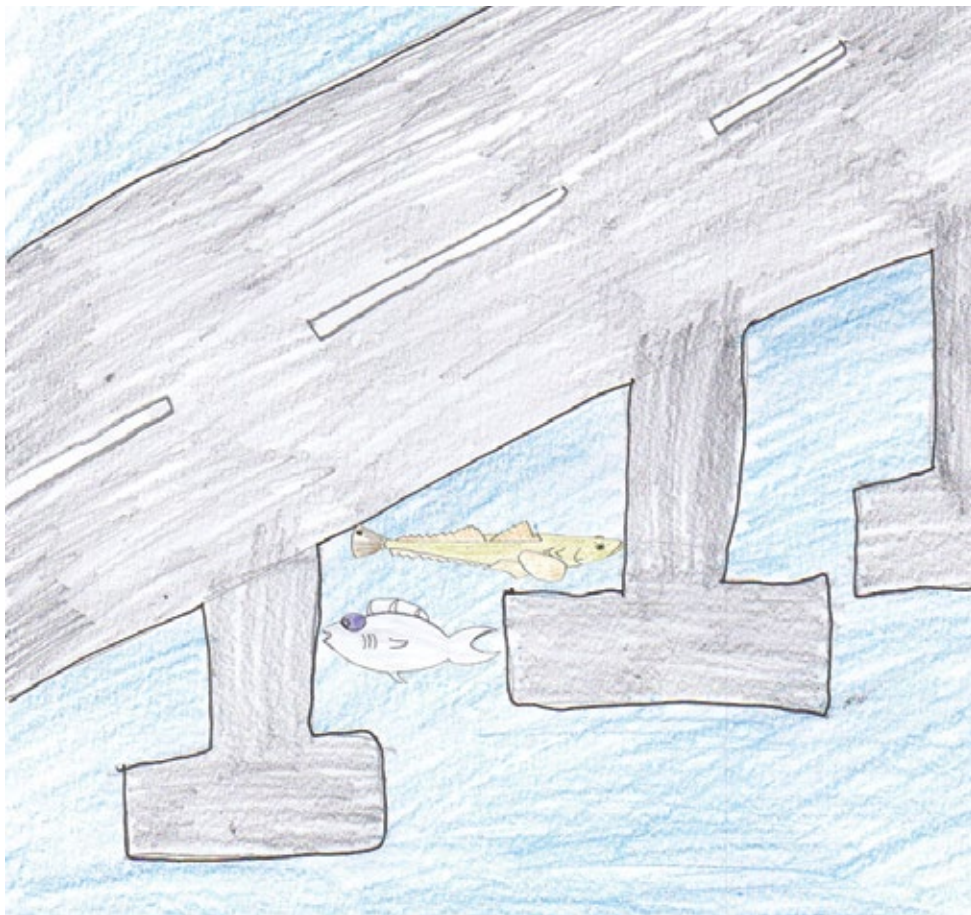
One of the humans stumbled into the bucket and it tipped over letting me, the other fish and the worms out. We slid down the bank and back into the water.



I quickly swam away to find Flatty still asleep on the sand bank. I woke him up and told him the whole story.

We finally got to Metung and had a big feed on shrimp. We then swam home to the safety of the Fred Albert Bridge in Tambo Upper.

Flatty and I are now always very careful of what we eat, making sure we never get caught again.





Jasmine De Bona , Jack Cole, Cooper Paterson, and Kyowa Tholen
2014 Year 6, Tambo Upper Primary School

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www.loveourlakes.net.au

