

NATURE PROBE

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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

My name is Elaine Garner and I am the new editor of Nature Probe. Yes, the name has been changed to make it clearer.

Have you seen the sea creature that is on the cover? It is a CUTTLEFISH. During the day it buries itself in the sand under the sea. It swims and hunts at night. It has 10 arms. The 2 long arms have suckers at the ends and shoot out to grab food. A special sac holds dye and this can be squirted out to make a dark cloud. Can you find out why the cuttlefish does this?

The CUTTLEBONE is like a skeleton inside the creature. When the cuttlefish dies the bone drifts to the shore. You may have collected the cuttlebone on the beach. It is pink and white? If you have a pet bird they love to peck at them.

E. Garner.



A cuttlebone.

TREE HUG



YOU NEED: Tree Hug Record Sheet,
(as below)
Pencil

YOUR TASK: To choose eight trees near you and rate them on how pleasant they are to hug.
Try to choose trees that are different in size and shape.
On your record sheet, draw or describe the shape of each tree and write down a word that best describes what each feels like to hug.

TREE HUG RECORD SHEET:

1	5
2	6
3	7
4	8

Swimming Around ~

WHAT IS A FISH?

A fish is a cold-blooded, water-dwelling animal, with a backbone and a skeleton. It breathes oxygen from the water through gills, and has a mouth armed with teeth.

A fish moves by swimming.

Fish of various kinds are found in all fresh and salt waters, except in waters that are poisonous or contaminated.

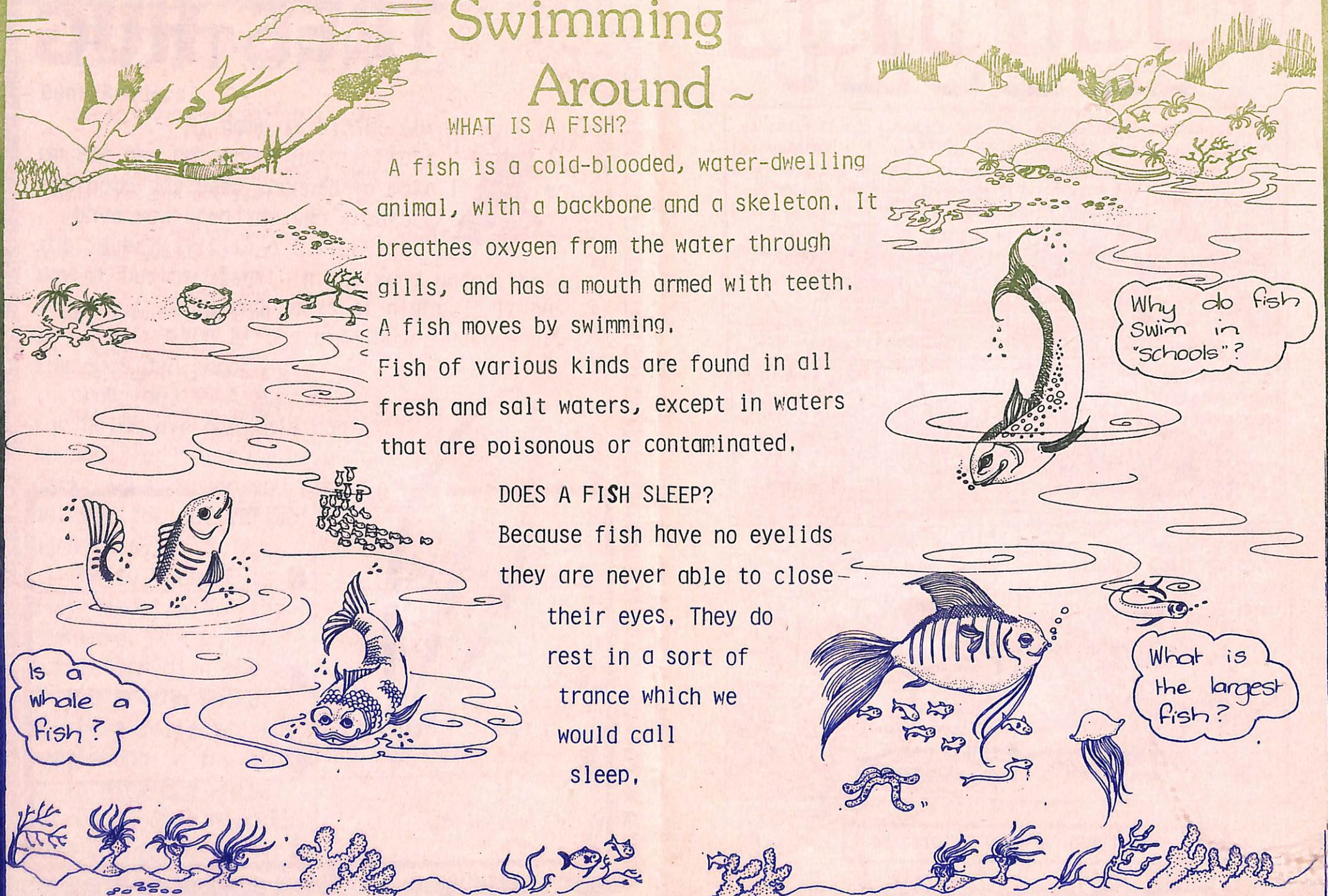
DOES A FISH SLEEP?

Because fish have no eyelids they are never able to close their eyes. They do rest in a sort of trance which we would call sleep,

Why do fish swim in "schools"?

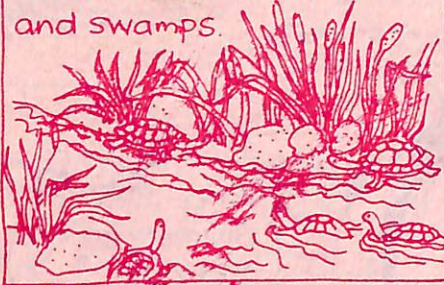
Is a whale a fish?

What is the largest fish?



TORTOISE

The thirteen species of Australian freshwater tortoises live in rivers and swamps.



They belong to a family group found elsewhere only in South America.



Tortoises can live up to 20 years old.



TORTOISES

They breathe air but need water to swim and feed in.



If their river or swamp dries up they will travel many miles to find another water supply.



In the water they catch and eat water snails, dragon fly larvae and insects.



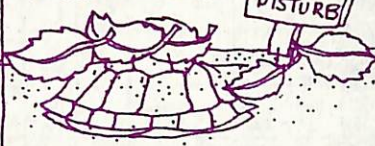
How must you care for a tortoise ?

TALK...

In winter tortoises dig under soft earth or dead leaves and hibernate.



They may not eat for a month or more but live on fat stored in their bodies.



Do not disturb hibernating tortoises as the shock may kill them.

Long necked tortoises are often kept as pets. They need a pond to swim in

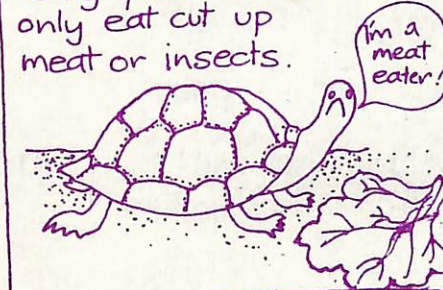


and a fence to stop them wandering

If they get too hot, tortoises will die so make sure they have shelter from the sun.



Australian tortoises only feed in water and only eat cut up meat or insects.



If you have a tortoise for a pet read a book on caring for Australian tortoises.

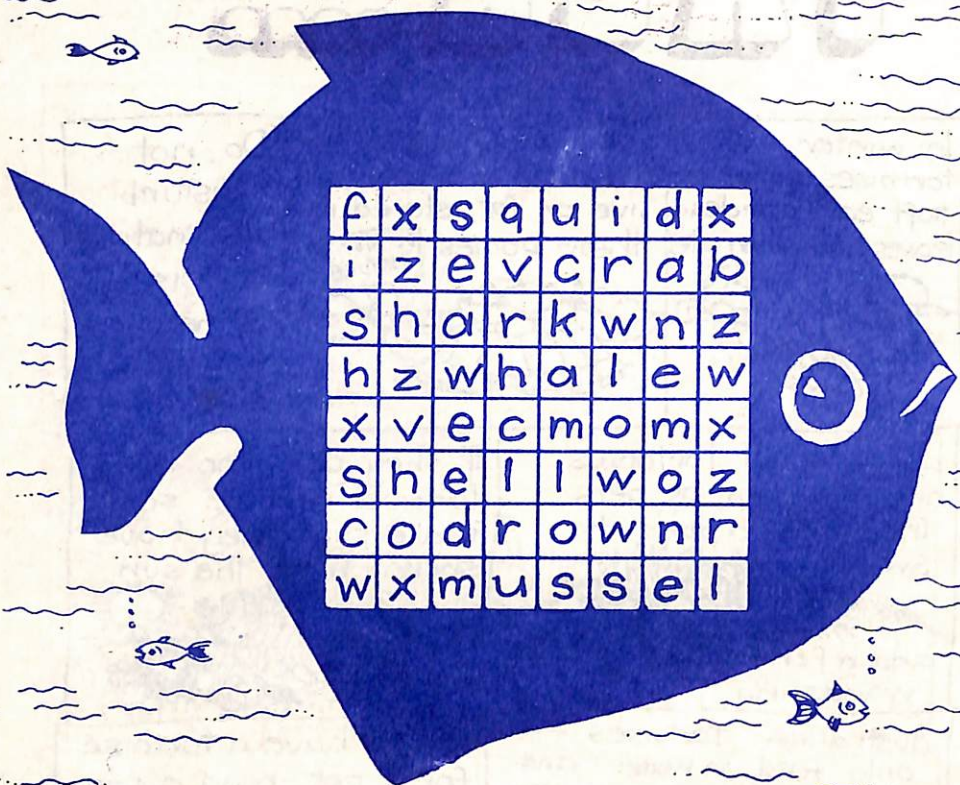


HIBERNATE: means a long sleep during cold weather.

What other animals hibernate?

In Australia? In other countries?

PUZZLE FUN



FIND THESE WORDS.

LOOK ACROSS AND DOWN,

Have you
found me
yet?

crab	shell	mussel	shark
fish	cod	seaweed	
squid	whale	anemone	

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