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The Plastic Journey

By Demi, Skylah, Alex, Emily, Eli, Archer, Kai

In a factory was where I was born
With millions of friends around me
Who would've known I'd be dropped on the lawn
And one day lost at sea

Floating like a jellyfish
Turtles gather 'round
Through the water I swish
So many more friends I've found

Catching waves around the world
Hurting creatures on the way
Around your neck I may be curled
Please stop eating me is what I'd say

I wish humans would put me in a bin
Or not use me at all
Littering is a sin
If humans don't stop, all animals will fall

The Drought

By Samantha, Zahlee, Soren, Jonah, Indi, Billie, Jahlia

Earth crumbles beneath my feet

Water is nowhere to be seen

Skeleton trees with no leaves

As sweat drips down my body

I feel like I could melt

The heat burns my skin, the most intense I've ever felt

Buddina, the place of sunbeams

Has watched over the mob for over thousands of years

Drought will break when the rains fall

The mob lets out a joyous chorus

When the heavens open and rain pours

Nature's knocking at the door

TC on the Beat

By Juju, Lennix, Bohdi, Harris, Frank, Kai

Hey yo, why you on my dunes?

Stop eating with plastic spoons

Why your light blocking the moon?

Please don't jump on my home, that's not cool

Make sure you turn your lights off at night

It affects my sight, yeh that's right

I need darkness to find my way

I need darkness for my eggs to lay

Hey yo, thanks for educating me

Next time I'll let you be

I'll turn off my lights so you can see

Yea that's right, my little G.

SOS – Save Our Seas

By Tierra, Felix, Ruby, Will, Walter, Taylani

When we go under the water, we see the sea life
But our environment says they're not meant to die

Deep sea creatures washing up on the shore
Now let's not put plastic in the sea anymore

Surfing the waves with friends and mates
And snorkelling with turtles, how I want to spend my days

Animals are dying, endangered then extinct
Come on people we need to rethink

We all need to step up and take a part in the action
We need to clean up the ocean, fraction by fraction.

Gira, the Story Keeper

By Harry, Parker, Lenox, Aria, Nikita, Kolbe, Henley

As the story bleed out of the fire

The elders tell the children the land's desire

The Gubi Gubi knowledge is kept alive inside the flames

As the memories still stay the same

The past the present the story they tell

The memories fell, as the fire burns hotter than hell

The gira burns, it hurts, inside the fire it keeps the stories alive

Friends and family gather around

Memories of their ancestors are passed down

Light Pollution

By Zahlee, Jack, Frankie, Ahia-kai, Azura

The calming waves crashing against the ocean floor
Turtles rummaging across the shore
Crabs scuttering, seagulls cawing
I couldn't think of anything more adoring

The moon lights the way for the turtles to go
The stars are twinkling waiting for wishes to grow
One light illuminates the ocean surface
Then a turtle mistakes it for the wrong purpose

Dogs barking, planes soaring
I cannot think of anything more annoying
People trampling on the white soft sand
Causes the baby turtles to get stuck on land

Shimmer and shine, the turtles are kind
Why do people do this? It should be a crime.

Nature's Elements

By Zarah, Sunnie, Laiken, Jamie, Hugh, Jesse

Fire, water, earth and air

People and animals come to share

Gira's fire brings life

When there's no light in the dead of night

Water comes with the moon

That bathes the dunes where the shore birds will arrive from migration soon

Each day and each night

A seed grows in the memorable light

As change goes on, the tree grows from small to tall

For nature protects us all

From time to time let our hearts combine

A mob, a family, a community is shared among our minds.

In the Eyes of a Turtle

By Mossy, Lahni, Molly, Josie, Aisha, Ella, Timmy

With open eyes water lies ahead
Slowly moving from our bed
Hope we don't end up dead
But destiny isn't written or read.

Hatch at night
Must find moonlight
My stomach grumbling
like the waves that are tumbling.

Belly full of jellyfish
I'm carried into the current's bliss
In the sea I grow up big and strong
That's until a predator comes along.

When I'm almost 30, the time has come
To return to the beach where I came from
I lay my eggs to start a new generation
Who will continue the cycle of life's creation.

If the Ocean Could Speak

By Toby, Jaxson, Jack, Cohen, Cash

I am the ocean I used to be clean
Until people carelessly littered in me
I am home to many creatures big and small
They rely on me to care for them all

The world needs me to be healthy and clean
Free of rubbish is my dream
You wouldn't believe how much rubbish I see
Swishing and swaying within me

Try keep me clean now and forever
I am all around the world and need to be looked after
Come on everyone help me out
Do everything you can if you see rubbish about

First Nation Wisdom

By Zara, Giuseppe, Elke, Byron, James, Skylar, Arthur

Bush shrubs and trees wave in the wind of this sacred country
The sun beats down on all we share: love, community and nature's bounty
The land heals us, feeds us and gives us all we need
An abundance for all in the absence of greed

We are rich in knowledge, in nature's giving
Modern day technology distracts from living
Humans' knowledge of nature and connection is poor
For Mother Nature they completely ignore

For thousands of years Gubbi Gubbi have learned the ways of the earth
Cultivating the land to encourage rebirth
It's time to reconnect to the land of the white flowers
The cotton tree's healing is one of its powers

It's used to make gira when the sun is away
Let's be at one with nature, for the rest of our days

Ocean's Voice

By Indy, Madisyn, Sierra, Eady, Marita, Josie

If the ocean could speak, what would it say?
When you stomp on my coral it ruins my day
When boats drive around, spilling their oil
It infuriates me and I start to boil

When plastic is dropped and it blows away
You make me sick and I can't play
Big storm waves on my shore
Erodes my sand banks even more

I'm very happy when sea life is surviving
But I need your help to keep them from dying
Clean up your mess when you go to the beach
Collect trash when you are on your boat, if it is in reach

When I am nice and clean
Crystal clear water is seen
And I can be a fun place to be
For the creatures of the sea

Enjoying a Day at the Beach

By Eva, Ava, Sienna, Arabelle, Lisette, Bellamy, Emma, Mitchell, Reuben, Oscar, Chase

Our bags are packed, our thongs are on
Don't forget the sunscreen Mum!
We walk to the beach our boards in our hand
Ready to hit the white, soft sand.

We set up our shade to stay sun safe
Then hit the water to catch some waves
A turtle floats by not a care in the world
Just living life.

Back on the beach I hear a sound
Wow oh wow it's the ice-cream man
Racing forward, first in line
Collecting my cone what flavour is mine?

The sun beats down as I trudge back to my shade
it starts to melt my ice-cream there is no time to waste
We pack up our things and sprint across the hot sand
Now the day is over, how lucky we are to live on this land.

A Day in the Life of a Turtle Rescuer

By Ivy, Kate, Addien, Phoenix, Samantha, Zoe, Carla

The night is young, the tracks are fresh,
The future of the turtles coming here forever,
We patrol the beach, looking for nests,
Little round mounds, they hold treasure.

Safely tucking them into new beds,
Helping their homes,
Helping them prepare for their future ahead,
Moving them away from the dreaded cyclone.

Nourishing and remembering the past and the present,
Turtle care, for over 20 years,
I love my job, and I haven't been paid a cent,
We've done so much as volunteers.

Beware of their sandy features,
Please keep yourself off the dunes,
We need to care and protect our beaches,
All this damage, it makes me fume.

Beach Safety

By Abigail, Lourdes, Holly, Layla, Tyson, Carter

I woke up to the Saturday morning sun
Seeing runners run, surfers surf, oh this beautiful day has just begun
I go down to the beach to swim between the flags
And grab the sunscreen out of my bags

I excitedly jump into the water, but get caught in a rip
So, I wave my hand in a tight fist
The lifeguard sees me and jumps into action
So the ocean doesn't become my keeper

After all that, I am glad I knew the rules
But think next time I will stay closer to the shores.

A Letter to the World From the Turtles

By Joel, Will, Riley, Jacob, Hanna, Amity, Andi, Zoe, Violet

Stop letting your dog ravage our dunes
Keep them on a leash, don't let them loose
Otherwise, our nest will be ruined
Our eggs won't hatch and our numbers will reduce

Turn off your lights at night
So we can see the moonlight
Finding our way to the water is our plight
To keep us safe throughout our life

When we make it to the deep blue sea
We need it to be nice and clean
So we can live happy and free
Please pick up rubbish when you're at the beach.

A Day In The Life Of A Sea Creature

By Mia, Evie, Lily, Nekoda, Hudson, Leo, Layla

I am Turtle- tough shell protects me
Seagrass my breakfast, lunch and tea
I see a shark approach me fast
I look around for other turtles but I'm the last

I am Shark, marine life king
I live in the sea, eating everything
Dolphins sleeping in fear
They are smart, they know I'm near

I am Dolphin, the sea my home
Always playing around never alone
Hunting for prey
Eels always in my way

I am Eel with an electrifying force
I stun other animals without remorse
My house just rocks help me catch my prey
Life is electric out here on the bay