

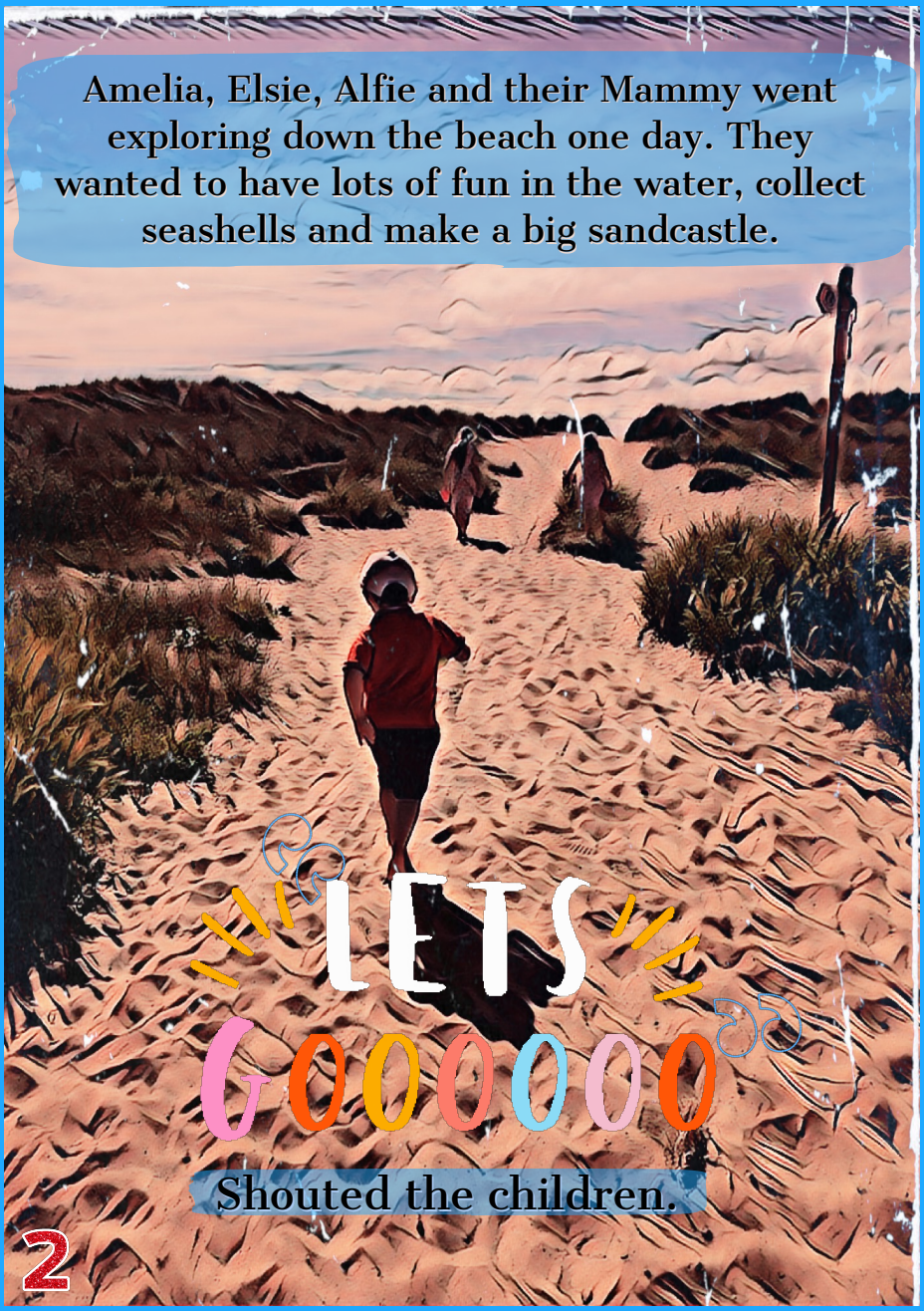
A children's story about sustainability

By Linda Michelle Owen
1905066

EAEE6005


LET'S
MAKE
Mess
Memories
AT THE
BEACH

Amelia, Elsie, Alfie and their Mammy went exploring down the beach one day. They wanted to have lots of fun in the water, collect seashells and make a big sandcastle.



Shouted the children.

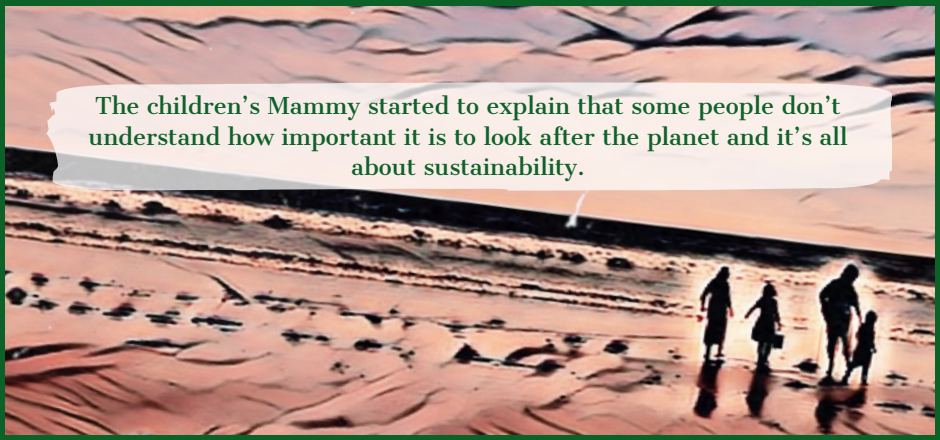
The children were climbing down the sand dunes and over the rocks, and suddenly Alfie started to cry.

"Ouch! Mammy, my foot hurts!"

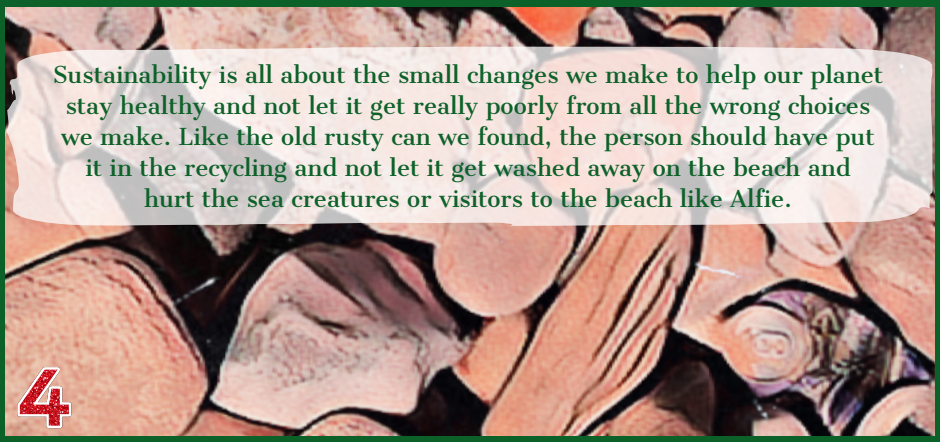
They all looked closer and began to see what was wrong. It was an old rusty can.

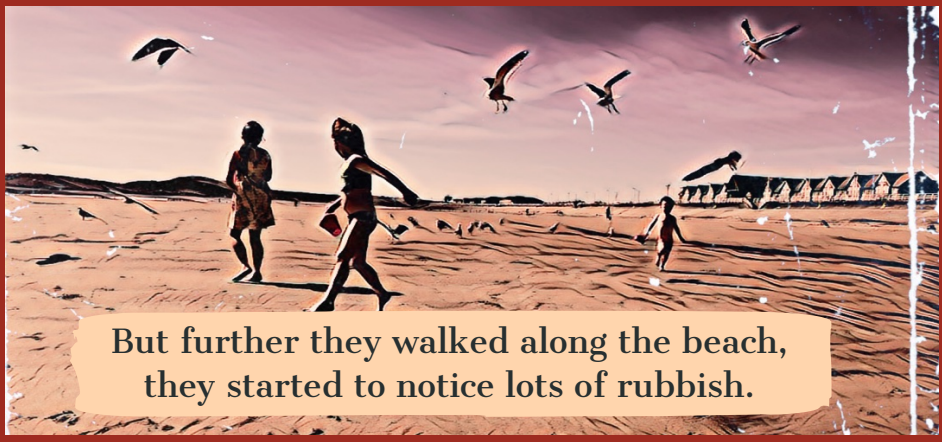
Elsie looked confused and threw her arms up in the air and asked

"why would there be an old rusty can on the beach?"

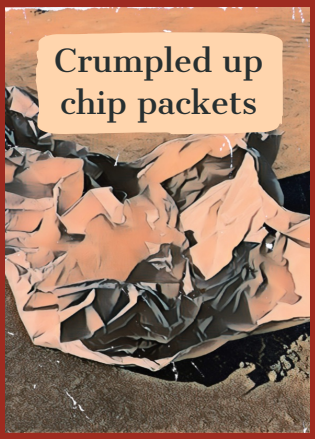

The children's Mammy started to explain that some people don't understand how important it is to look after the planet and it's all about sustainability.


The children looked really intrigued and asked the big question, 'what is sustainability? It sounds like a really funny word'.

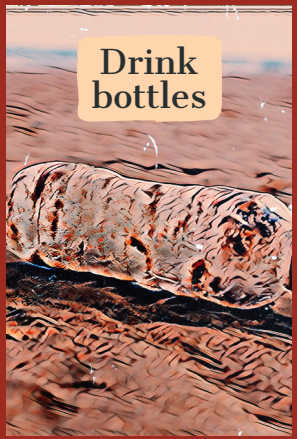

Sustainability is all about the small changes we make to help our planet stay healthy and not let it get really poorly from all the wrong choices we make. Like the old rusty can we found, the person should have put it in the recycling and not let it get washed away on the beach and hurt the sea creatures or visitors to the beach like Alfie.



But further they walked along the beach, they started to notice lots of rubbish.



Crumpled up chip packets



Drink bottles



Plastic chip shop forks stuck in the sand



The children stopped, starred and looked lost in their thoughts, then Amelia asked, ‘Mammy, what would happen if all this rubbish gets washed into the sea?’

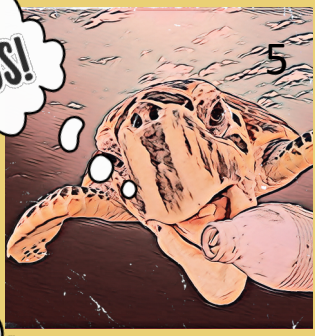


As they walked along the beach, their Mammy started to explain what would happen when all the rubbish washes into the sea. “Deep down in the sea, there are lots of creatures, big and small. Some have big sharp teeth and some with big Bold eyes. In Wales, we have many different creatures like Basking Sharks, Blue Sharks, Sunfish, and Orca Whales. We even have leatherback turtles that come to eat the jellyfish in the summer when the weather is a lot warmer’. When the waste falls and washes into the sea, the creatures believe it to be food. They swim up and try to eat the rubbish, they start to feel poorly and become quite ill. Many sea creatures will try to swim through the debris and get tangled up and become stuck.”




"Why do they eat all the nasty stuff if they know it will hurt them?" questioned Amelia.
DELICIOUS!
TASTY!
"They don't know it will hurt them" shouted Alfie. "That's correct!" said Mammy. "The creatures get confused, whales may mistake plastic lids for krill, eating them up thinking it's a yummy meal. But later finding out it wasn't krill, it was plastic and it's now stuck in its tummy."
7


Yummy!
4


5


6


Yum!
7



They all stood together looking out at sea, feeling sorry for the sea creatures and animals that get hurt by all the plastic. Then Amelia started to share what she had learnt in school, “ did you know that there are invisible enemies in the sea?”. ‘’What’s an invisible enemy Amelia?’’ Elsie asked. ‘’My teacher told us that chemicals like oil get leaked into the sea, the sea creatures can’t even see them. But the chemicals get stuck to their bodies and make it hard for them to move, and they can become very ill.’’ ‘’Oh no, that’s so sad, Amelia’’ cried Alfie.













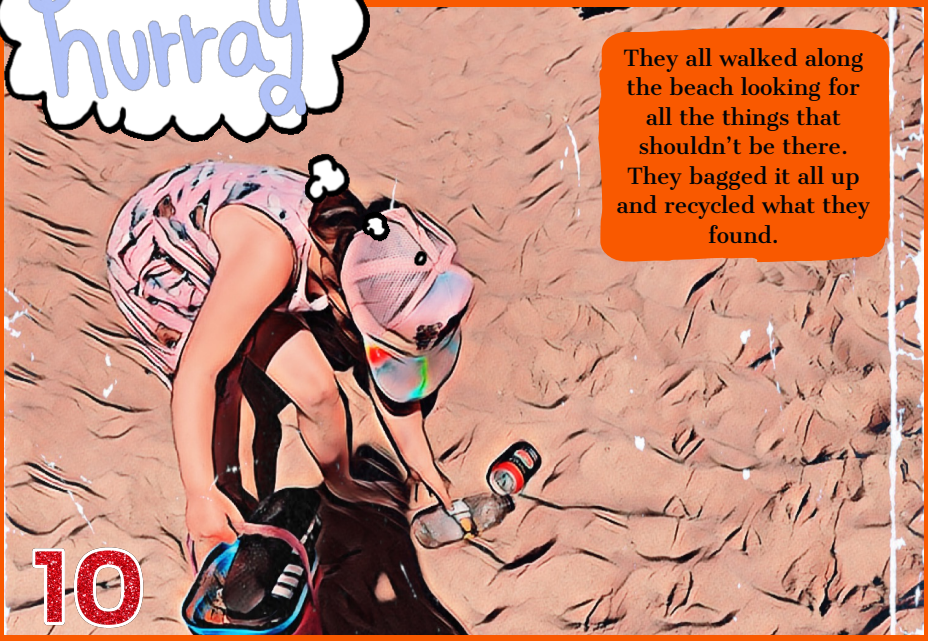
Unfortunately, the children later discovered a doggy poo bag surrounded by stones. “Yuck! That is disgusting. WHY would someone leave that there?” shouted Elsie. “I hope that doesn’t get washed out to sea in case any of the sea creatures eat it", Amelia explained. "I’ve got an amazing idea, let’s collect all the rubbish and recycle it so we can protect the sea creatures and animals!”





Elsie bent down to pick up the doggy bag, “STOP!” shouted their Mammy. “You must not touch that, only adults should incase there is dog mess on the bag which can go on your hands then into your eyes and mouth which will make you really poorly. We must ask a grown-up for help first, and they can put it in the dog waste bins safely". "Can you do it, please, Mammy?” asked Amelia. “Of course I can, but I also have a bag for any rubbish we find that we can recycle at the top of the beach.”





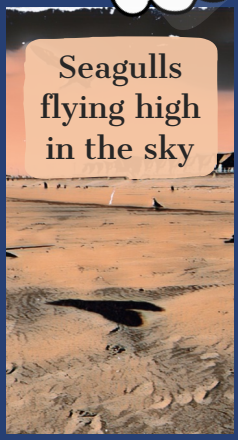
They all walked along the beach looking for all the things that shouldn’t be there. They bagged it all up and recycled what they found.

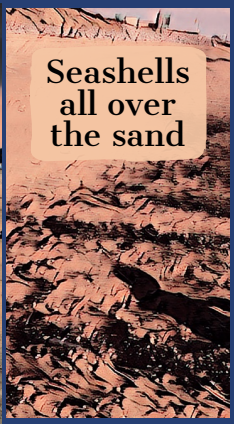
As the children were walking along the beach, they smiled as they looked at the natural things that were no longer affected by the damage of the rubbish surrounding the area. Even though the children went to the beach to explore, build sandcastles and make memories, they left with knowledge and memories they didn't expect to make. They had fun and cleared away the mess. But most importantly, they left the beach with more knowledge after sharing what they each know, and they grew a passion for wanting to explore and discover other natural areas that they can help to conserve.

"I can't wait for our next adventure."









reduce

do not buy something you do not need

reuse

If you can reuse something reuse it.

recycle

If you can recycle something recycle it.



