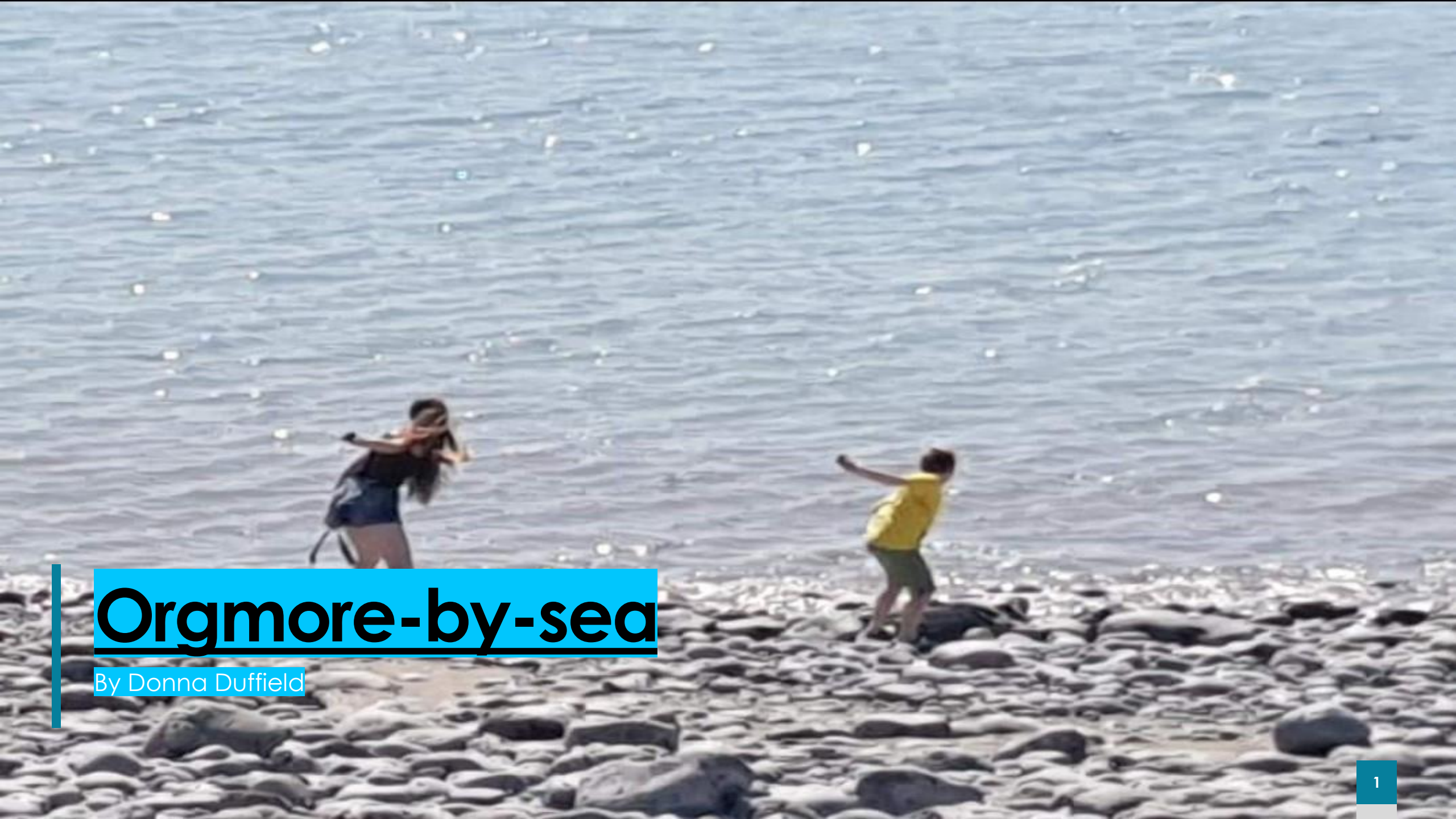




Orgmore-by-sea

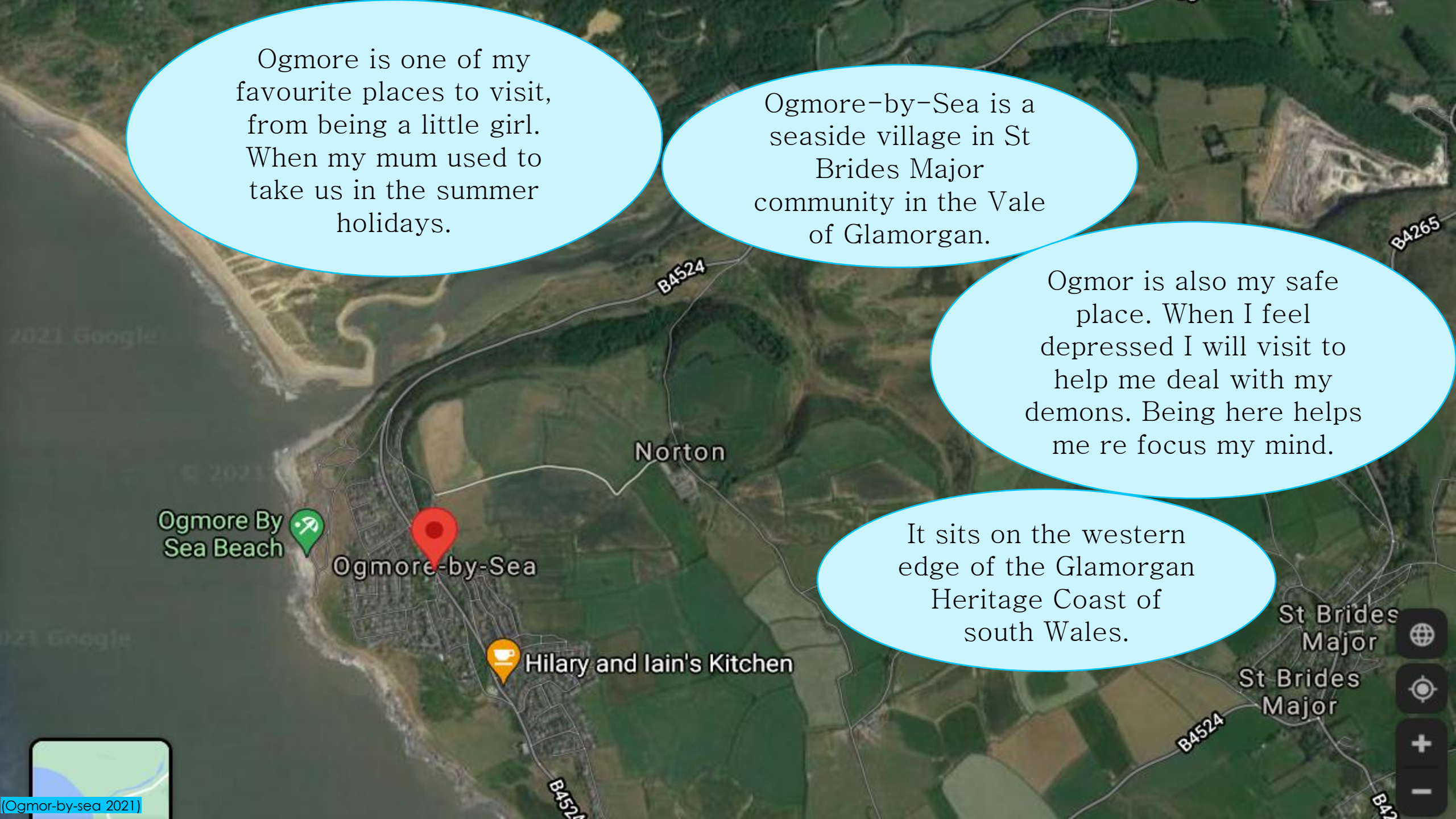
By Donna Duffield

Ogmore is one of my favourite places to visit, from being a little girl. When my mum used to take us in the summer holidays.

Ogmore-by-Sea is a seaside village in St Brides Major community in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Ogmore is also my safe place. When I feel depressed I will visit to help me deal with my demons. Being here helps me refocus my mind.

It sits on the western edge of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast of south Wales.



DID YOU KNOW?

- ❑ Ogmores-by-Sea is a well-liked sand and shingle beach.
- ❑ The mouth of the River Ogmores runs into the sea over the beach.
- ❑ The beach at Ogmores has the reputation as being one of the cleanest beaches in the area, and is popular for a many of activities, such as swimming, surfing, fishing, and walking.
- ❑ The name 'Ogmores' is believed to come from the large caves nearby (ogof is Welsh for cave).



The Other Side Of River Ogmore!!

- ❑ The Merthyr Mawr sand dunes, across the River Ogmore, have some of the largest dunes in Europe and are home to a many of important plant life and insect species.
- ❑ Over a third of all plant and insect life originate in Wales can be seen within the dunes. Like:-
 - Prickly Saltwort ,
 - Sea Sandwort
 - Babington's Orache ,
 - Marram Grass,
 - Sand Couch ,
 - Sea Holly ,
 - Morels ,
 - Helvellic,
 - And many many more.....

We walked the dunes once and my children hated it. It was such a long walk. But we spotted some amazing looking plant life, which made the walk super interesting.



(Merthyr Mawr, 2021)

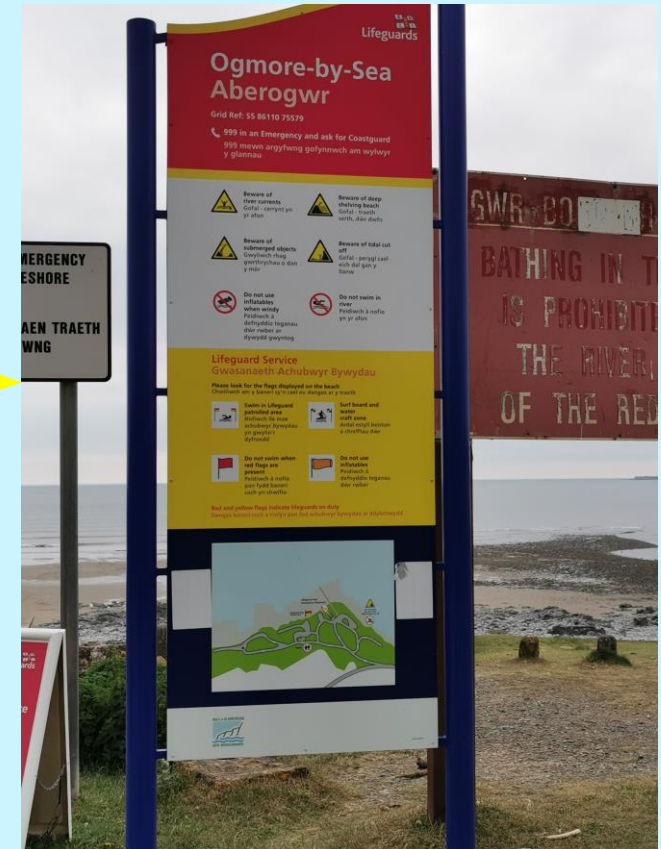
Family Adventure

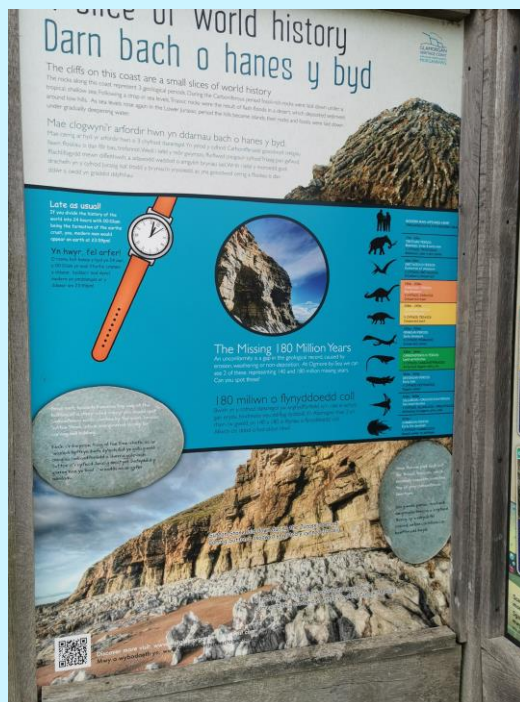
On our way



Omore is around 40 mins away from where I live and is a very pretty drive. We go through so many little villages.

We made it 😊





Visits to Ogmere

We have visited Ogmere many times, however we have never come across the information boards. It was interesting finding out about what animals can be found along the sea front. We also found the information about the dinosaurs super interesting.

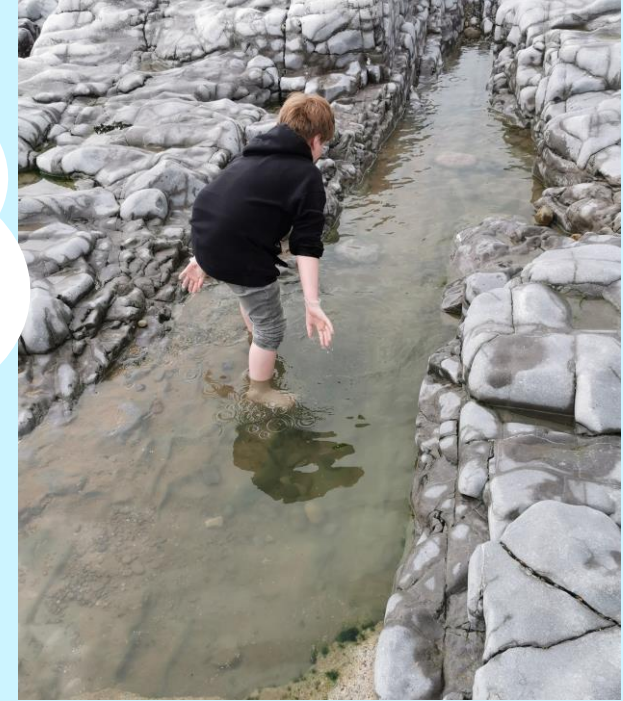


Rock Pooling



I'm not taking my shoes off and standing in cold water or climbing around, ill just look over here...

(joys of teenage girls).

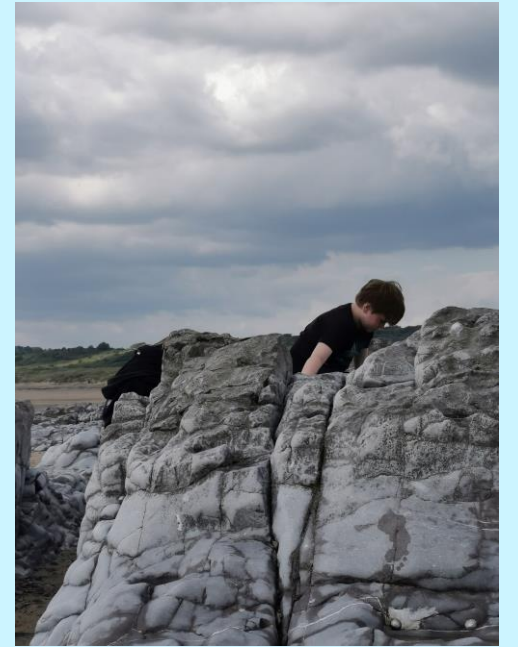


I love looking in rock pools and finding different species of sea life. I want to be a marine biologist, this is my heaven.



A photograph of a rocky beach. In the foreground, a large, flat, grey rock is visible. Behind it, a larger, more rounded grey rock sits on a sandy surface. Tucked under the larger rock, several sea shells are visible, including a prominent blue and white striped mussel and a smaller, dark, ribbed shell. A small crab is also visible near the shells. The text "What we Found....." is overlaid in white on the lower left of the image.

What we
Found.....



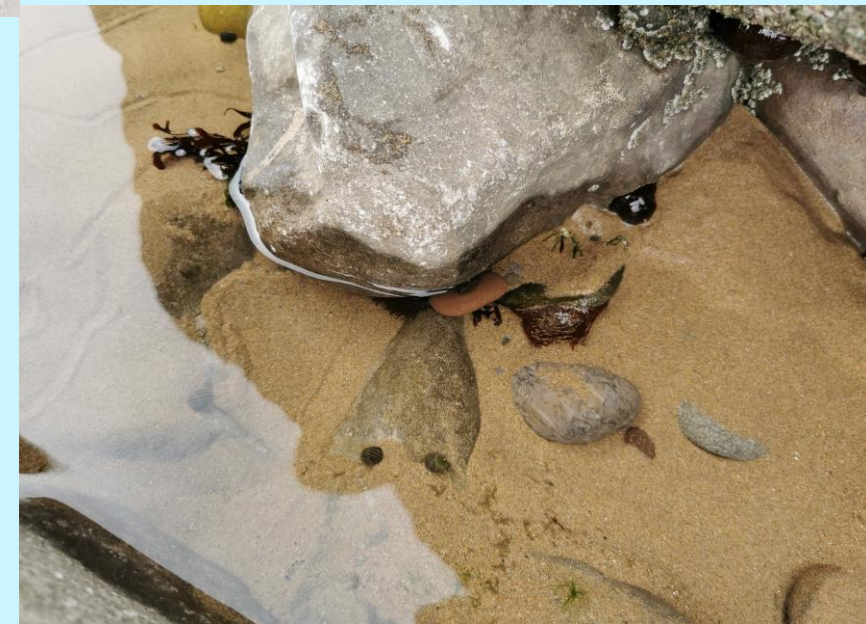
We found
so many
of these
in the
rock
pools and
weren't to
sure what
they
were....



This is what we found out:
Most commonly spotted as dark red blobs
in rockpools, beadlet anemones are
attached to rocks all around the coast of
the UK, the base of their body acting as a
sucker to keep them secure in place. The
magic of the beadlet anemone is only
revealed once the tide comes in; as it is
only then that their thick short tentacles
become visible. They use these tentacles
to sting and catch passing prey like crabs,
shrimp and small fish. These are then
retracted at low tide or when disturbed.
(Wildlife trust, No date).



With lots of research with in my
sons books and the internet we
discovered they were Beadlet
anemone.
Scientific name: *Actinia equina*.



Then Dad (hubby)
found a crap. It was
so small. We had a
little look at it then
popped it back
were we found him.

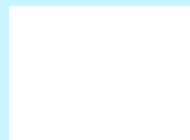


Leland also
found a krill.
Well he found
a bunch of
them.



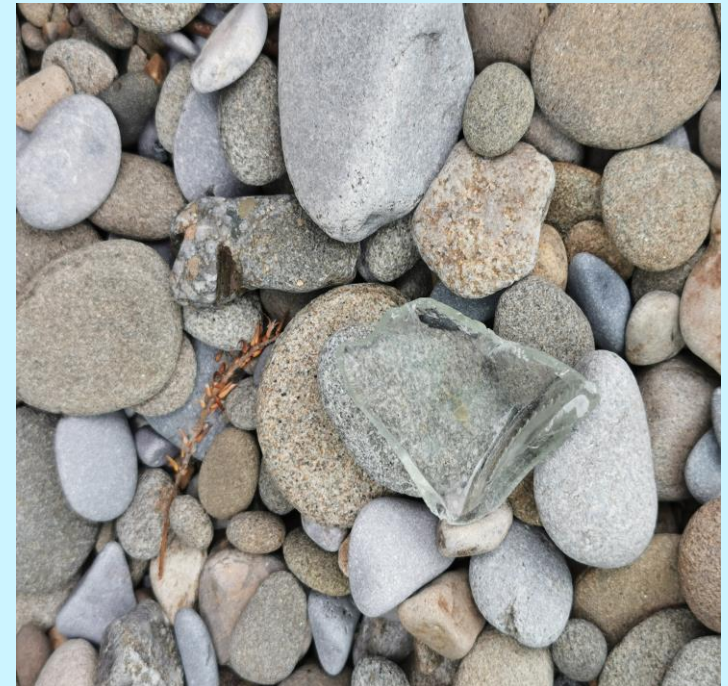
HOWEVER

HONNEER



We found so much litter.

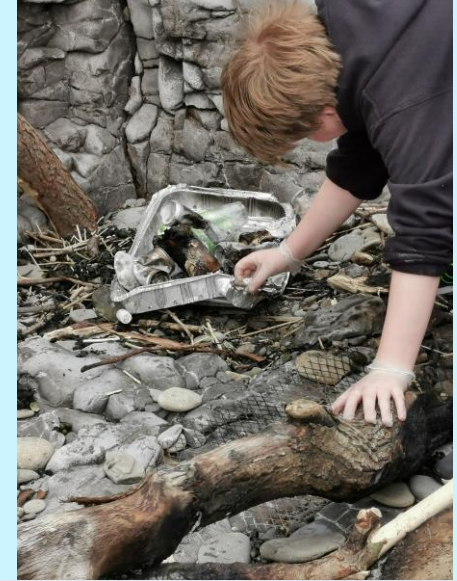
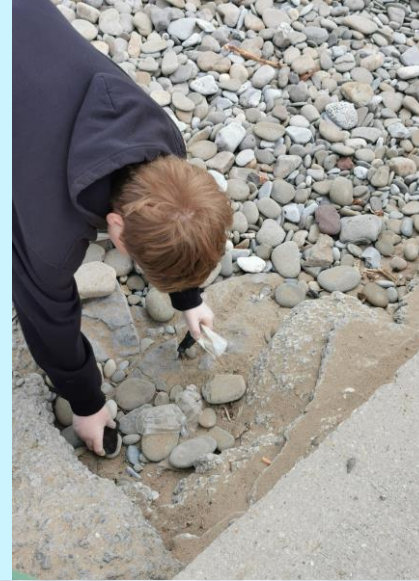
We have always been concerned about the amount of rubbish that is left on Ogmore as well as the rubbish that is washed up with the tide, so we decided in May we would try to litter pick at least twice a month.



My teenage Daughter was not happy about picking up other peoples rubbish. So myself my husband and my son got stuck in. We found so many different things.

We found:

Broken glass,
Used disposable BBQs,
Wet wipes,
Cigarette butts,
Drinks bottles,
Cans,
And much more.

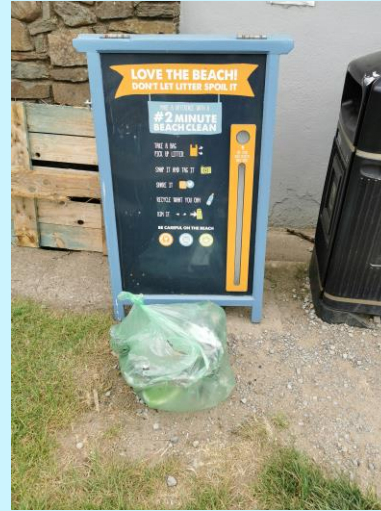


Litter picking



First Pick

On our first litter pick we found a car registration plate, cans and lots of crisp packets. After this walk we found we needed to take a bigger bag with us.



Second Pick

Today was the day after a bank holidays. We found so many used BBQs and empty beers cans. At one point we even found a broken glass bottle, just left in the rocks. This upset me so much, anyone could have stepped and got a serious injury.



Third Pick

Today was a Friday, so we thought we wouldn't find much litter due to school still being in. But we still found a bag full of litter, we even found a shoe as well as a pair of socks. We also found there was so much fishing lines, there was even a hook with bait on sticking out of the sand!!

A wide-angle photograph of a beach. The foreground is filled with dark, wet, rounded rocks. Beyond the rocks is a wide, flat, sandy beach. In the distance, the ocean is calm with a few small waves. The sky is a uniform, overcast grey. Several people are scattered across the beach: two people are walking near the water's edge in the center, a group of three people is further to the right, and a few other individuals are visible further back. The overall mood is quiet and somewhat somber due to the weather.

What Else Did We Find?

Washed up Lifeless Sea Life!



So I asked myself why
is this happening more
and more?

I can't remember
seeing so much dead
sea life on this beach
when I was a child. So
off I went to research
why our oceans are in
such a sad state.



Could this be due to the Microplastic's within the Oceans?

After a lot of research in to why there is so many dead sea life on Ogmore, I found that it was not due to much from the plastics within the oceans, as I discovered scientists are not entirely sure what Microplastics and microbeads have on marine creatures.

I also found out that many seas creatures will only wash up when they are already dead, however jelly fish just go with the flow and just cruise around within currents. They wash up when the current comes to close to the shore or there as been a storm. As jelly fish are made up of 95% water so have zero chance of surviving outside of the ocean.



What about Star Fish?

After some more research I found that Star Fish wash up on UK beaches due to our temperatures . Star fish gather around UK shore lines to feed as thy enjoy to eat muscles, but the tempters of the shallower sea, where the muscles are, can drop to below freezing leaving animals like starfish sleepy and vulnerable to heavy wave action. Mass stranding's of common starfish are continuing along the coasts of England and Wales. I also discovered that according to many expert in the field, the dramatic incident should have have little impact on this rapidly breeding species.



And the Rays...

After days of research, I couldn't find much information about why this blond ray had washed up on Ogmores shoreline.

All I found out was other species of rays have washed up on beaches in other countries due to overfishing.





This got me thinking, what else could do to I do to help the creatures in our oceans. Litter picking helps, however, is it enough. So while I sat on the beach watching my children, I had a light bulb moment. What I could write a short story for children to education them on the impact they could have by just popping their rubbish in the bin.

Then Tom got a bright idea. What if I use the bags to collect up all the rubbish in the sea, and help ~~them~~ find her ~~son~~ family.

Pic of boy and Jelly fish with bags.

They found lots of plastic straws, drink bottles, and foam food boxes. They even came across ~~the~~ the hermit crab. He was using an old yogurt pot as a shell. This made Tom sad so he popped the yogurt pot in the bag and gave him a shiny shell.

93/4

Under the sea

plastic bag. Jelly fish

land friend - Collect rubbish on beach

Crab, Yogurt Pot shell

~~set~~ mermaid. Collecting rubbish in sea

Child collect rubbish on beach.

Child Swimming in sea see rubbish makes friends with hermit crab with yogurt pot house.

93/4

Pic of boy and Jelly fish

Tom and Simon left swimming when the bagged in to Tom the little the was trapped in some fishing net. Tom helped Simon get untrapped from the net.

Pic of talking mermaid

Simon could see her family up ahead. Tom and Simon swam faster towards them picking up rubbish as they went.

Collecting rubbish.

93/4

This is Tom and he loves to swim in the sea, and discover all kinds of sea creatures.

Pic of boy on beach in snorkels.

One day, Tom went for a swim, when he came across ~~some~~ the Jelly fish. She look really sad.

boy with Jelly fish.

93/4

Then he got a good idea. What if I put up posters around the beach, reminding people to put there rubbish in the bins.

on beach by him with lights bulb over head.

Tom rushed home to make his posters. He spent all night making them.

at night making posters at desk with lamp.

The very next day Tom went to the beach and pinned up

93/4

Simon was so happy ^{being} back with her family. She told them all about what Tom and her had done. She ~~thought~~ said goodbye to Tom as she floated away.

Jelly fish family.

On the way back to the (beach) Tom wondered how else could he help his sea friends.

Swimming the bubble

93/4

all the posters would give the sea a lot of posters. To put up at the beach. Simon picked up posters.

poster.

93/4

When the sea was all clean Tom was really happy. He was with his friends. He was proud.

the boy and crying Jellyfish.

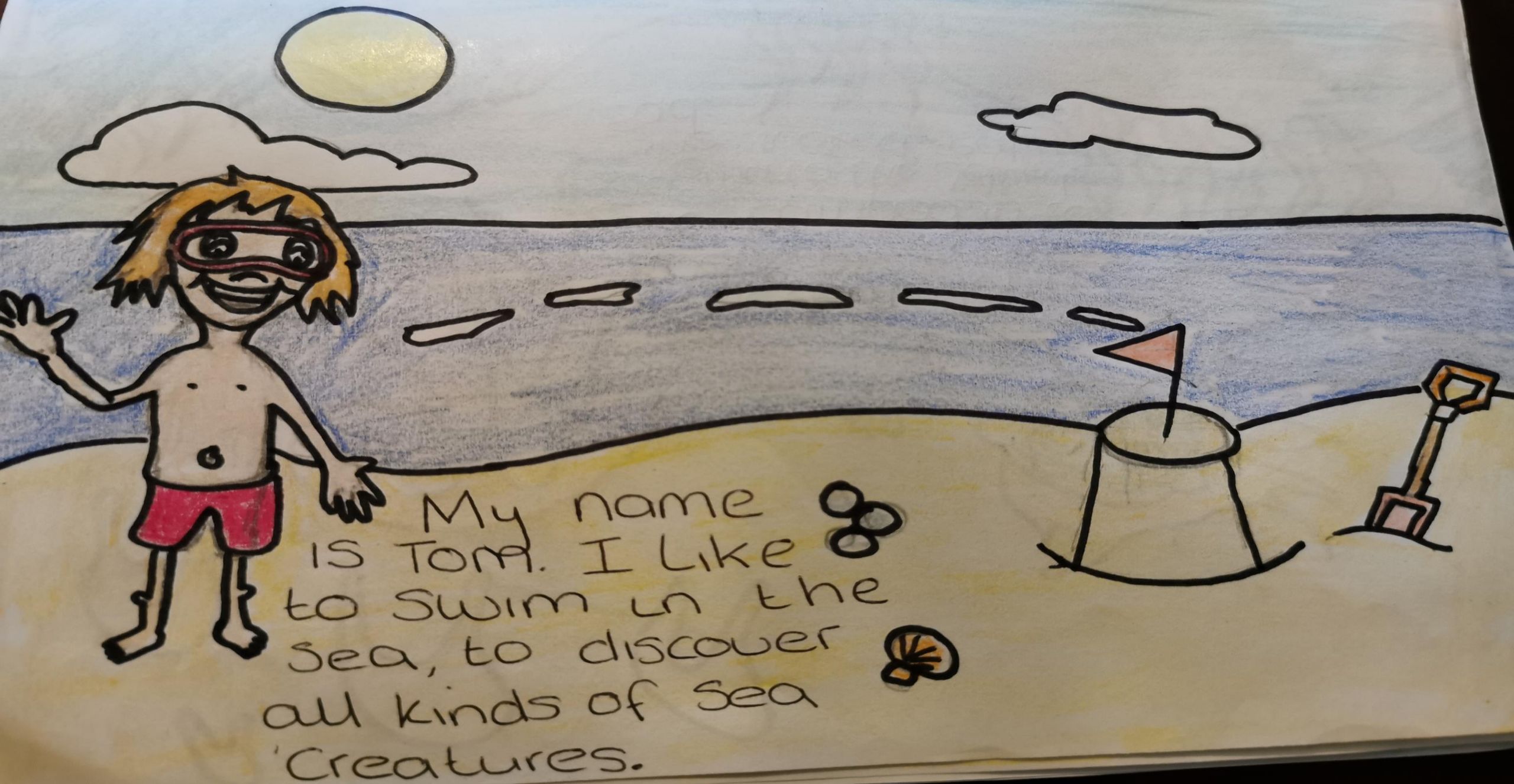
Tom thought to himself. How can I help my sea friends. There it was. When he looked around he noticed all the rubbish in the sea.

Pic boy looking at rubbish.

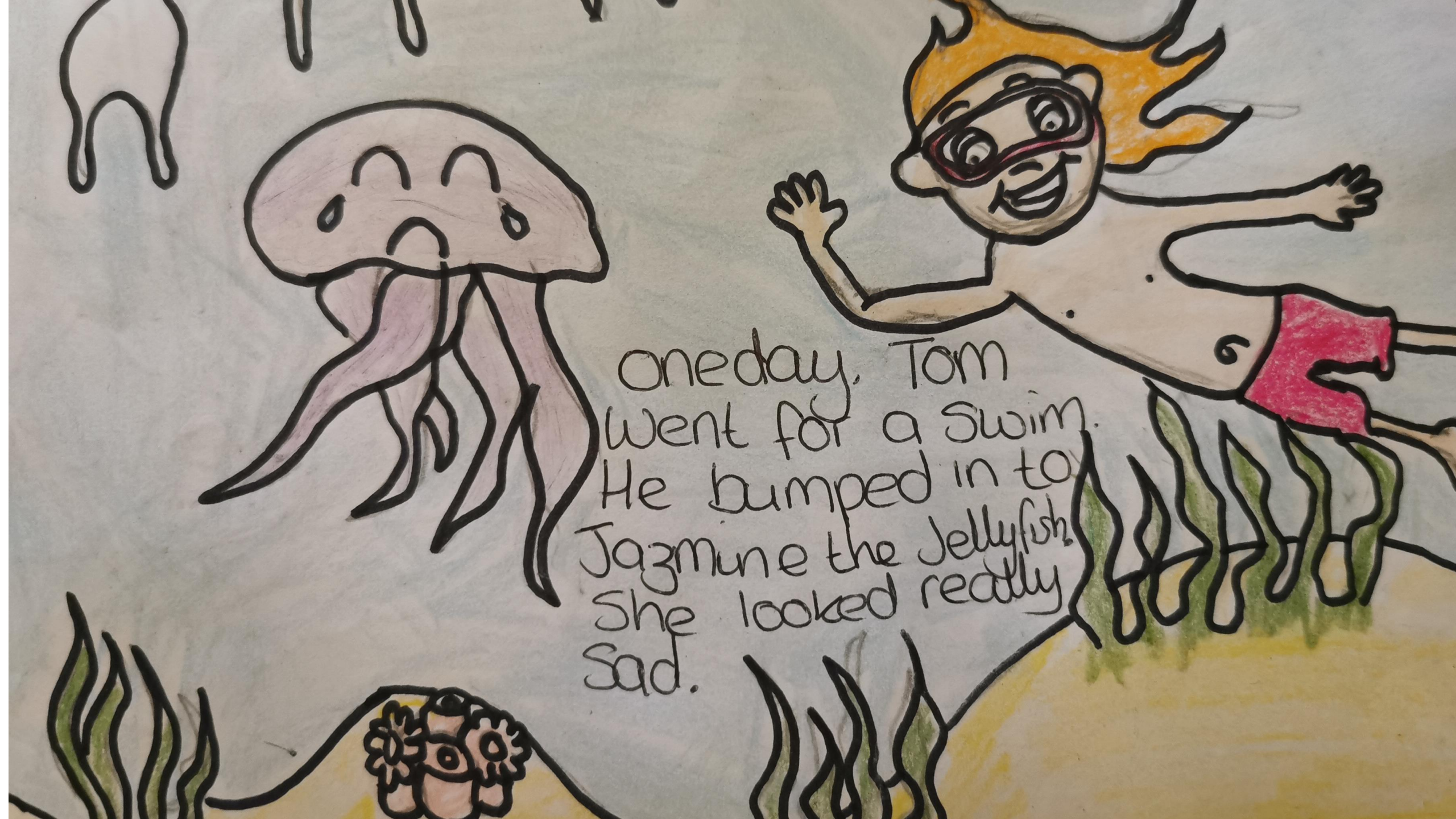
93/4

This is the first draft of the story I came up with while I sat on the beach. Its about a boy who loves the sea. I will be rewriting it and drawing some pictures to make it feel more like a children's book.

Toms Sea Adventure



My name
is Tom. I Like
to Swim in the
Sea, to discover
all kinds of Sea
'Creatures.

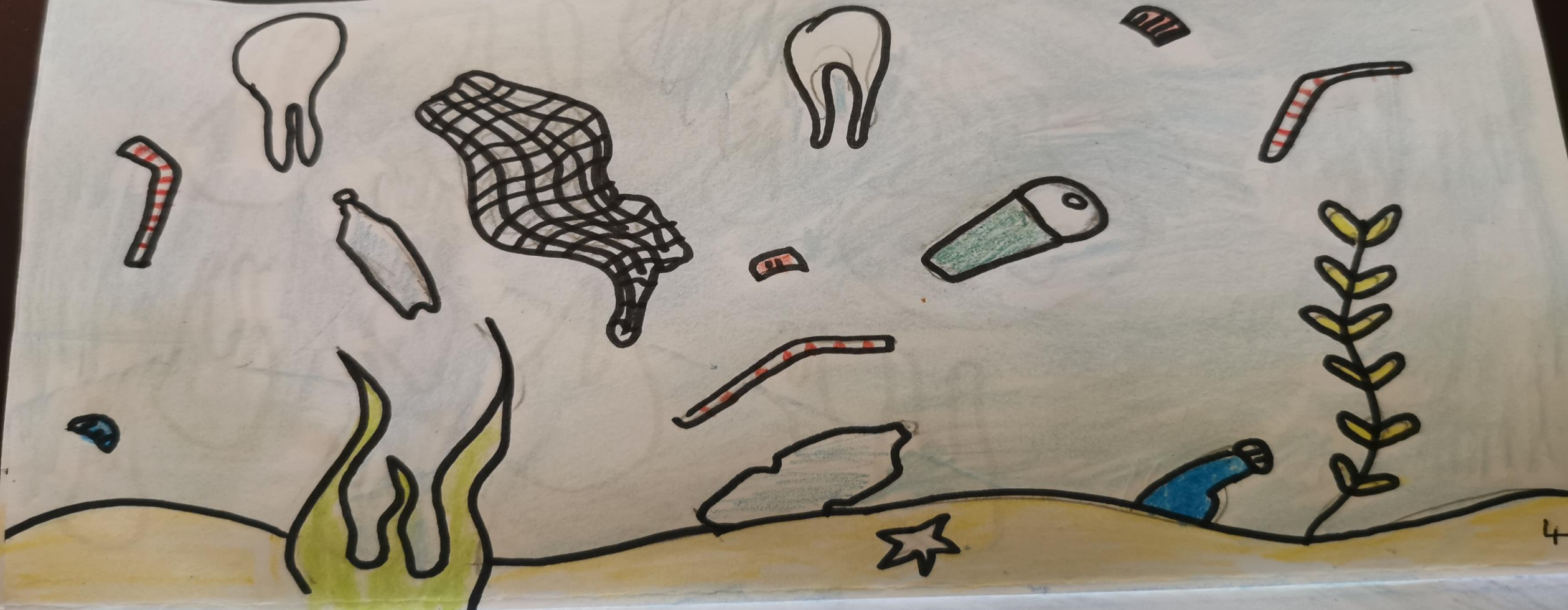


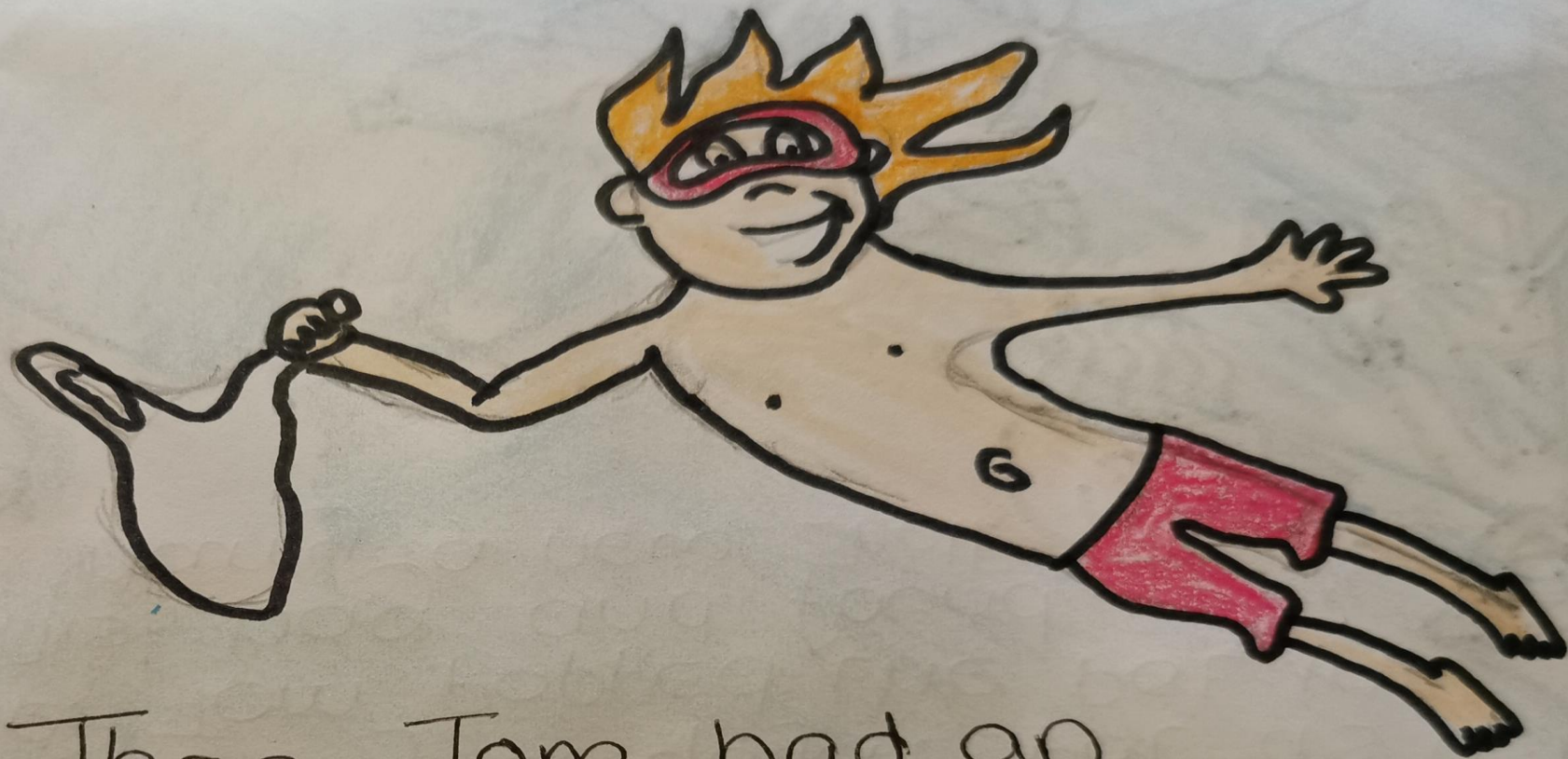
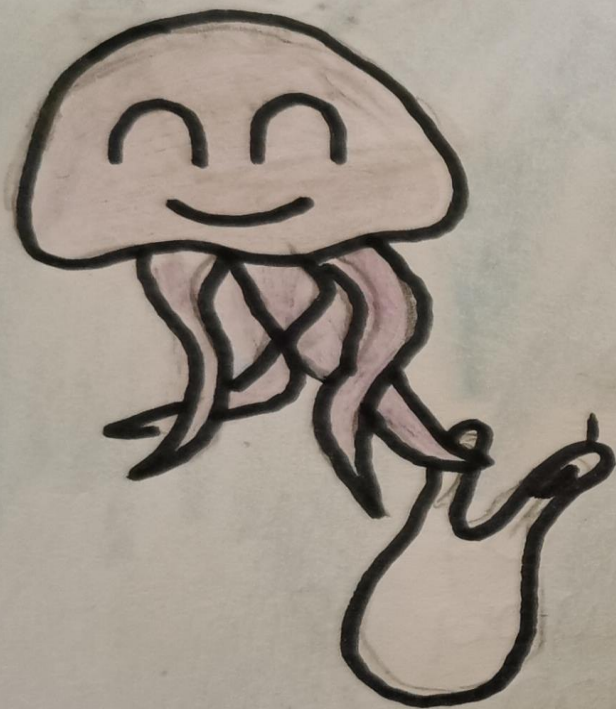
oneday, Tom
Went for a swim.
He bumped in to
Jazmine the Jellyfish.
She looked really
Sad.



Why are you
sad?' asked
Tom. I've lost my
family. I thought
I was with
them, but I
was with
plastic bags.

Tom looked around and seen how much rubbish was in the sea. Tom needed a way to help his friends.





Then Tom had an
idea. What if I used the bags
to collect all the rubbish in the
Sea and help Jazmine find her friends

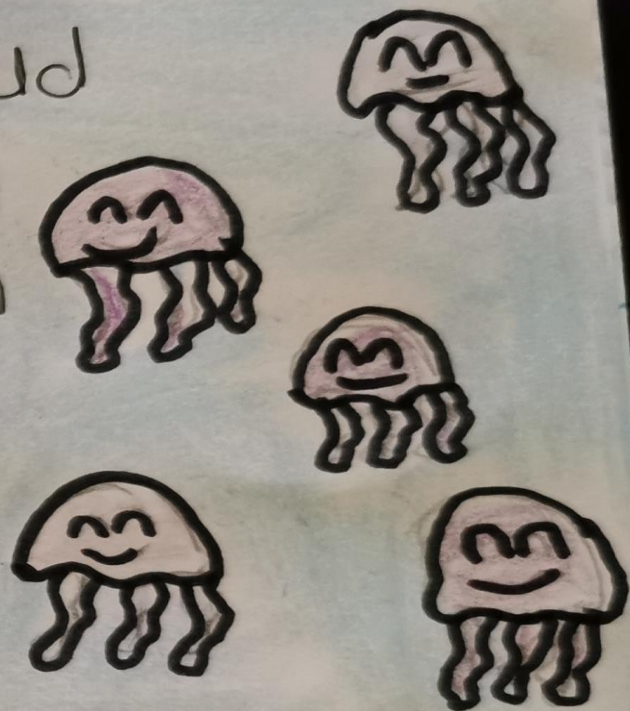
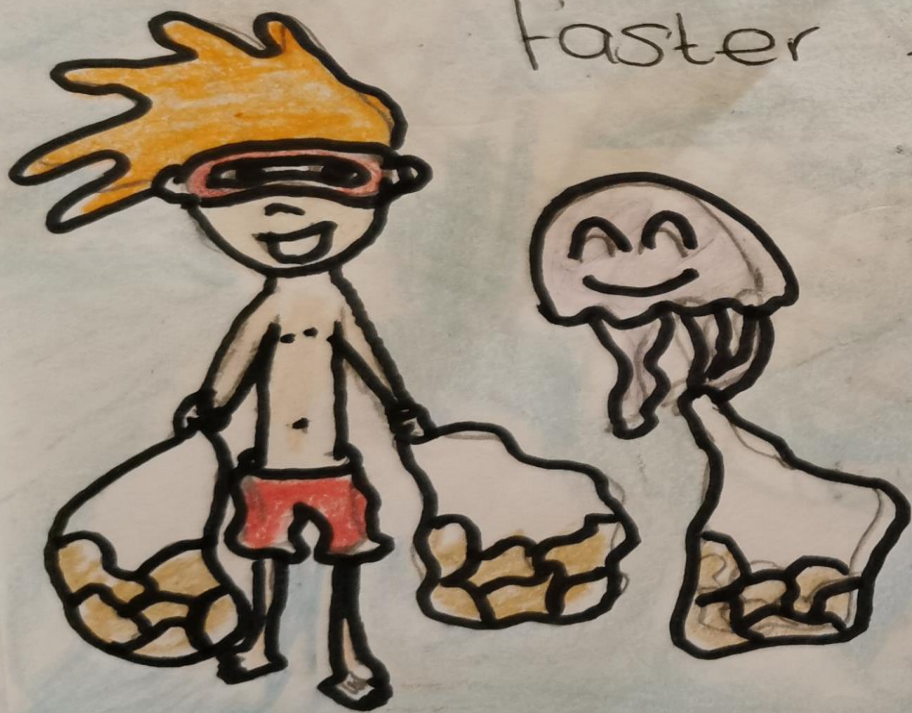
They found lots of Plastic Straws,
drinks bottles and bottle tops. They
7 Seen Harry the hermit Crab. He
was using a yogurt pot as a
home. Tom popped the pot in
to his bag and found
Harry a new Shell.



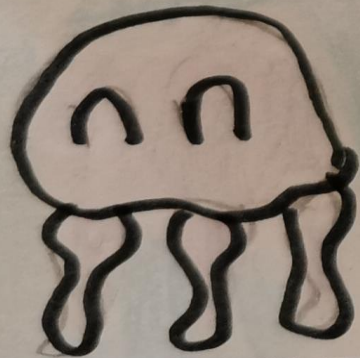
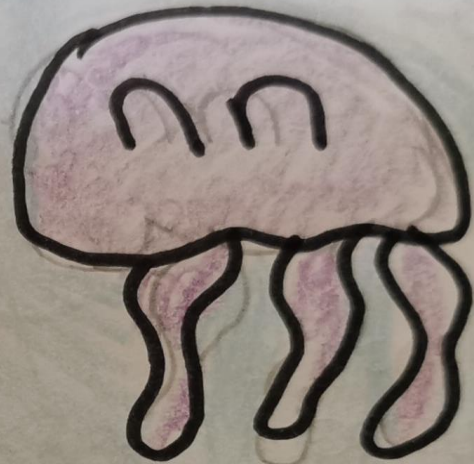
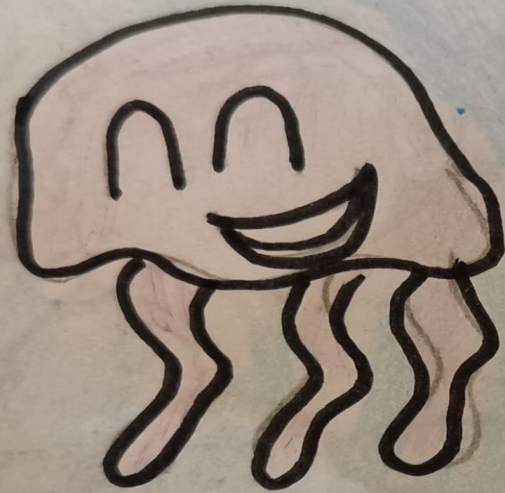
While Tom and Jazmine kept swimming and they came across Tammy the Turtle. She was stuck in a fishing net. Tom and Jazmine untangled Tammy and put the net in their bags.



Suddenly Jazmine could
see her family up ahead.
Tom and Jazmine swam
faster towards them.



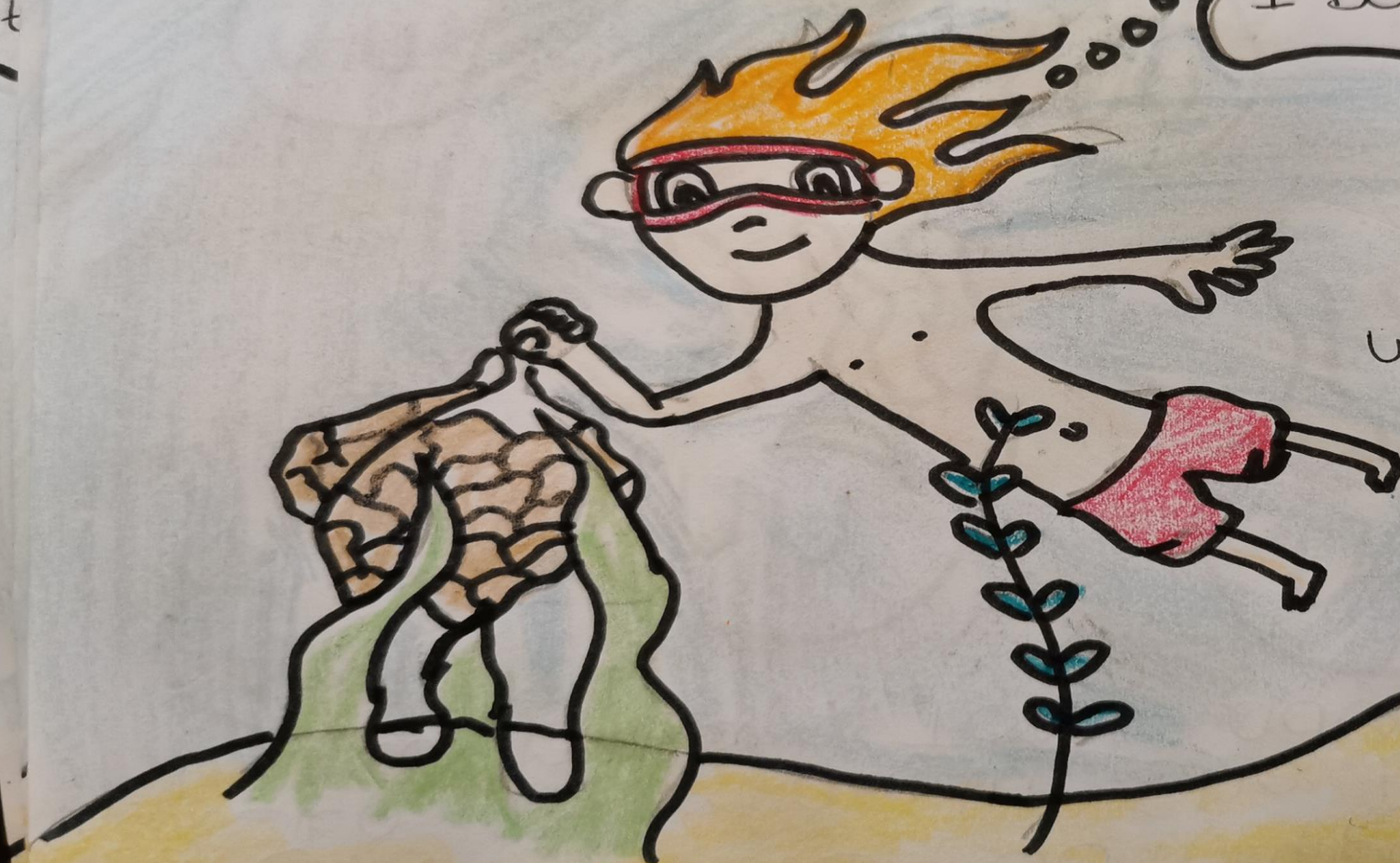
Jazmine was so happy being back with her family. She told them all about her and Tom's adventure.

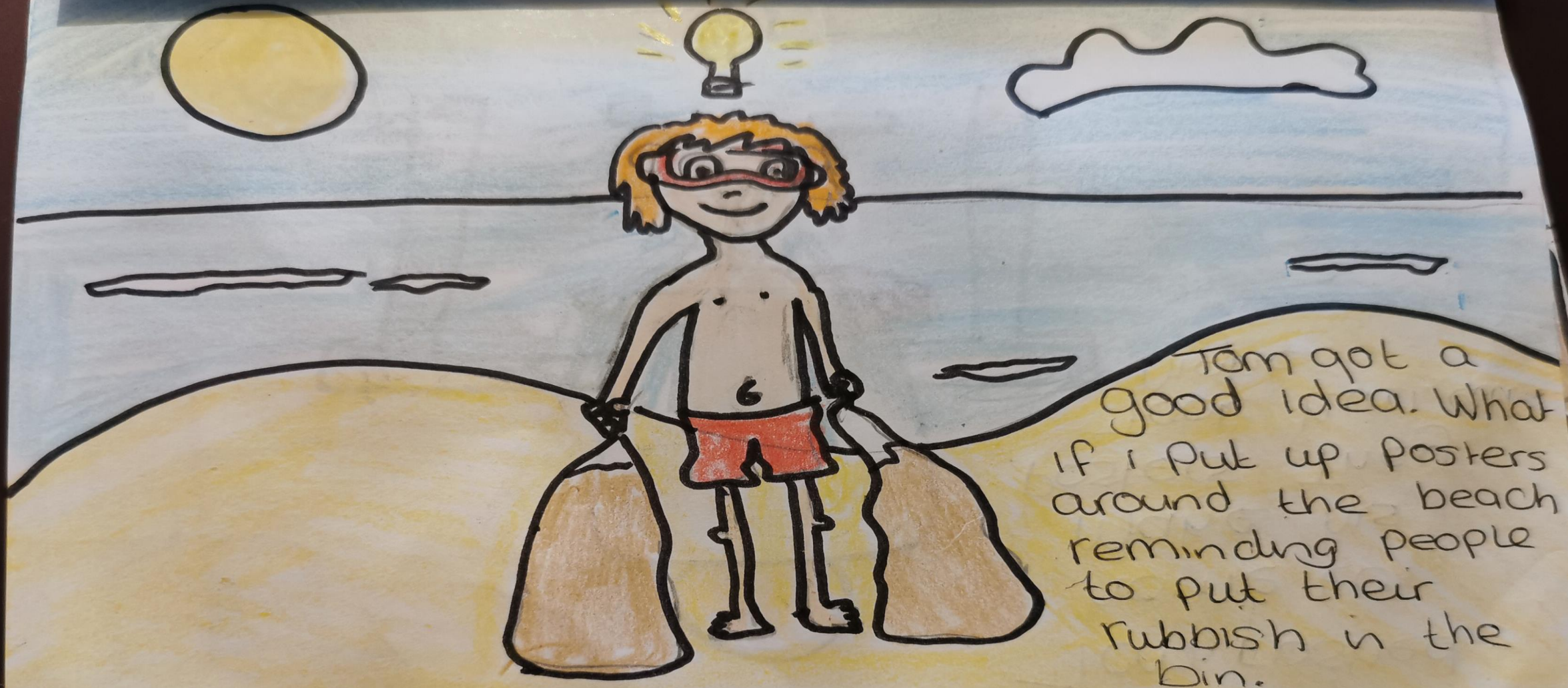


She thanked Tom and said goodbye as she floated away.

What can
I do?

On his way
back to the
beach Tom wondered
what else he could
do to help his
Sea
friends.





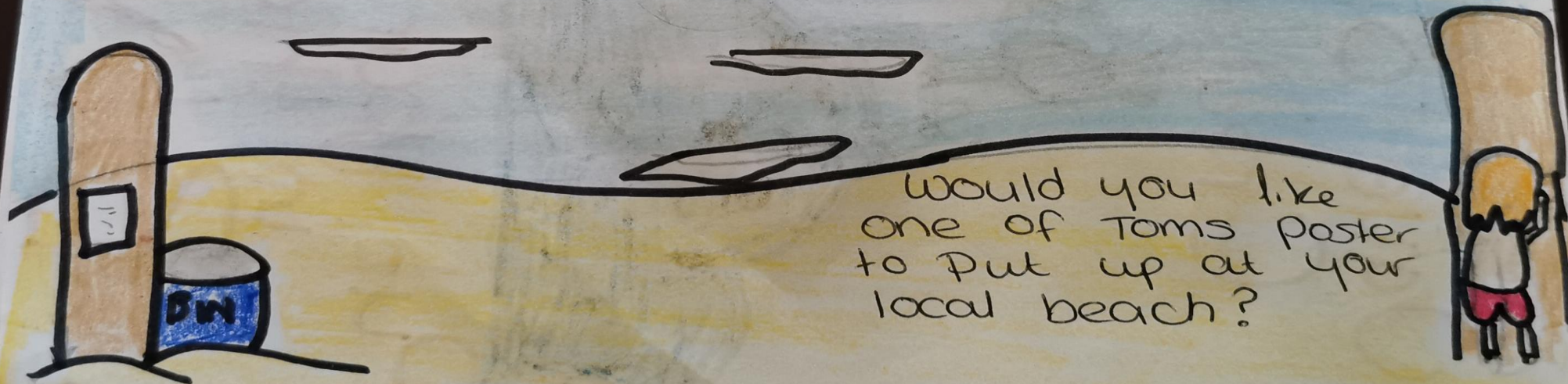
Tom got a
good idea. What
if I put up posters
around the beach
reminding people
to put their
rubbish in the
bin.



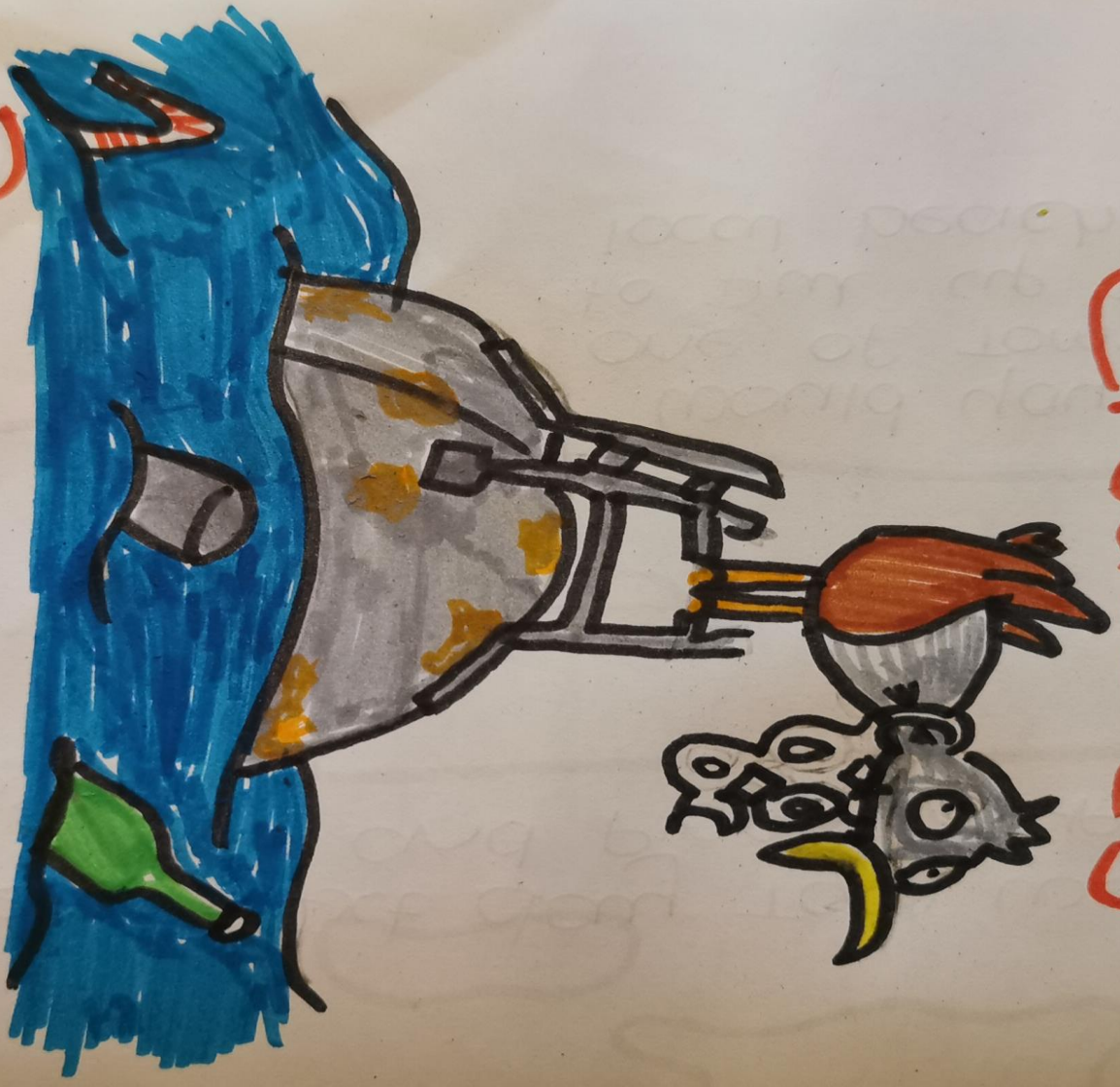
Tom rushed
home to
make his
posters. They
took him all
night.



The very next day Tom went
to the beach and pinned up all
his posters.



Save Our Sea Creatures



Put your Rubbish
in the
BIN!

After writing Tom's sea adventure, I
felt I needed a prop so children would
be more interested.
So, I made my very own Jazmine

First I started by picking the wool and the right size crochet hook.



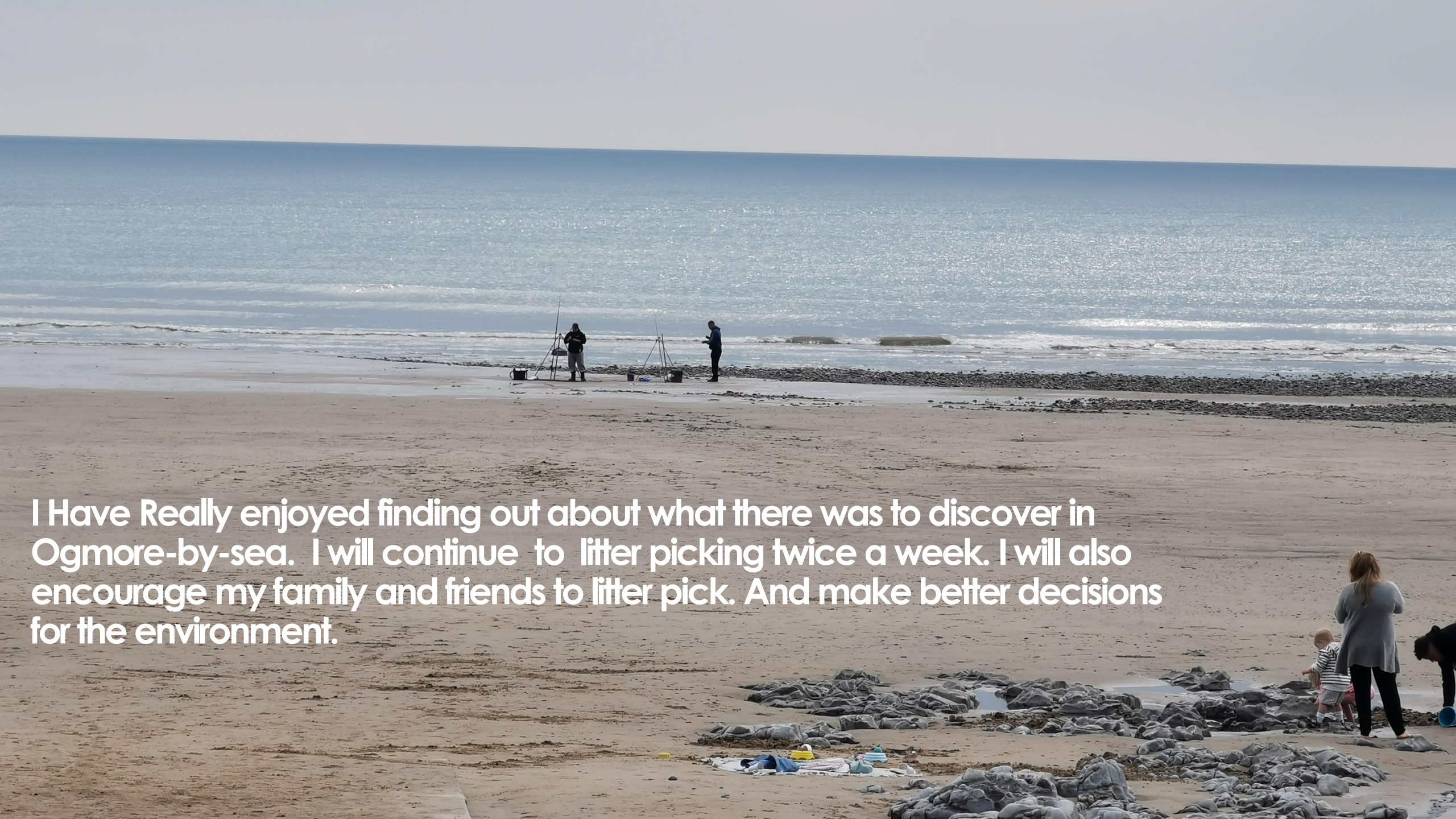
Next I made Jazmin's body and tentacles. This took me a few hours.

Time to attach the tentacles to the bottom half of her body. Then I attached some eyes to the top half of her body.



Meet Jazmine the Jellyfish





I Have Really enjoyed finding out about what there was to discover in Ogmore-by-sea. I will continue to litter picking twice a week. I will also encourage my family and friends to litter pick. And make better decisions for the environment.