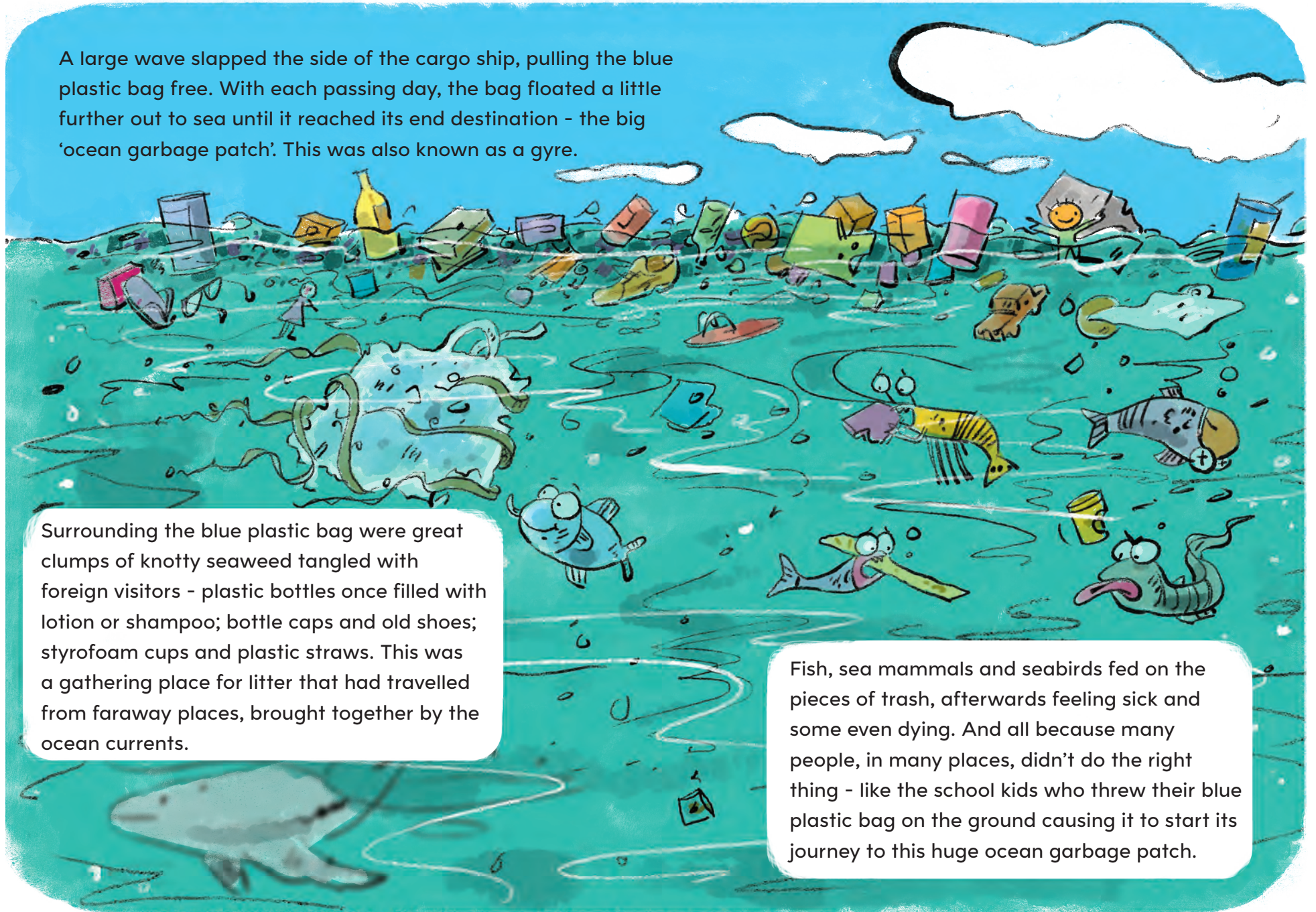




A large wave slapped the side of the cargo ship, pulling the blue plastic bag free. With each passing day, the bag floated a little further out to sea until it reached its end destination - the big 'ocean garbage patch'. This was also known as a gyre.

Surrounding the blue plastic bag were great clumps of knotty seaweed tangled with foreign visitors - plastic bottles once filled with lotion or shampoo; bottle caps and old shoes; styrofoam cups and plastic straws. This was a gathering place for litter that had travelled from faraway places, brought together by the ocean currents.

Fish, sea mammals and seabirds fed on the pieces of trash, afterwards feeling sick and some even dying. And all because many people, in many places, didn't do the right thing - like the school kids who threw their blue plastic bag on the ground causing it to start its journey to this huge ocean garbage patch.



Back at the beach, the sun was shining and the waves sparkled. Kiki and his friends were having their clean-up day. They put plastics, cans and paper into one big sack to recycle.

Puka stalked up and down the beach picking up other trash. Sybil flew along the beach in great swoops, gathering plastic bags in her sharp beak. She dropped the bags into Puka's sack.

"At least these ones won't join the plastic soup in the middle of the ocean!" she squawked.



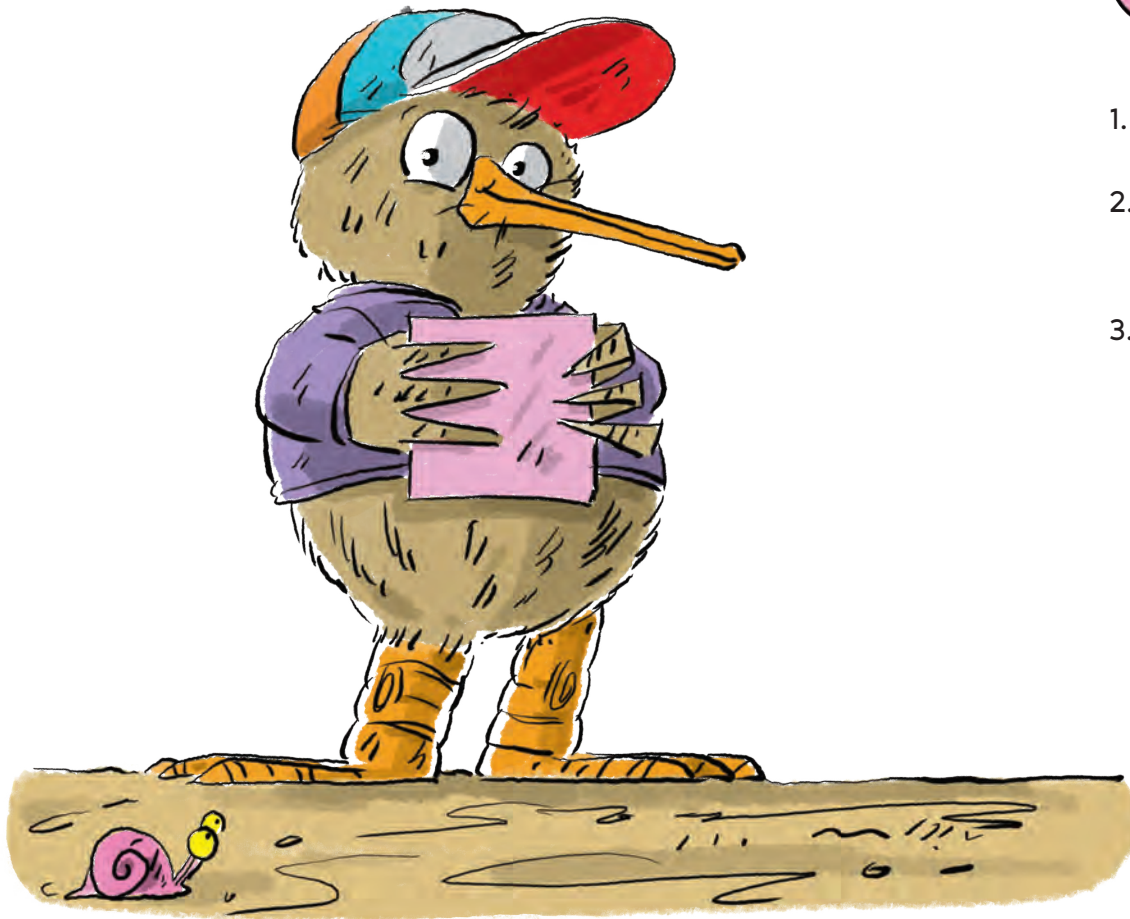
"Phew!" said Kiki, looking around. "What a perfect spot for a picnic!"

Of course, they remembered to do the right thing by taking away all their trash, leaving nothing on the beach except their footprints.



CHAPTER THREE

QUESTIONS



1. What happened to the blue plastic bag?
2. What happened to the blue plastic bag and the other trash in the gyre/ocean garbage patch over time?
3. List all the times in the story the bag could have been rescued and disposed of correctly.

DO
THE
RIGHT
THING!

