

A colorful illustration of a child wearing a striped cap and riding a bicycle. The child is looking down at something in their hands. The background is a textured, painterly style with warm tones. There are starfish and seashells scattered around, suggesting a beach setting. The overall style is artistic and child-friendly.

Charmaine Aserappa

MESSAGE IN THE SAND

(Sulat sa Buhangin)

Original Illustrations by
Roel Obemio

Coloring &
Activity Book
(Magkulang Tayo!)

Charmaine Aserappa
MESSAGE
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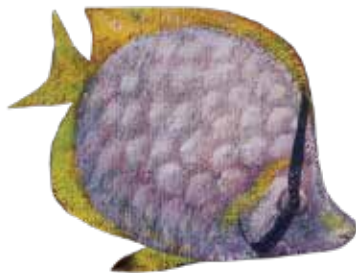
Translated into Filipino by **ATILIO ALICIO**

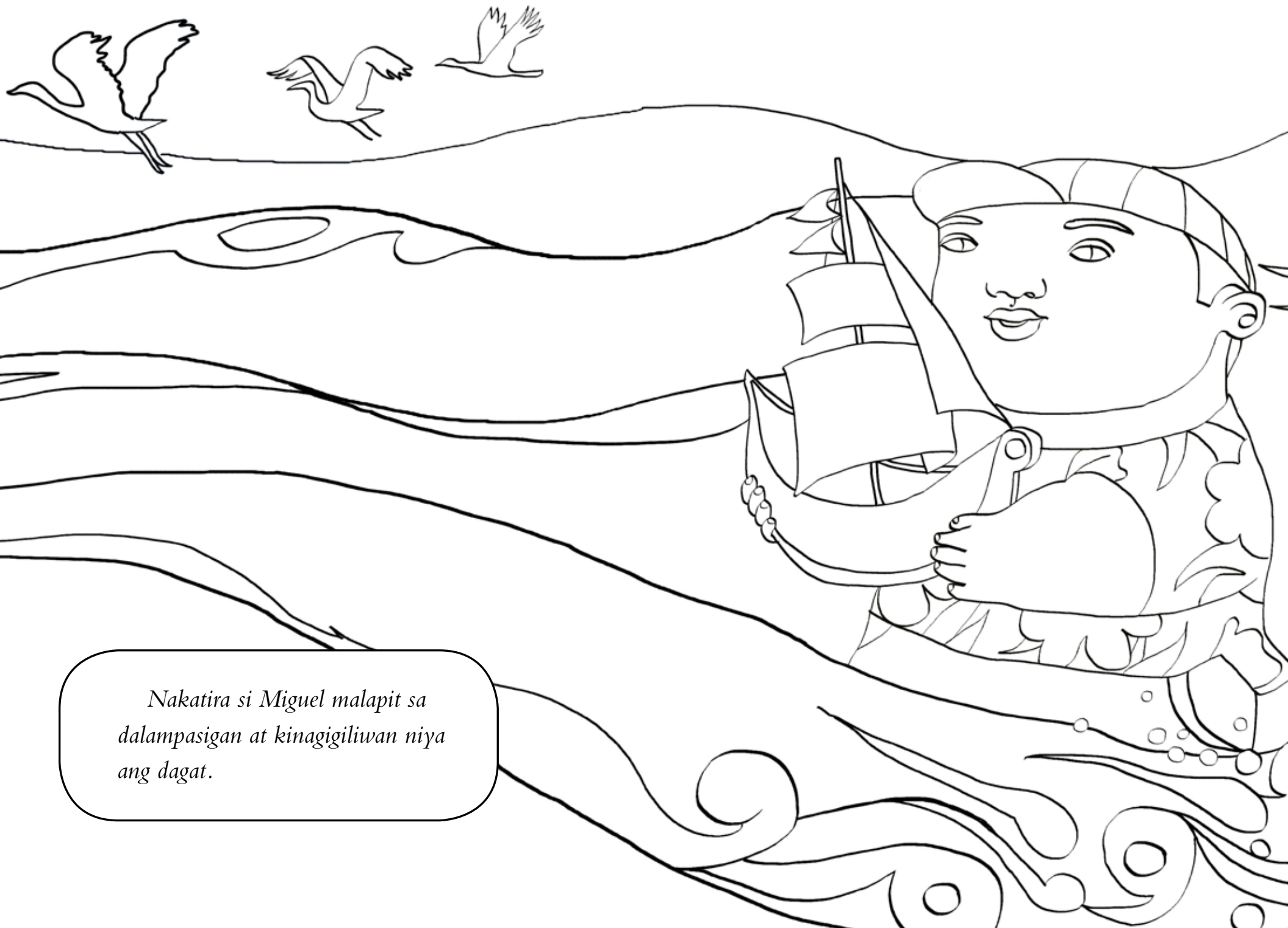




Ito ay mensaheng isinulat
sa buhangin ng panahon.

Ang buhangin ng panahon
ay nauubos na.





*Nakatira si Miguel malapit sa
dalampasigan at kinagigiliwan niya
ang dagat.*

Subalit siya'y malungkot dahil namamatay ang mga magagandang isda.

Ikinuwento ng kanyang ina kung paano nagtatapon ang isang minahan ng mga basura sa ilog na dumadaloy patungong dagat.





“Sino ang maaaring pumigil sa kanila?”
tanong ni Miguel.

“Ikaw,” sagot ng ina.

“Ako?”

“Nasa atin ang kapasiyahan,” sabi ng ina
niya. “Padalhan mo sila ng isang mensahe.”

Nakakita si Miguel ng isang patpat
at isinulat niya sa buhangin ang
mensaheng: S.O.S.

“Sagipin ang ating karagatan,”
pahayag ni Miguel.

SOS



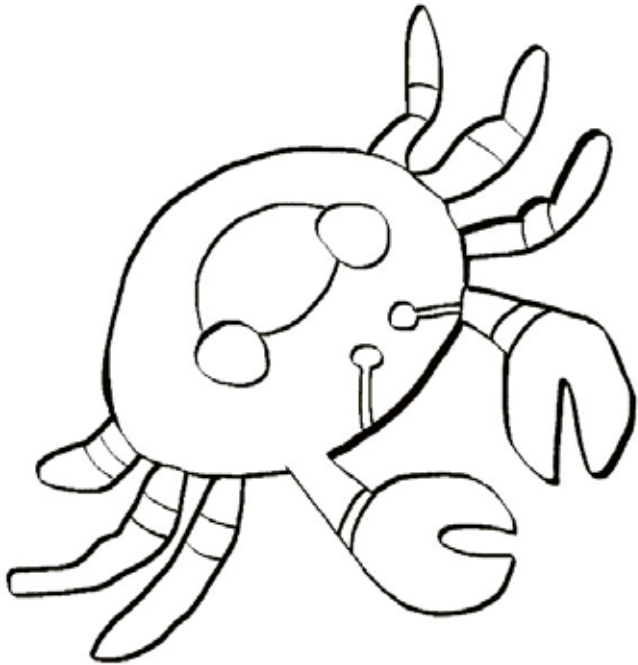


Dumagsa ang mga alon.
Tinangay ang mga isinulat niya.



Paulit-ulit na isinulat ni Miguel
ang mensahe.

Gumamit siya ng mga
halamang-dagat sa pagsulat nito.





Isinulat niya ito gamit ang mga basag na kabibe.



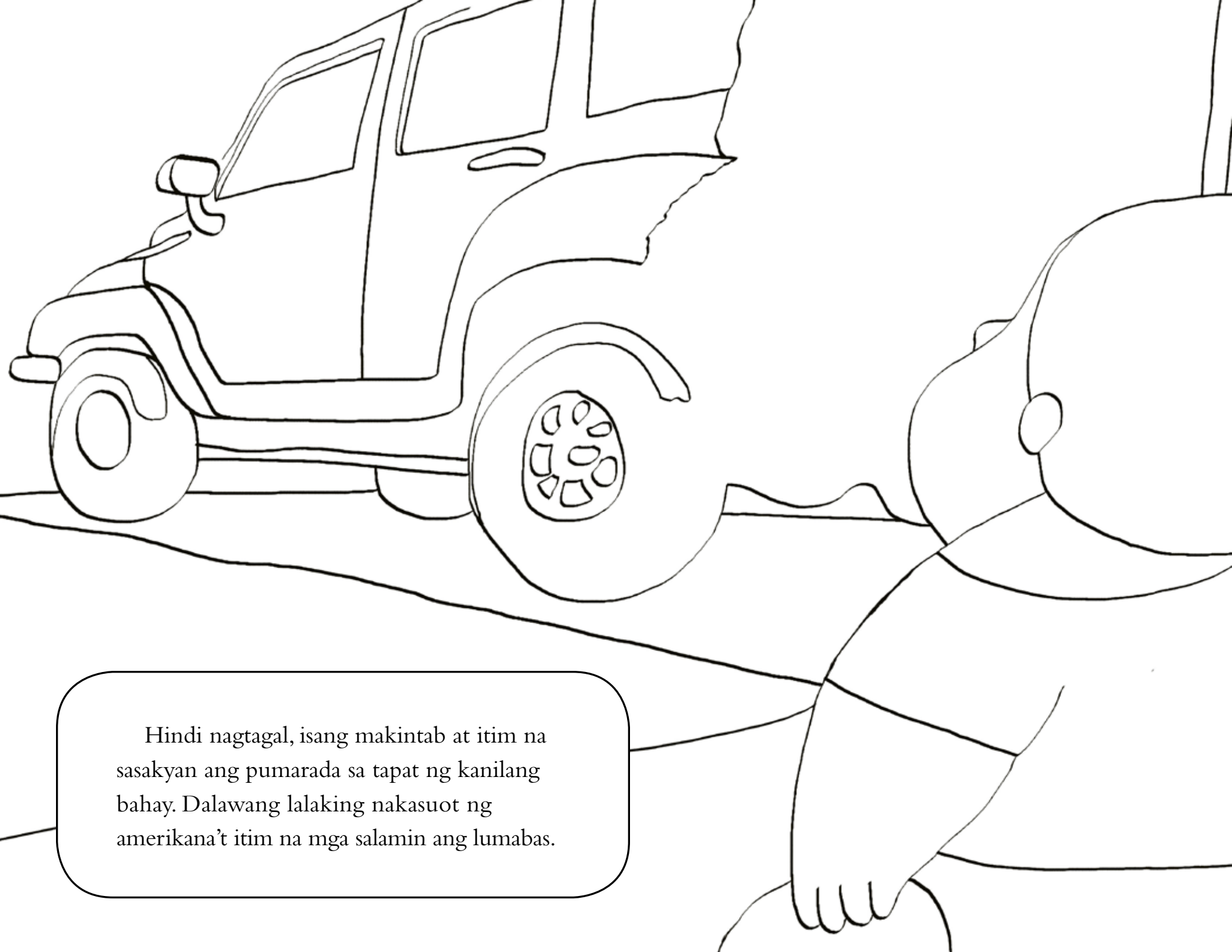


Paulit-ulit na binubura at tinatangay
ng mga alon ang mga isinulat niya.

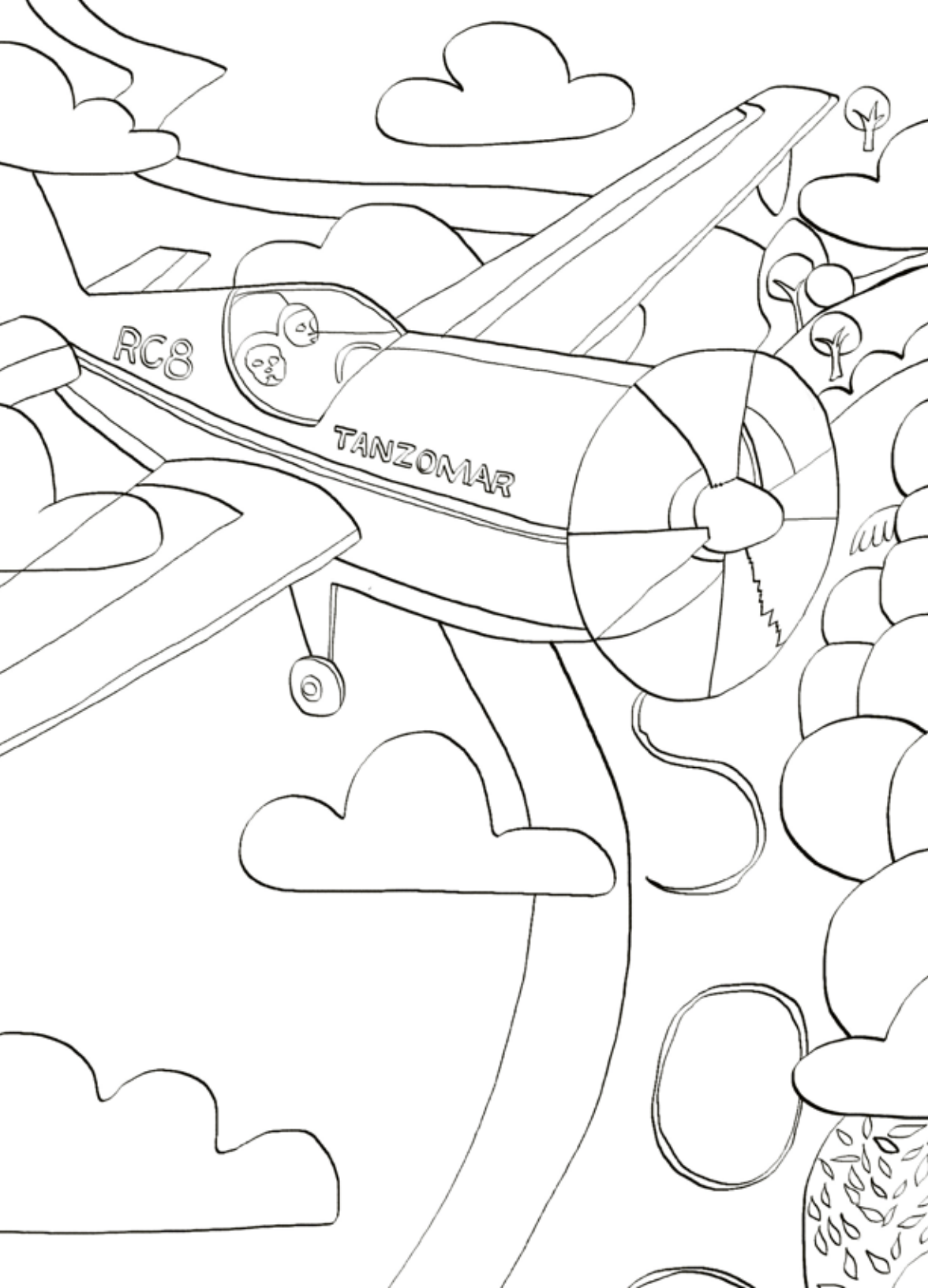
“Talagang walang mangyayari.
Kahit kailan, walang makapapansin sa
aking mensahe,” hinagpis ni Miguel.

“Subukan mong muli,” hikayat
ng ina. “Manalangin ka’t maging
matiyaga. Huwag kang susuko.
Balang araw may makapapansin din
sa iyong mensahe at magbabago ang
mga pangyayari.”





Hindi nagtagal, isang makintab at itim na sasakyan ang pumarada sa tapat ng kanilang bahay. Dalawang lalaking nakasuot ng amerikana't itim na mga salamin ang lumabas.



“Tuwing umaga, kapag ang Presidente ng aming kumpanya ay nagpapalipad ng kanyang pribadong eroplano sa ibabaw ng dalampasigan, natatanaw niya ang iyong mensahe sa buhangin,” wika ng isa.

“Pinapunta niya kami rito para alamin ang ibig sabihin nitong S.O.S. Kayo ba ay nasa panganib?”



“Sabihin ninyo sa inyong Presidente na ang ibig sabihin ng S.O.S. ay ‘Sagipin ang ating karagatan,’” pahayag ni Miguel.

“Sabihin ninyo sa kanya na itigil na ang pagtapon ng kanyang mga basura sa ilog.”





“Ang ilog ay dumadaloy papuntang dagat. Nilalason ng basura ang mga isda’t halaman. Nagpaparumi ito sa tubig at dalampasigan. Nagkakasakit ang mga ibon.

At ito’y kinasusuklaman ko!”

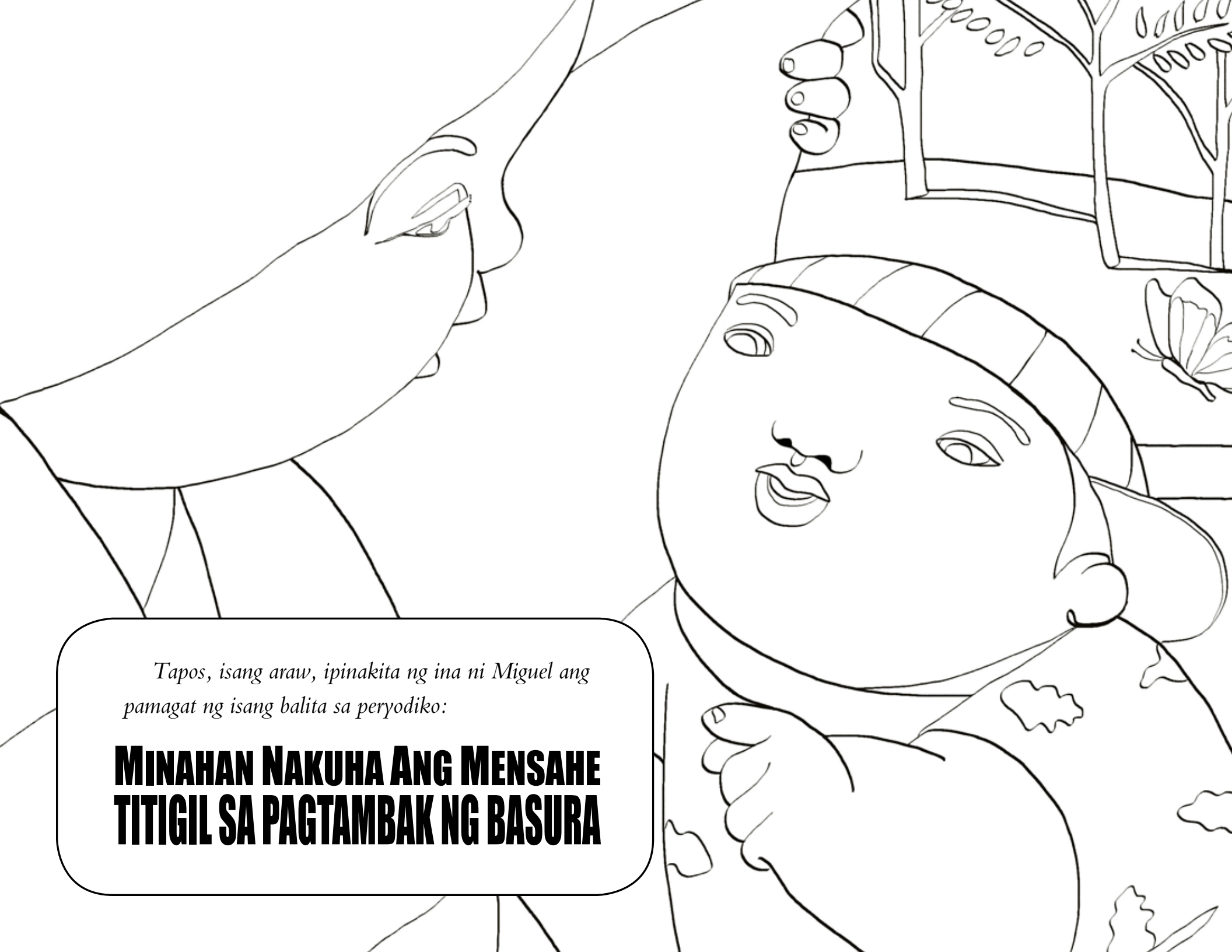
Patuloy sa pagdadasal si Miguel.
At araw-araw, sinusulat niya ang
mensahe sa buhangin.





At araw-araw, dumaragsa rin ang alon at tinatangay ang mga isinusulat niya.





Tapos, isang araw, ipinakita ng ina ni Miguel ang pamagat ng isang balita sa peryodiko:

**MINAHAN NAKUHA ANG MENSAHE
TITIGIL SA PAGTAMBAK NG BASURA**



Napangiti si Miguel, tumakbo siya sa dalampasigan at nakakita ng isang patpat. Sumulat siya ng mensahe sa buhangin.

THANK YOU



Dumagsa ang mga alon at binura ang kanyang mga sinulat.
Tinangay ito sa mga malalayong lupain.



My thanks...

to God, for the glory and bounty of the oceans.

to Gigo Alampay and CANVAS for the opportunity

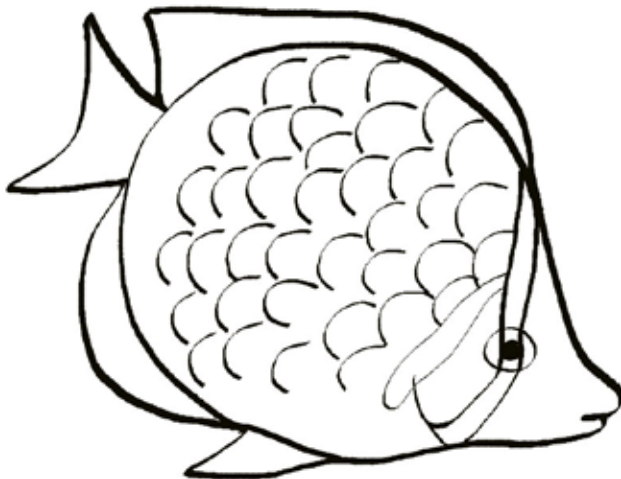
to write this book.

to Roel Obemio for his illustrations.

to my mother, Gladys May Aserappa, for her kind support.

to my son, Nicolas Bernard Re, whose art inspires me.

Charmaine Aserappa



TUNGKOL SA MANUNULAT

SI CHARMAINE ASERAPPA ay *Communications Officer* ng isang simbahang ipinangalan kay San Francisco ng Assisi, ang patrong santo ng mga buhay na nilalang at ng kalikasan. Nakatira na siya sa Asya, sa Hilagang Amerika, at Europa, at siya ang may-akda ng *IN A JAPANESE GARDEN* (*Council Oak Books*, 1999), isang international bestseller na libro.

Si Charmaine Aserappa is Ambasador ng Tula para sa *Keats Society*.

TUNGKOL SA PINTOR

Nagtapos si ROEL OBEMIO ng *Fine Arts studies* sa University of the East, kung saan siya ay nag-major sa Pagpinta. Hinahangaan sa kanyang mga obra gamit ang *watercolor* at *acrylic*, ang kanyang sining ay naimpluwensiyahan ng kanyang dalawang iniidolng pintor: si Fernando Botero (Colombia) at Mauro Malang (Pilipinas).

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

HELPING THE BEACH (AND THE OCEAN) STAY HEALTHY

This activity involves a cleaning up a beach and trying to understand the trash that humans leave in the oceans that end up on beaches around the world. At the end of the activity, the participants (children and adults alike) have to be able to: (1) observe the beach environment more closely and the man-made things present on it, (2) analyze what types of trash are present on the beach, (3) formulate an individual or group plan of action to prevent or decrease human impact on the beach and our oceans.

CLEANING THE BEACH

Depending on the children's ages, group them into clean-up groups with one (1) adult preferably with a group to ensure safety. Provide environmentally-friendly trash bags or containers (reusable or biodegradable) for each individual. You can also ask the participants to bring their own trash container/bag before the activity.

Organize the clean-up groups in a line along the beach, each group spread across the width of the beach for better coverage. Designate start and end points for the clean-up groups. Set the time for the end of the clean-up. Although not necessary, a prize for the most volume of trash collected may be given as an incentive. For smaller children, a shorter period of time may be given so that they can do the rest of the activity without tiring them out.

WHAT'S IN TRASH?

At the end of the collection period, ask the children to sort the trash that they've collected into two main piles: those that are natural and those that were made by humans. Depending on the school-level of the children, ask them to sort the natural pile into those that are from plants and from animals. For the human-made pile of trash, sort them out according to what they think the trash is made out of: plastic, rubber, cloth, glass, metal, etc.

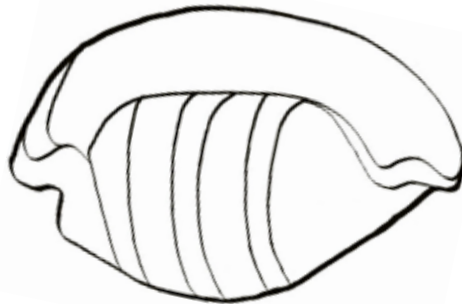
LET'S TALK ABOUT TRASH

After the sorting, a discussion leader/facilitator should ask the group to determine which material the majority of the human-made trash is made of. Discuss the connection of this material to their daily lives. Most of the trash is probably made of plastic or related products. The discussion leader can ask the children what types of plastic material were found and what they used it for in their daily lives. They may be bags of chips or snacks they eat, water or soda bottles, or other disposable food containers or plastic packaging. The discussion can lead to how most plastic takes a long time to biodegrade in the ocean and even while buried in landfills. Plastic bags have been known hazards to marine life - to fishes and birds, for example. If they do decay/degrade, plastic chemicals dissolved in seawater can pose a threat to both marine life and the humans that eat them.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Ask the children what they think should be done about this problem but keep the discussion on the level of what they can do as individuals or with their families or schoolmates. How can they use less of these man-made ocean pollutants in their daily lives? Some suggested actions:

- recycling plastic products
- using reusable containers (e.g., for school snacks or lunches from home, personal refillable drink containers, no disposable straws, etc.)
- supporting vendors/establishments that use less disposable plastic products or have green programs
- talking to friends about the benefits of recycling
- using reusable shopping bags instead of the store-issued plastic (or even paper) bags
- finding ways of safely reusing plastic items (repurposing) for craft, art or other creative projects



SOME SUGGESTED WEB ARTICLES ON PLASTIC

Barry, C. 2009. Plastic Breaks Down in Ocean, After All—And Fast. Retrieved from <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2009/08/090820-plastic-decomposes-oceans-seas.html>

Bourne, J.K. 2006. Loving Our Coasts to Death. Retrieved from <http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/earth/surface-of-the-earth/loving-coasts.html>

Harris, W. 2009(?). How Long Does It Take for Plastic to Biodegrade? Retrieved from <http://science.howstuffworks.com/science-vs-myth/everyday-myths/how-long-does-it-take-for-plastics-to-biodegrade1.htm>

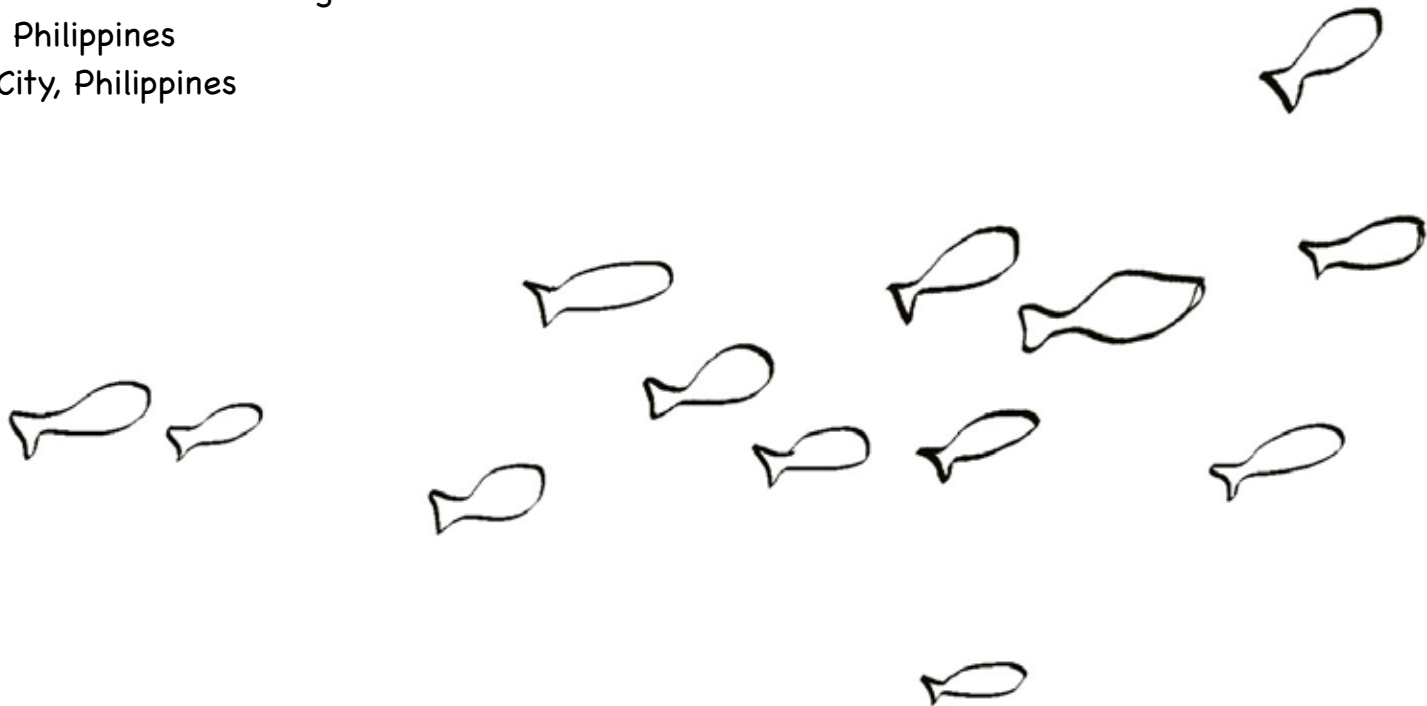
Lapidos, J. 2007. Will My Plastic Still Be Here in 2057? Retrieved from http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/explainer/2007/06/will_my_plastic_bag_still_be_here_in_2507.html

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T	F	I	N	D	P	V	J	T	D	F	O	N	D	T	V
J	U	R	G	K	Z	T	H	A	T	U	R	F	K	H	Y
X	X	M	W	R	H	G	O	A	M	T	W	O	R	D	Y

WORDS RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Atmosphere - the air around us

Carbon Dioxide - the air we breathe out. It is a greenhouse gas

Climate - the condition of the atmosphere in area over a long period of time

Ecosystem - the system where living and non-living things interact

El Niño - ocean and atmosphere condition that brings drought to Southeast Asia and Australia

Fossil Fuel - oil, coal and natural gas

Global Warming - increase in the average temperature of the atmosphere

Greenhouse Gas - a gas which absorbs and holds heat in the atmosphere

La Niña - ocean and atmosphere condition that brings more rain to Southeast Asia and Australia

Ocean - a large saltwater body that can absorb sunlight

Monsoon - seasonal winds in the tropics

Ozone - a layer in the Earth's atmosphere which absorbs sunlight

Tsunami - an ocean wave caused by an underwater earthquake

Water Vapor - the gas phase of water; also a greenhouse gas

Weather - the day to day condition of the atmosphere in an area

T	F	I	N	D	P	V	J	T	D	F	O	N	D	T	V
J	U	R	G	K	Z	T	H	A	T	U	R	F	K	H	Y
X	X	M	W	R	H	G	O	A	M	T	W	O	R	D	Y

Today, the earth is experiencing the effects of climate change, which is thought to be caused by humans.

Look for the words in the list below. This will help you learn more about the terms and processes involved in climate change.

Have fun!

Atmosphere
Ecosystem
Global Warming
Ocean
Tsunami
Carbon Dioxide
El Niño
Greenhouse Gas

Monsoon
Water Vapor
Climate
Fossil Fuel
La Niña
Ozone
Weather

E	O	A	T	M	O	S	P	H	E	R	E	L	G
R	C	L	Y	E	E	C	Y	O	D	E	H	E	L
O	E	O	T	S	U	N	A	M	I	B	I	U	O
P	A	L	C	G	K	M	A	P	X	S	Z	F	B
A	N	A	R	X	L	R	U	N	O	T	Q	L	A
V	I	N	E	C	E	T	A	M	I	L	C	I	L
R	O	I	S	H	N	R	V	Ñ	D	G	O	S	W
E	J	Ñ	T	W	S	I	L	A	N	I	Ñ	S	A
T	M	A	E	M	O	N	S	O	O	N	I	O	R
A	E	P	A	N	E	V	D	V	B	E	N	F	M
W	A	R	N	E	R	A	X	W	R	E	L	T	I
I	X	D	O	Z	O	N	E	I	A	Q	E	E	N
Z	U	M	E	T	S	Y	S	O	C	E	Y	K	G
S	A	G	E	S	U	O	H	N	E	E	R	G	V



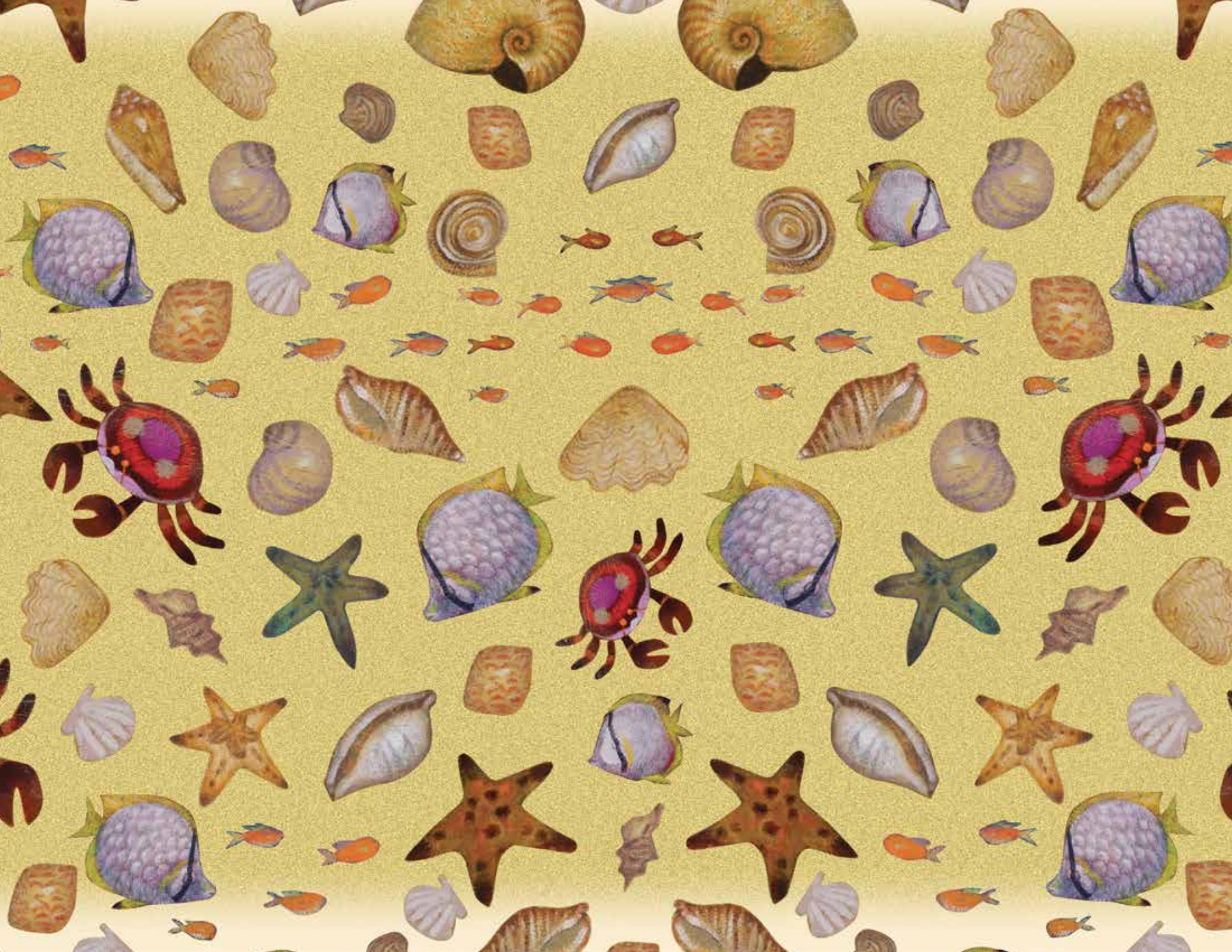
CANVAS' 1 Million Books for One Million Filipino Children Campaign aims to inspire in children a love for reading by donating its award-winning books to public schools, hospitals, and disadvantaged communities throughout the country.

Imagine and believe. A child with art and stories can change the world.

You can help us!

For more information, visit www.canvas.ph, email info@canvas.ph, or find us on Facebook: **Center for Art, New Ventures and Sustainable Development**.

*CANVAS, a non-profit organization,
works with the creative community to promote children's literacy,
explore national identity, and broaden public awareness
of Philippine art, culture, and the environment.*





Miguel loved the sea,
and was sad that the fish
and seabirds were dying.

*Kinagigiliwan ni Miguel ang dagat,
at siya'y nalulungkot na ang mga isda
at mga ibong dagat ay namamatay.*



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