

A DAY OUT WITH DELPHIE

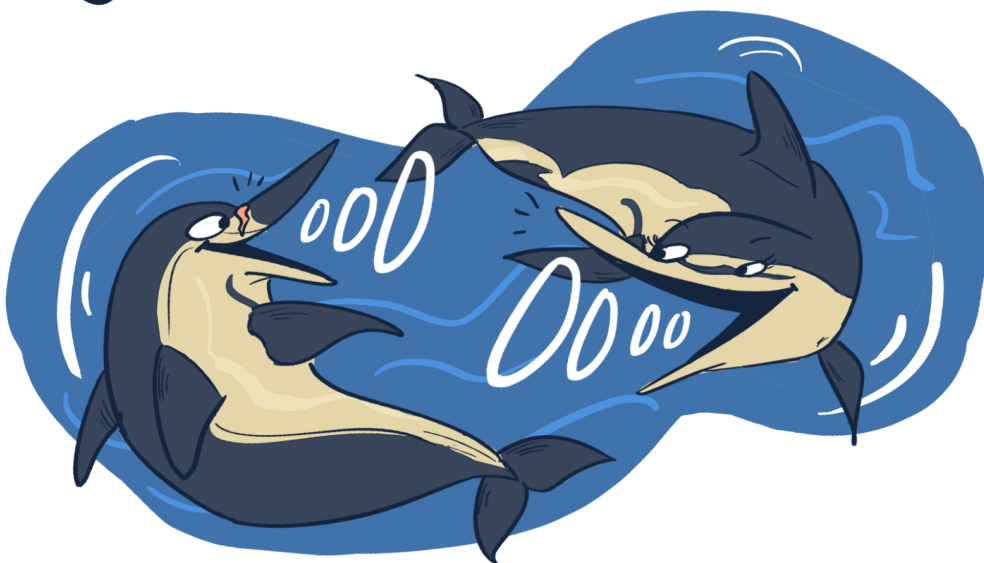
A COMIC + COLOURING BOOK

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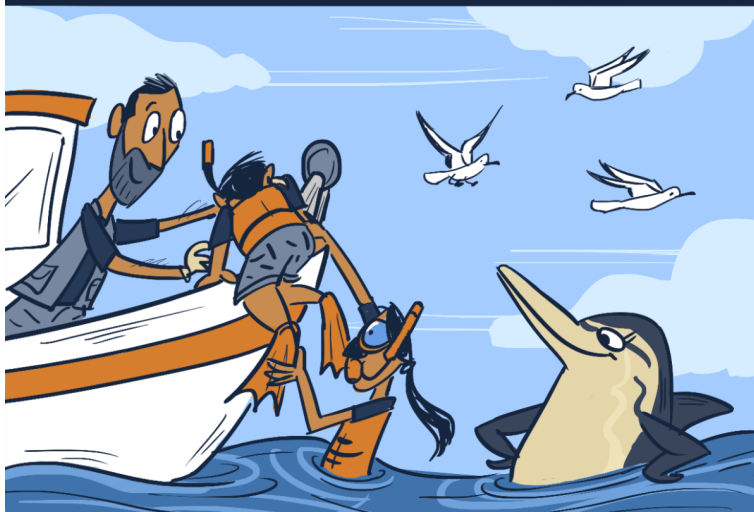
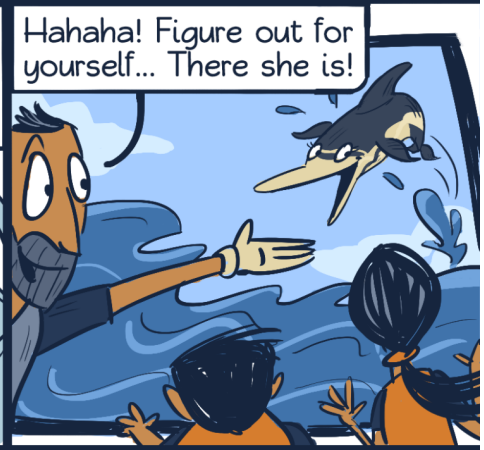
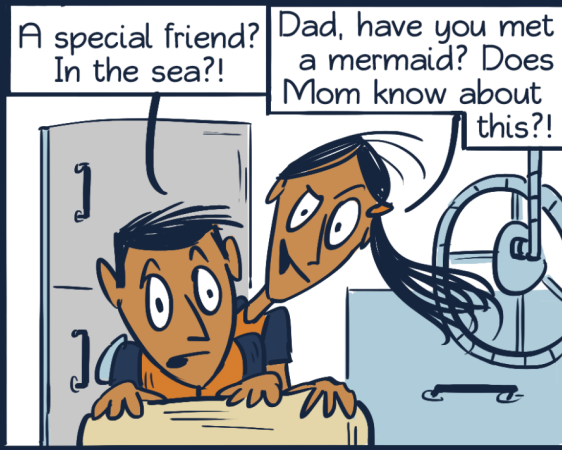
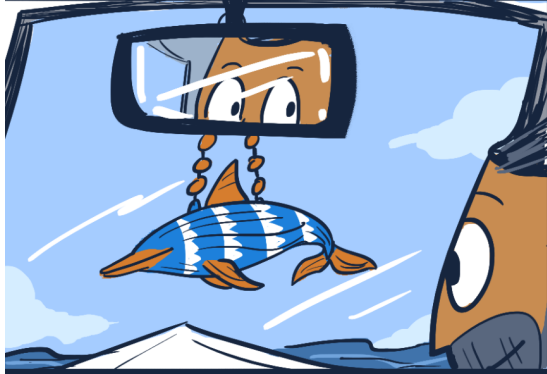


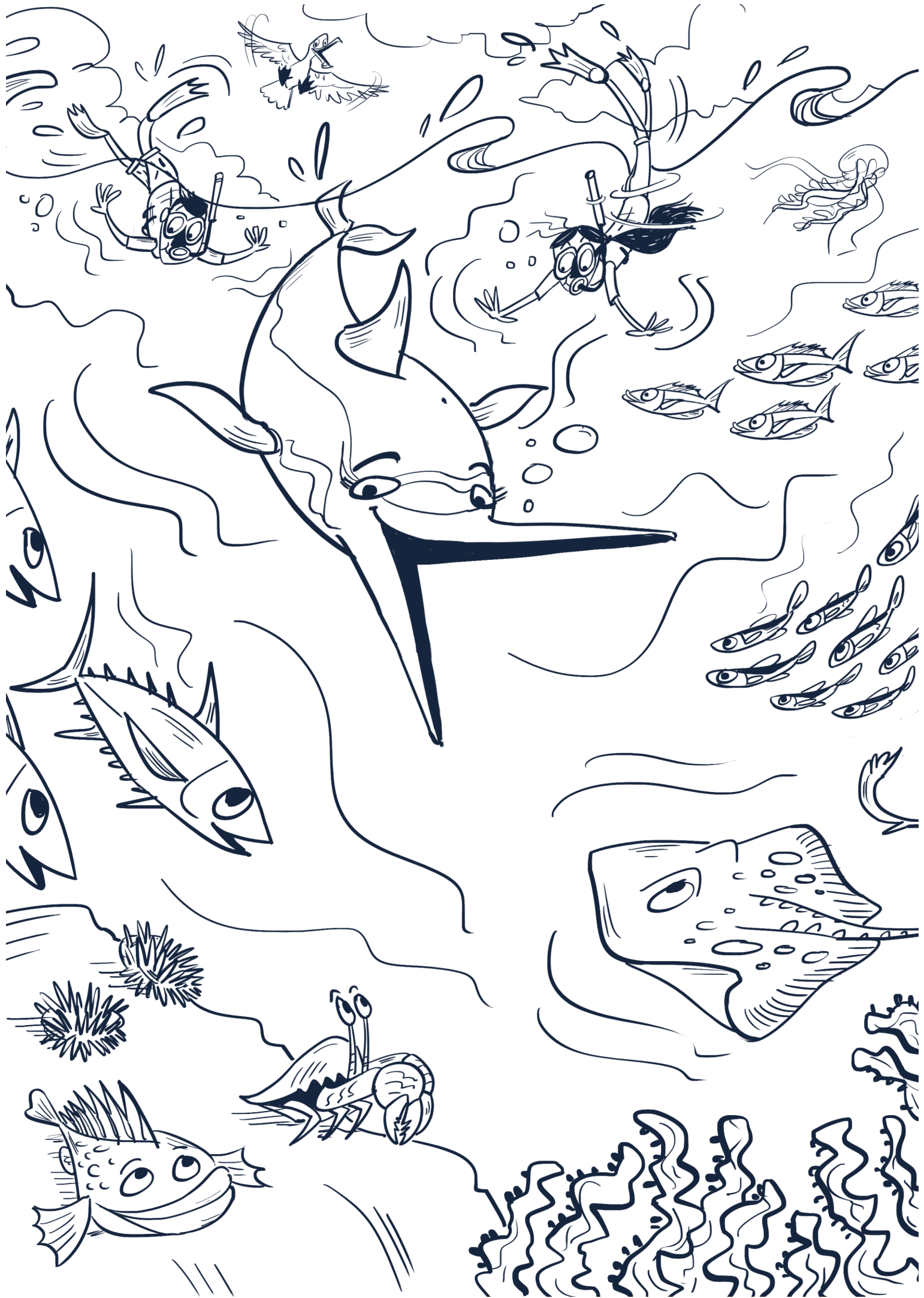
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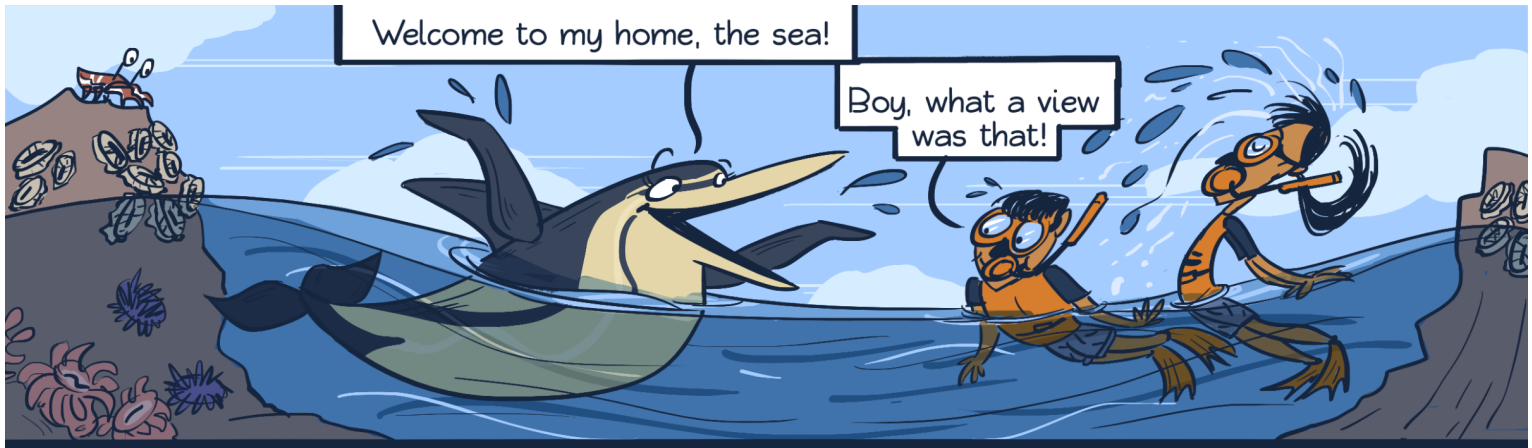
A DAY OUT WITH DELPHIE



Text and illustrations : Rohan Chakravarty
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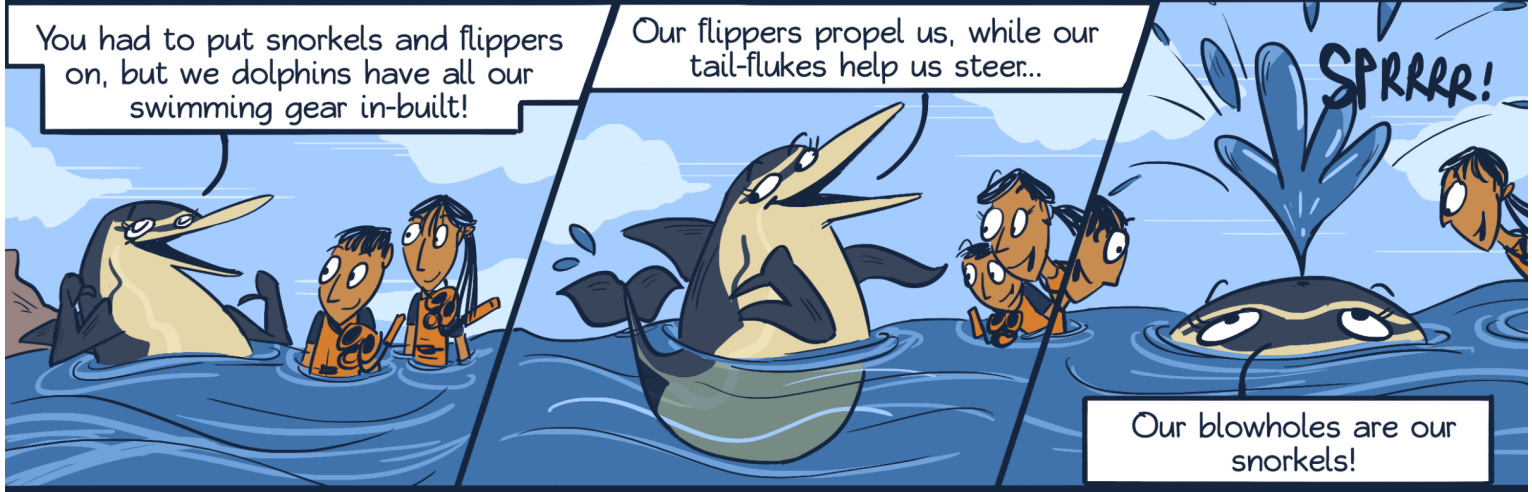






Welcome to my home, the sea!

Boy, what a view was that!

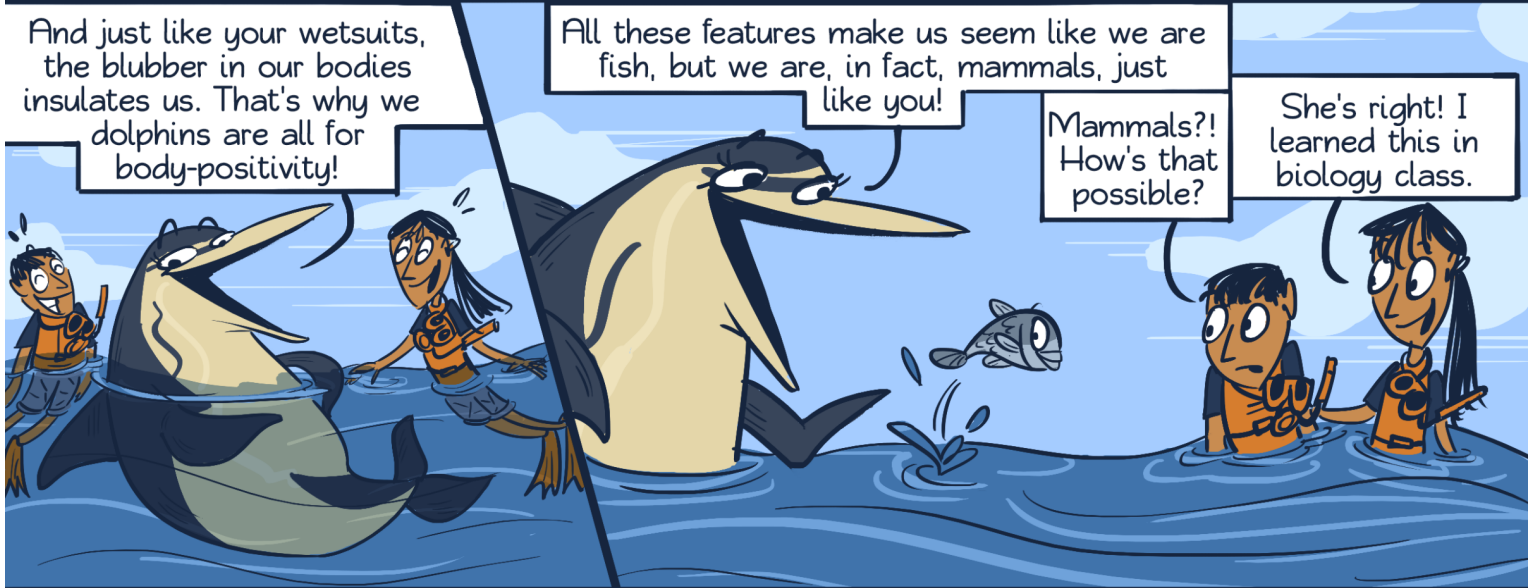


You had to put snorkels and flippers on, but we dolphins have all our swimming gear in-built!

Our flippers propel us, while our tail-flukes help us steer...

SPRRRR!

Our blowholes are our snorkels!

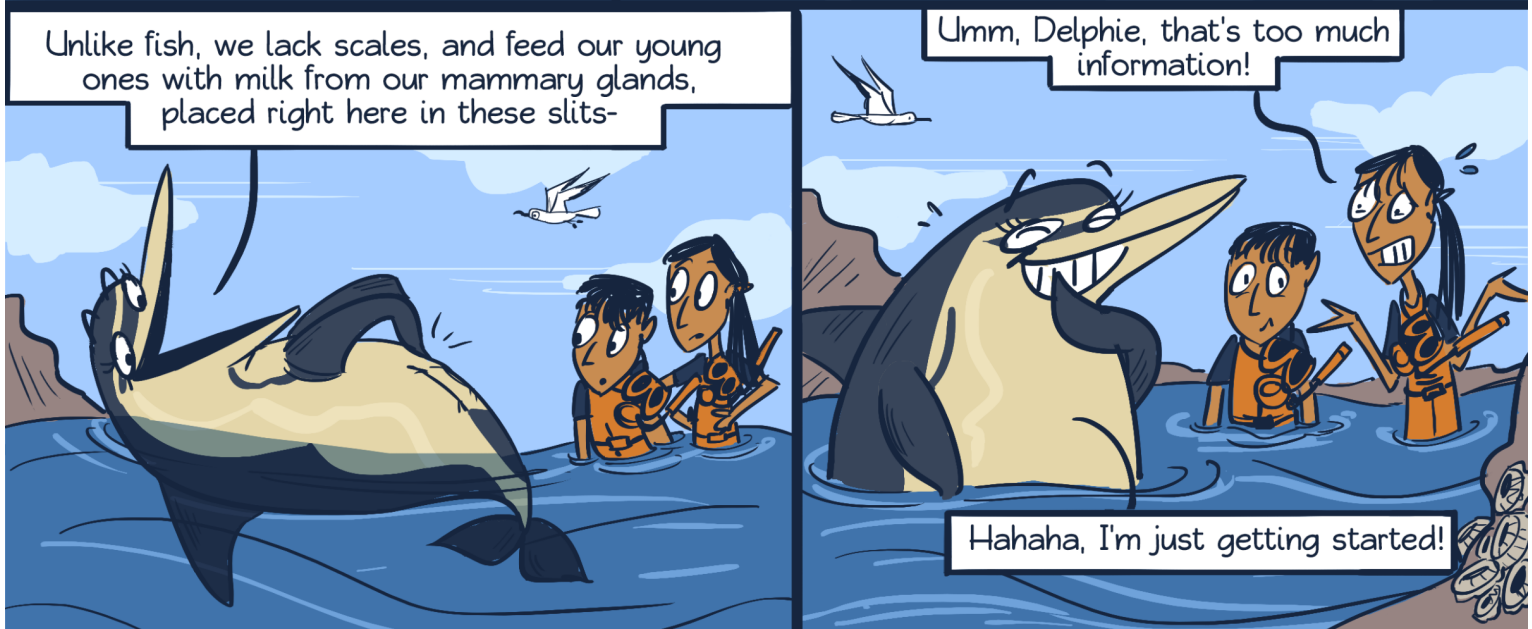


And just like your wetsuits, the blubber in our bodies insulates us. That's why we dolphins are all for body-positivity!

All these features make us seem like we are fish, but we are, in fact, mammals, just like you!

Mammals?! How's that possible?

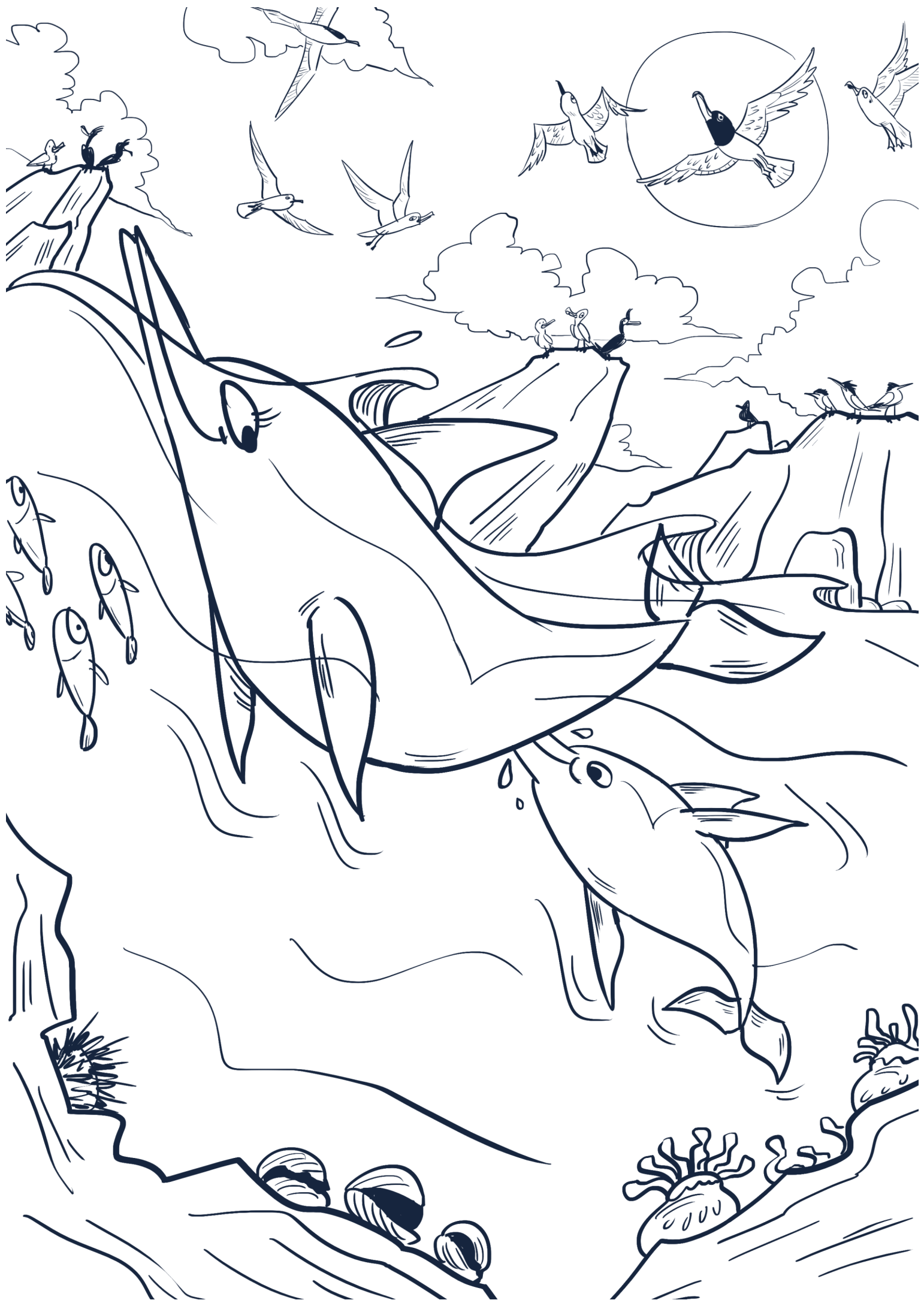
She's right! I learned this in biology class.



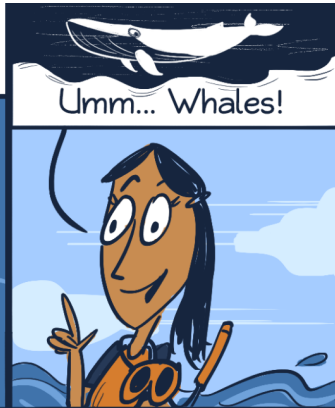
Unlike fish, we lack scales, and feed our young ones with milk from our mammary glands, placed right here in these slits-

Umm, Delphie, that's too much information!

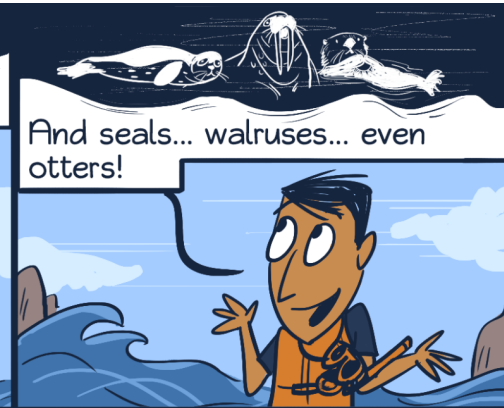
Hahaha, I'm just getting started!



Okay, here's a little quiz for you. Which other marine mammals can you think of? Your time starts now!



Umm... Whales!



And seals... walruses... even otters!

Very good! Here in the Mediterranean and Black Seas, there are eleven species of cetaceans in all, named and illustrated in the poster at the end of this book.



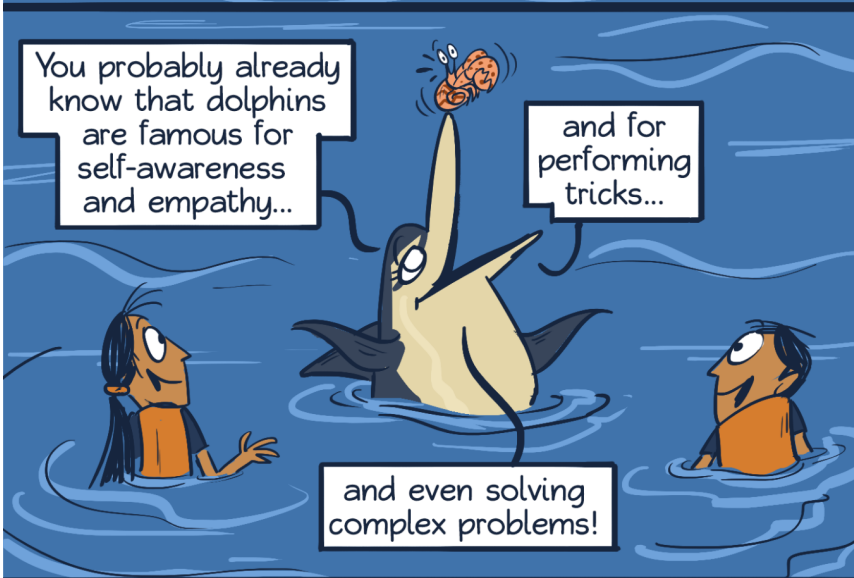
Cetaceans?

That's just a fancy word for whales, dolphins and porpoises.

Very smart! And that's another trait we share with human beings other than being mammals - high intelligence!



You probably already know that dolphins are famous for self-awareness and empathy...



and for performing tricks...

and even solving complex problems!

But did you also know that we can mimic other dolphins? Isn't that incredible, kids?!

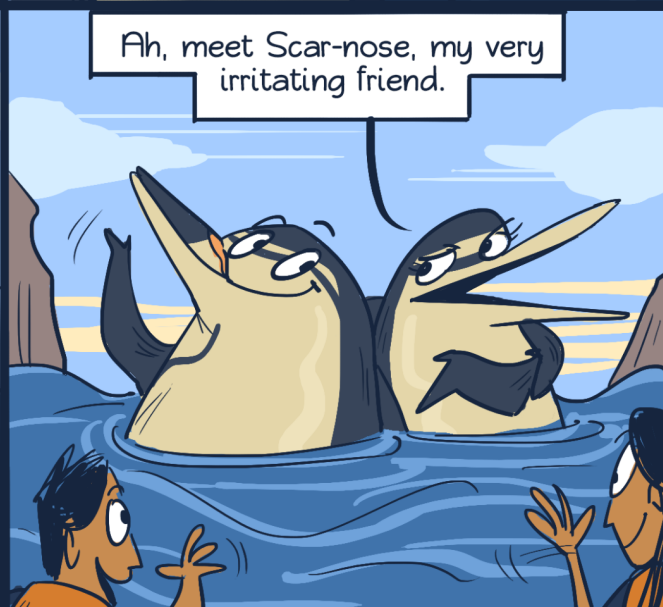


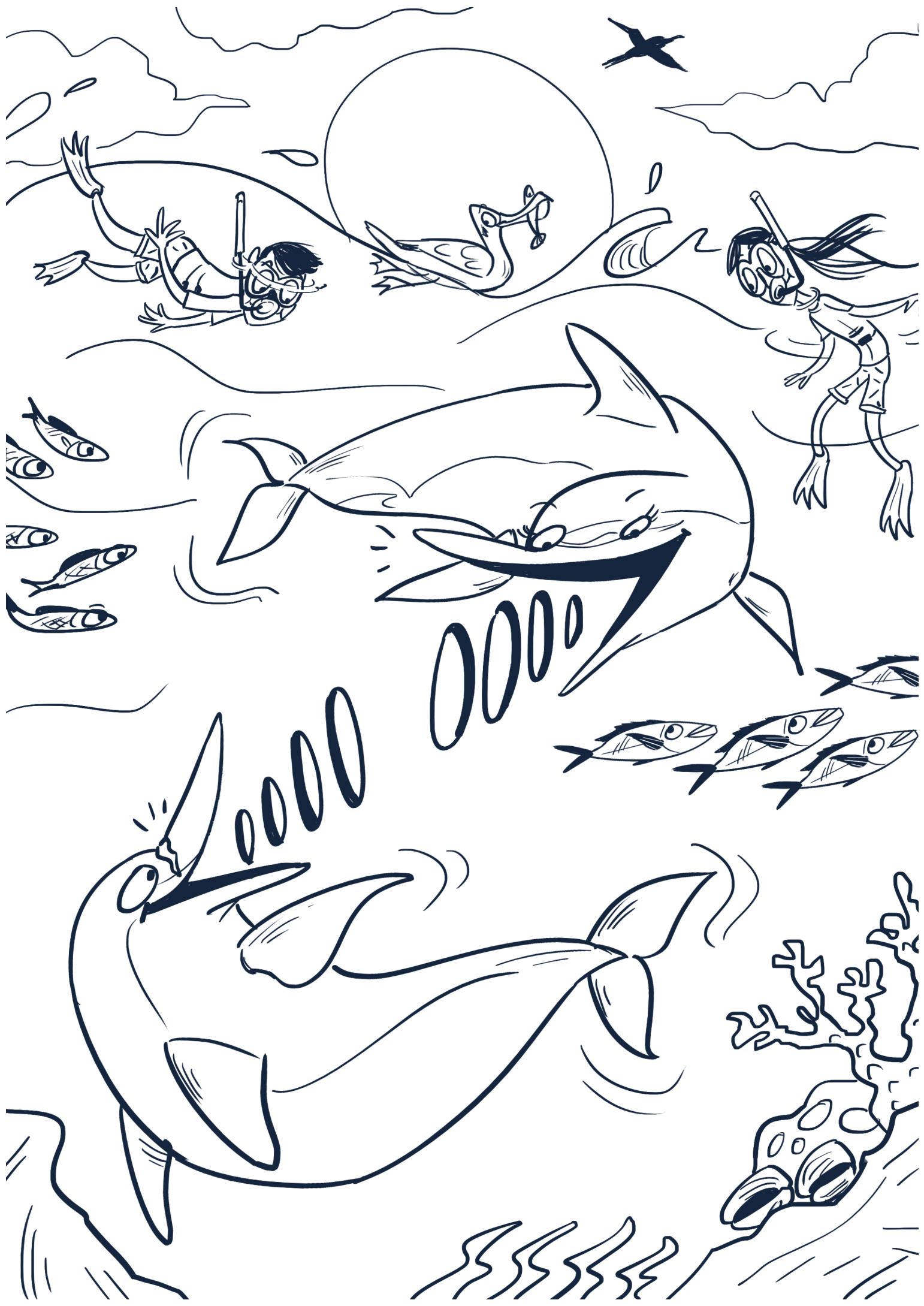
Isn't that increeediible, kiiiddssss?!



HAHA HAHA!

Ah, meet Scar-nose, my very irritating friend.







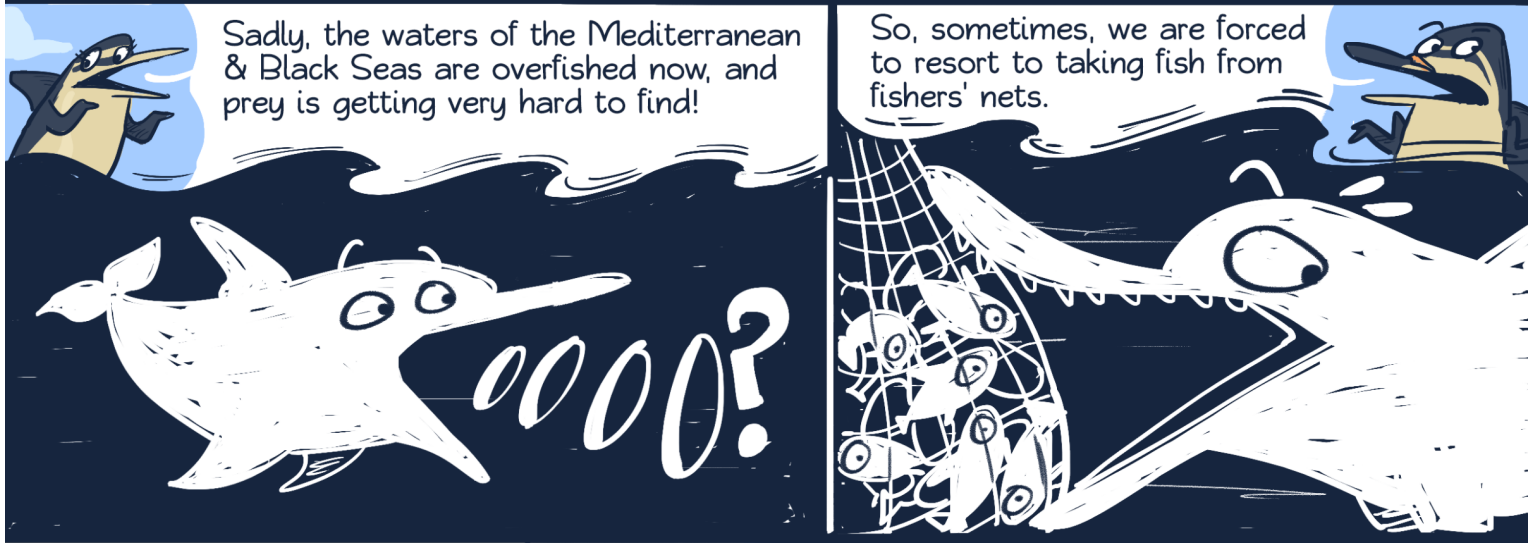
Hey, Scar-nose, if you don't mind me asking-
how did you get that scar?

Ah, well... That's a long story, and it still
hurts a bit when I think about it...

And that's also related to another
trait we share with humans: our love for
seafood!



Like humans use lines and nets
to catch fish, we use a very
sophisticated echolocation system
to locate and catch fish underwater...



Sadly, the waters of the Mediterranean
& Black Seas are overfished now, and
prey is getting very hard to find!

So, sometimes, we are forced
to resort to taking fish from
fishers' nets.



Yes. This isn't ideal for either of us.
Fishers face financial losses from
losing their catch, and damages
to their equipment...

and WE face the risk
of injuries and entanglement
in nets!



Fishing net mishaps are just a small part of our woes.

Loss of habitat, and injuries from collisions with vessels also add to our nightmares...

Oh, and the unbearable noise from all the human activity in the sea! Drilling for gas, oil exploration, vessel propellers and engines!

Yeah! Today happens to be unusually quiet, but on other days, Scar-nose and I can barely hear each other's calls, sonar whistles and clicks!

Remember the other day, when I said you look beautiful, but you heard you look like a fool?!

And how hard I whacked you in the face with my flipper! Poor you!

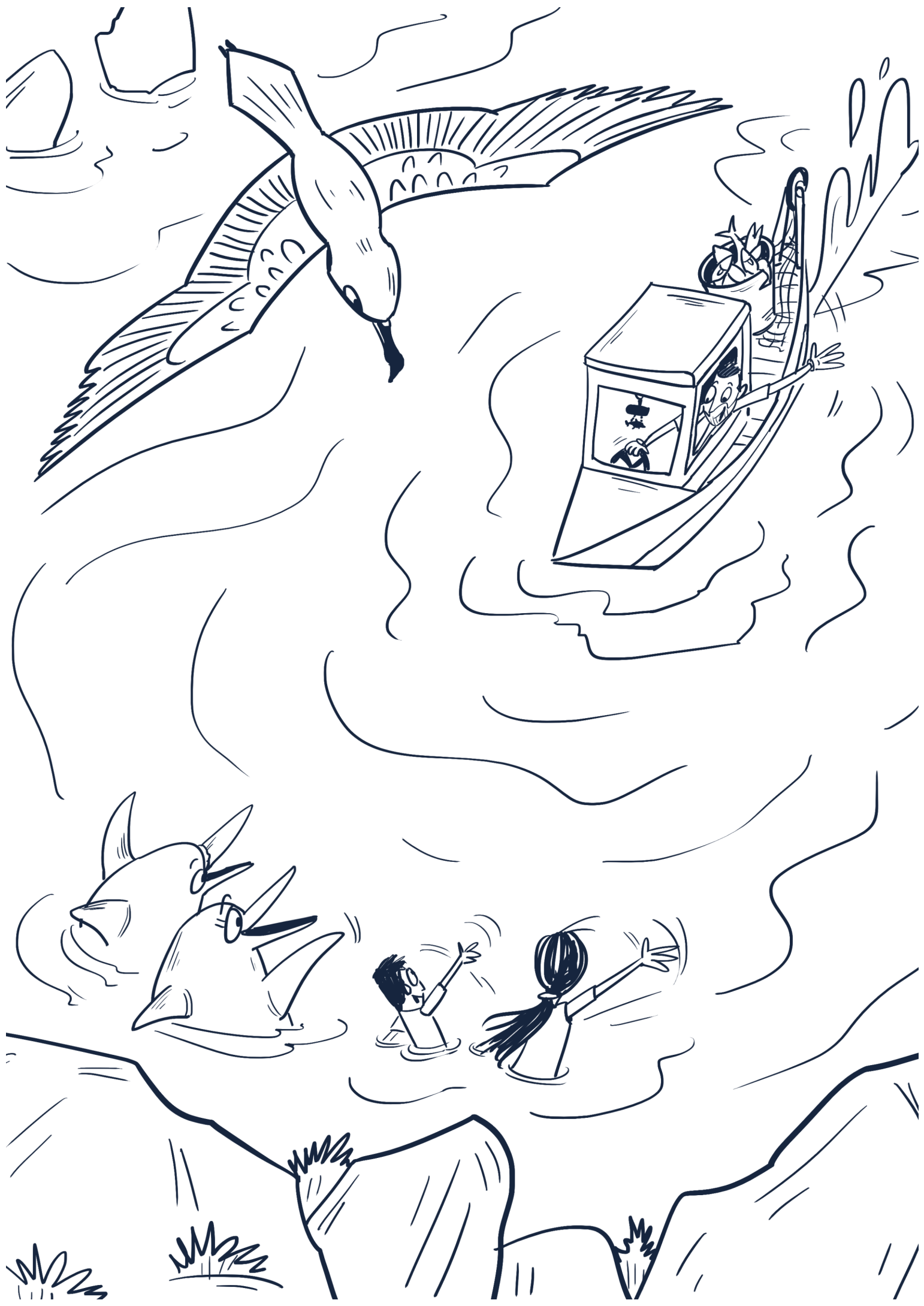
HAHAHAHAHA!

Oh, is that how you got that scar?

No, silly! He got entangled in a fishing net while he was hunting fish...

That's right... And guess who saved me that day?

Ah, there he comes! Your very cool fisherman dad!



Looks like you all have had a lot of fun today!

Yes! We have been learning so much about life as a dolphin, from Delphie and Scar-nose...

But Dad, I don't understand one thing... Scar-nose tried to take fish from your net and hurt himself so badly! How are you all friends?

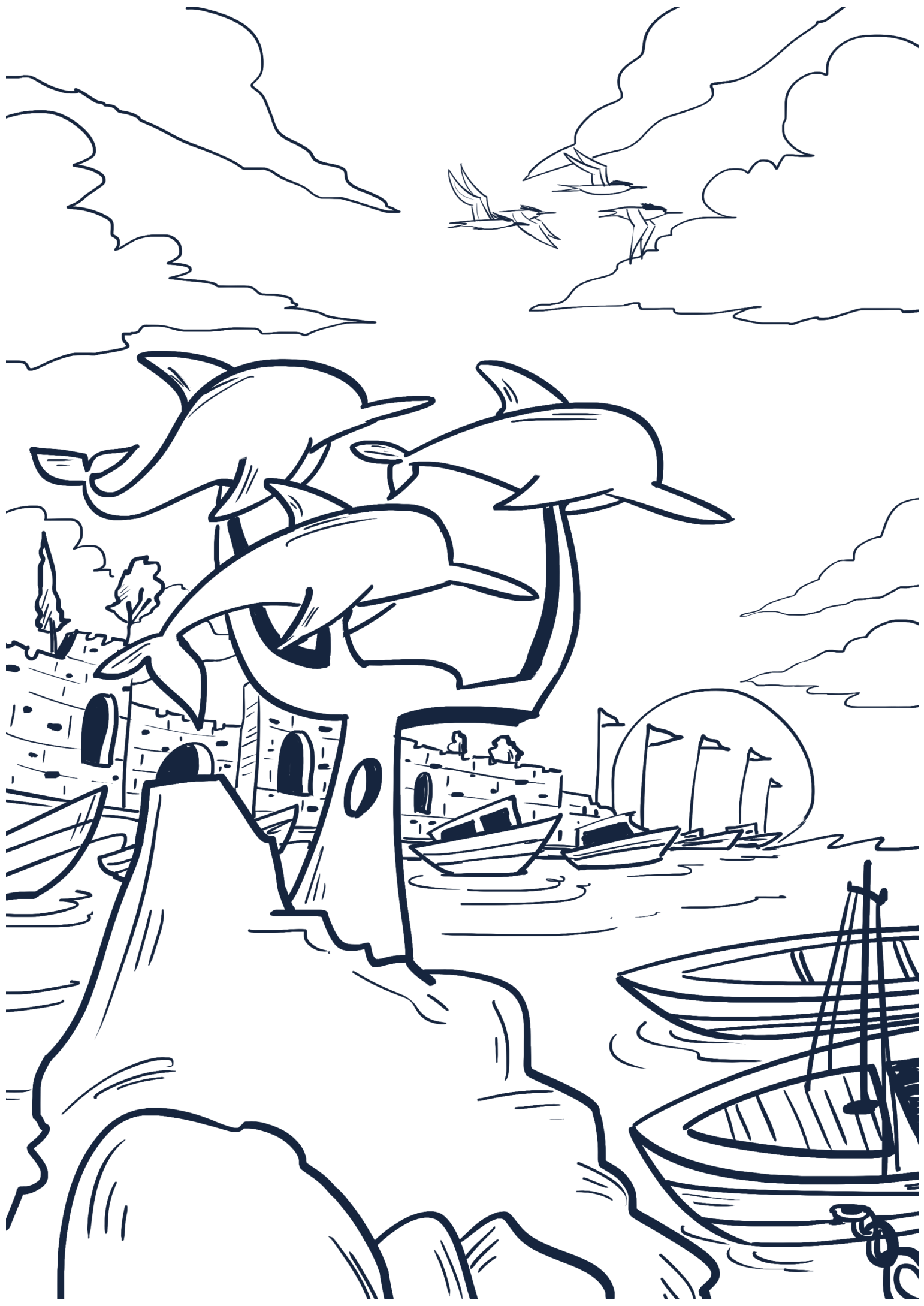
I am so glad you asked me this question!

Do you know what this toy hanging from my rear view mirror is?

This, my children, is a carving of a dolphin which my father, also a fisherman, made with his own hands! When I was young, he used to regale me with stories of a dolphin that drove fish into his net... Your grandpa carved this toy for me in memory of his dolphin friend!

Throughout my childhood, windows and doors in our homes, and mosaics in our monuments had dolphins carved, sculpted and painted on them...

because we fishers and dolphins have always been friends.



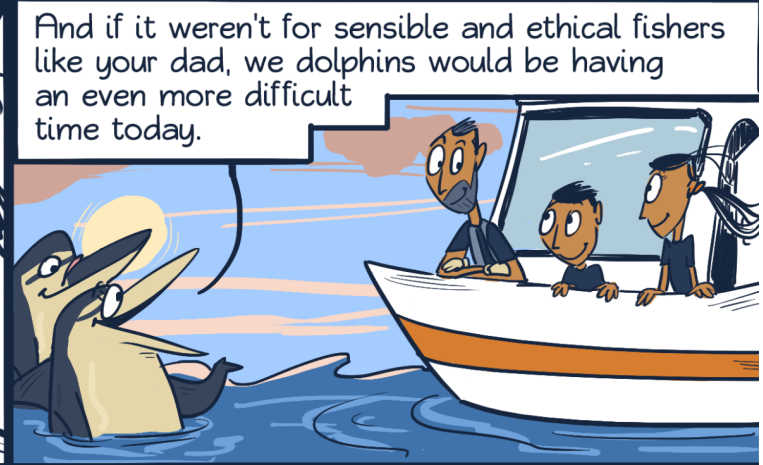
If it weren't for dolphins, we would never have productive fisheries! Dolphins are apex predators and keep the health of our seas and fisheries in check.



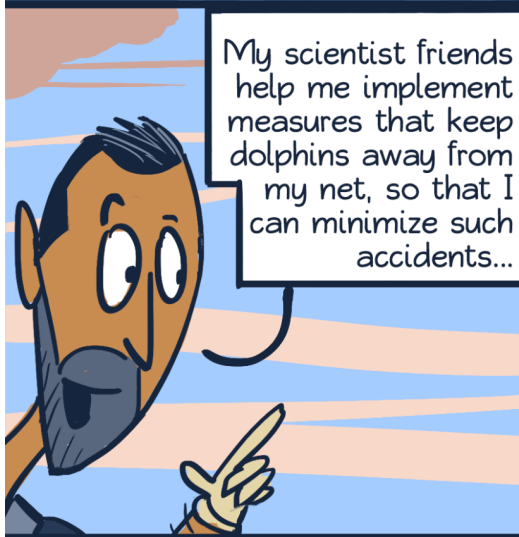
And this is why we've always celebrated them in our art and our culture.



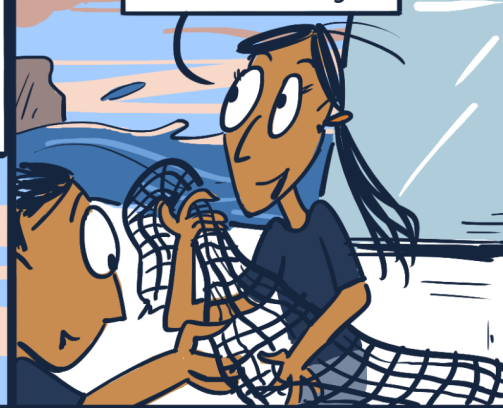
And if it weren't for sensible and ethical fishers like your dad, we dolphins would be having an even more difficult time today.



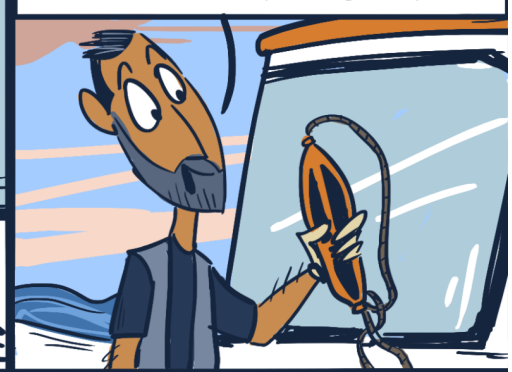
My scientist friends help me implement measures that keep dolphins away from my net, so that I can minimize such accidents...



Ah, that explains why you've been using thicker and stronger nets nowadays!



That's right... And acoustic devices like this pinger attached to my net, create sounds that are aimed at repelling dolphins.



Gosh, it does sound awful! Like what these gulls would sound when singing karaoke!

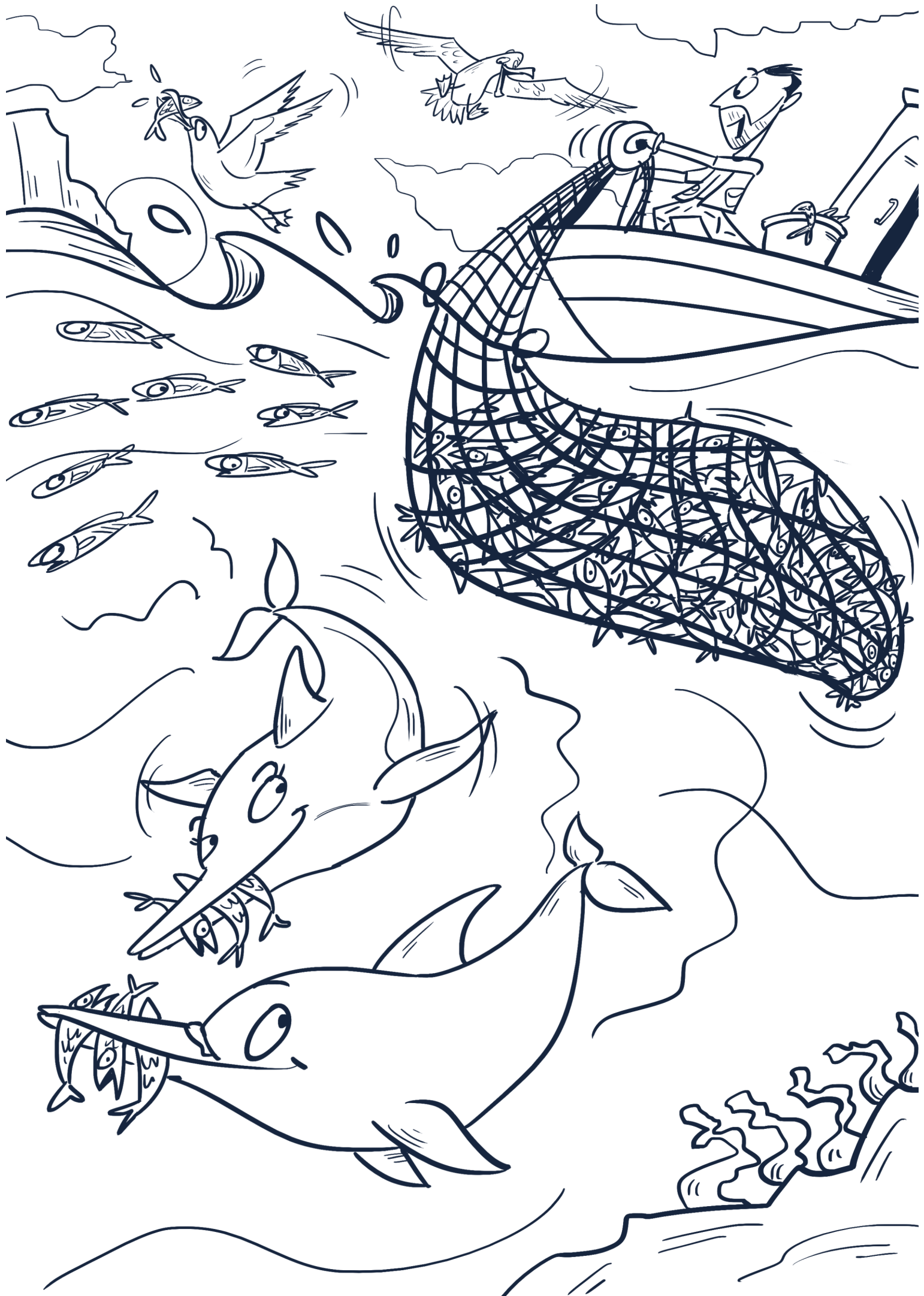


Kleeow
Kow-ow-ow!

Hahahaha!

But what's more important is that even though these measures may have their shortcomings, they help save the lives of dolphins and fishers' hard-earned money, when implemented wisely.





And this is where both dolphins and fishers need kids like you to help spread our message.

How?

Come on, there's so much we can do! Like write and draw about why dolphins are amazing!

Ah, right! And why they need to be conserved...

Very good! And even tell your buddies about how dolphins and fishers can be friends...

These gorgeous toys need to be back in fashion! How wonderful would it be to have them made out of recycled marine litter!

You could also start learning more about nature, and how it is interconnected with your lives. Sorry if I'm sounding like your school teacher!

Oh, and maybe you could also make people around you more aware of all the measures fishers in our seas take, to save dolphins from more accidents like the gash on my nose.

Cheer up, Scar-nose! So many dolphins lose their lives in fishing accidents. I am glad it was just a scar...

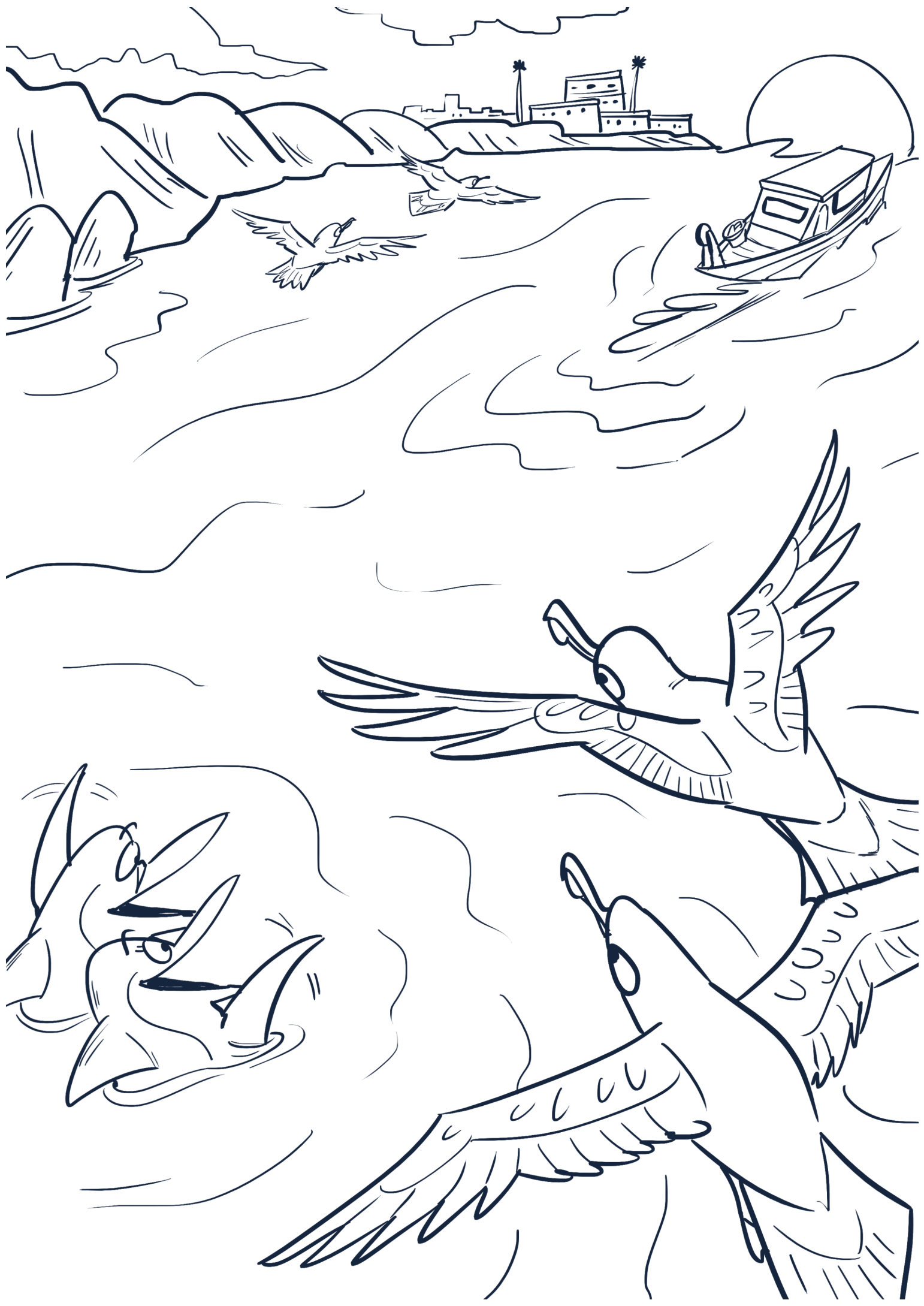
And you know what? The scar actually makes you look handsome!

Sorry, it's a bit noisy... What did you say, Delphie? I look like your grandson?

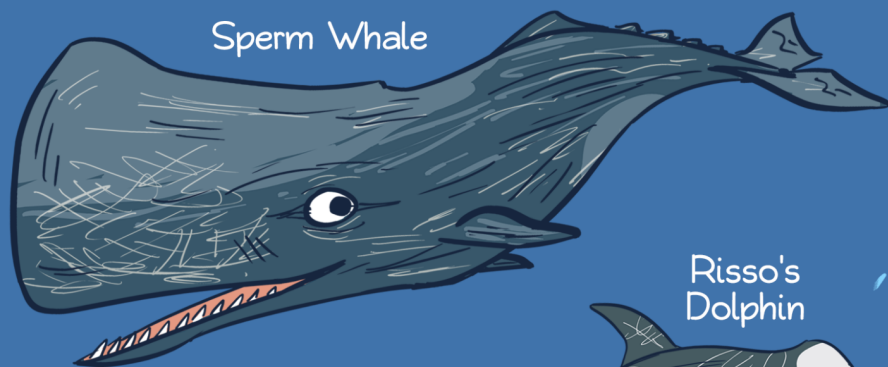
Want another whack from my flipper?

HAHAHA
HAHA!

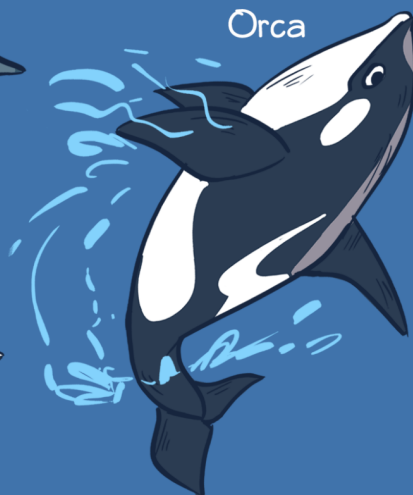
RMM



CETACEANS OF THE BLACK AND MEDITERRANEAN SEAS



Sperm Whale



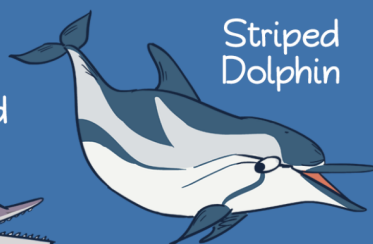
Orca



Risso's
Dolphin



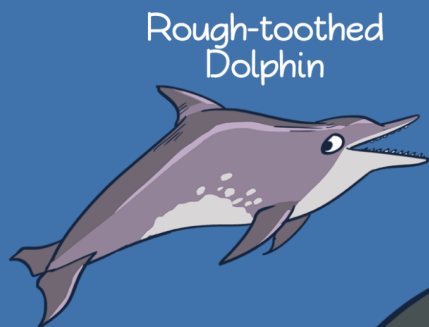
Common
Dolphin



Striped
Dolphin



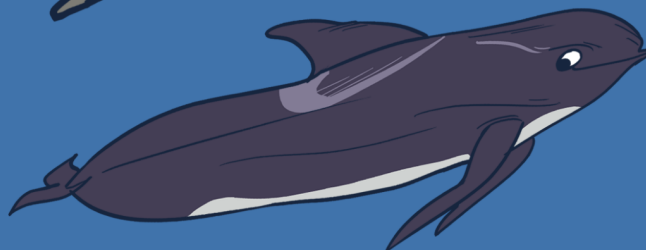
Common
Bottlenose
Dolphin



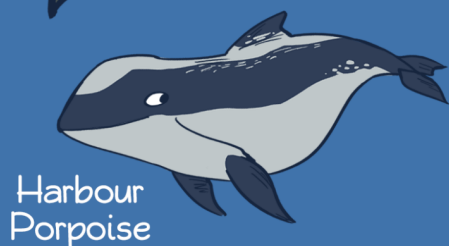
Rough-toothed
Dolphin



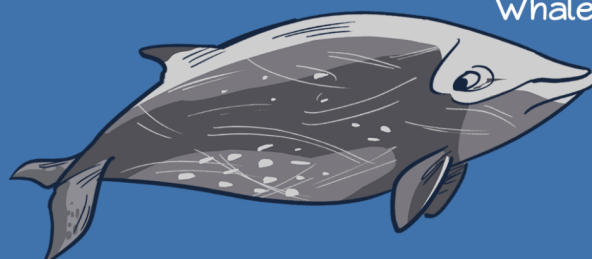
Fin
Whale



Long-finned
Pilot Whale



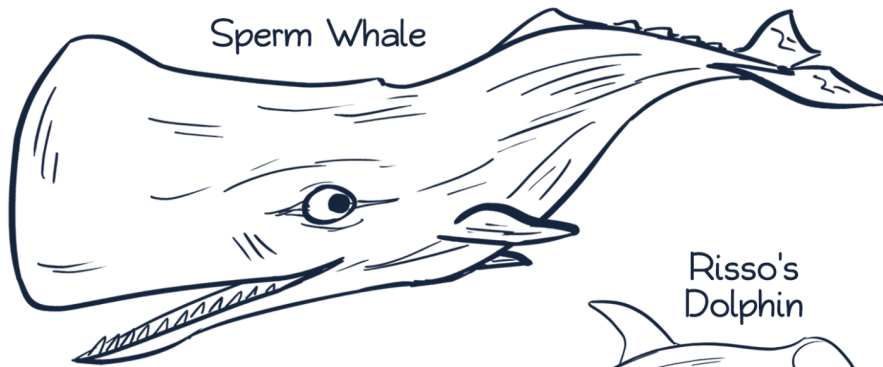
Harbour
Porpoise



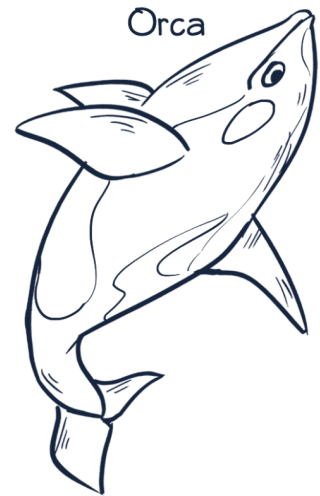
Cuvier's Beaked
Whale

CETACEANS OF THE BLACK AND MEDITERRANEAN SEAS

(Colour the species like those in the previous page)



Sperm Whale



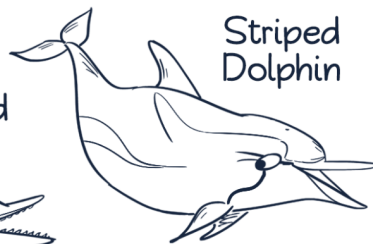
Orca



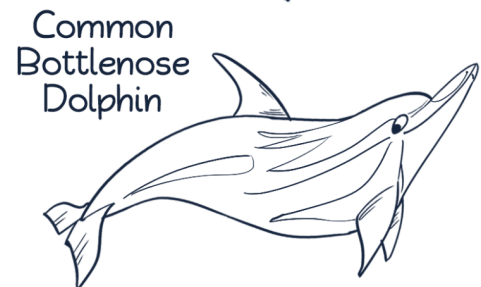
Risso's
Dolphin



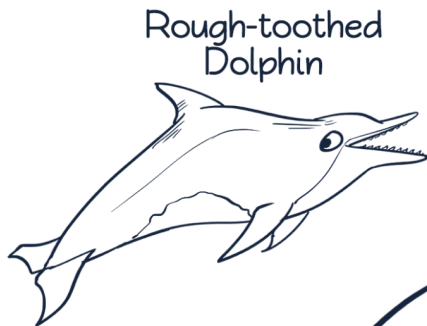
Common
Dolphin



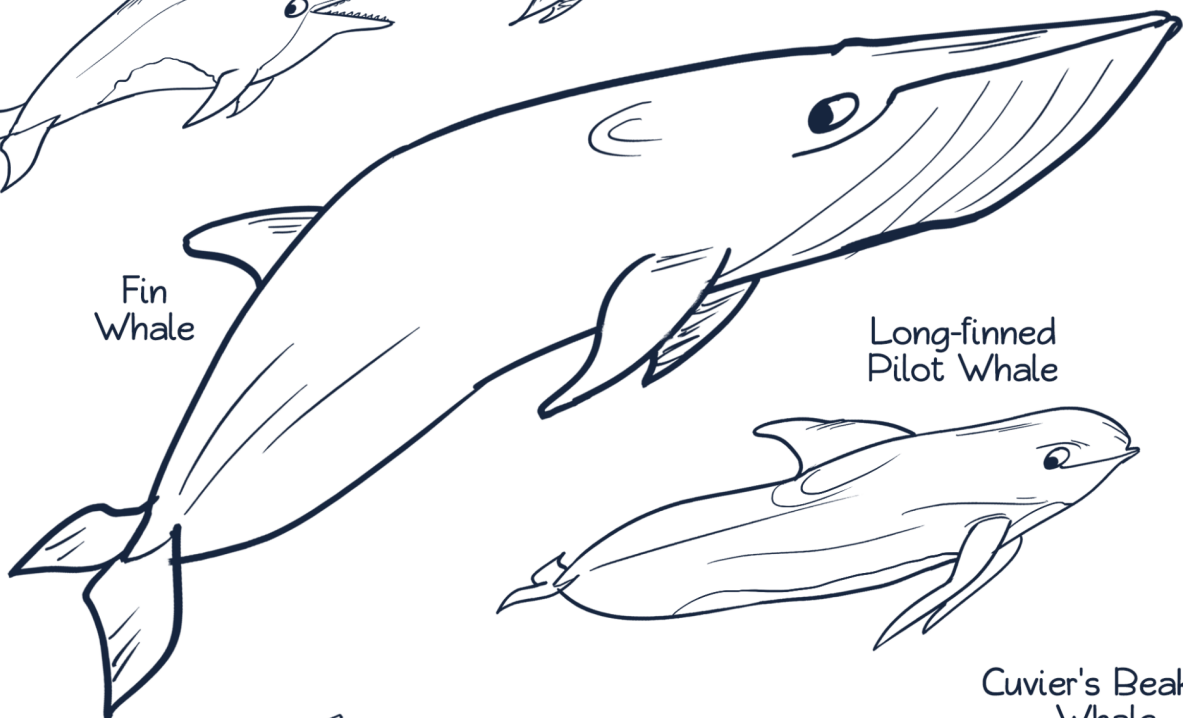
Striped
Dolphin



Common
Bottlenose
Dolphin

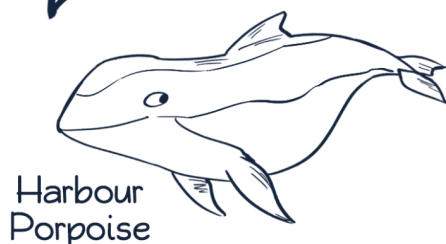
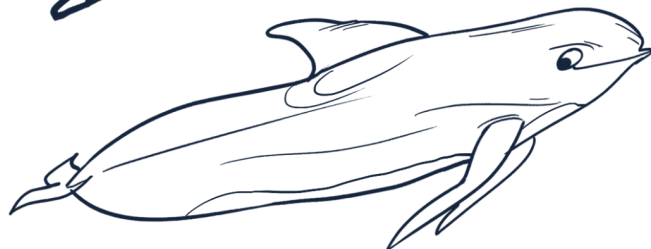


Rough-toothed
Dolphin

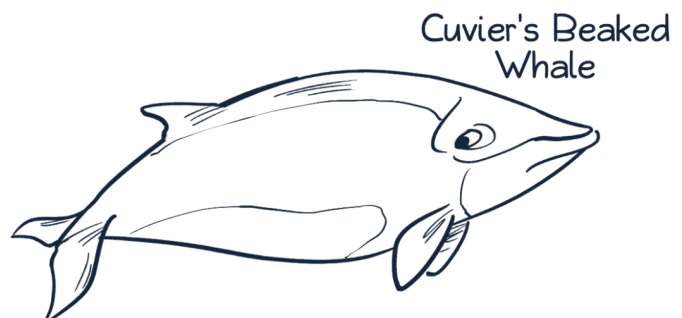


Fin
Whale

Long-finned
Pilot Whale

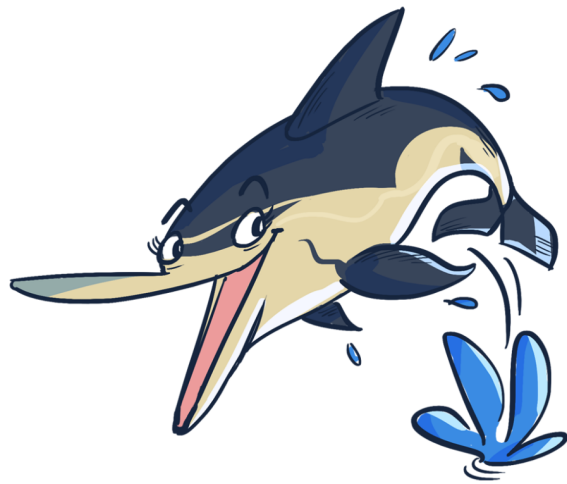


Harbour
Porpoise



Cuvier's Beaked
Whale

Notes



Notes

