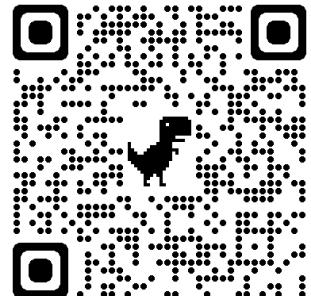


# A Sea Turtle's Tale



<https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/videos/20220915114722689/>

We meet Live, the sea turtle. She was rescued on a beach in Japan after being severely injured by sea debris. Now a picture book of her true story is touching the hearts of many, highlighting the reality of marine pollution, and inspiring them to step up. We take a closer look in this next report.

This story takes place on Okinoshima island. I'm a sea turtle named Live by the humans who hoped I would survive after rescuing me.

This story is set on an island off the coast of Shimane prefecture. It's based on the true story of Live, the sea turtle rescued 2 years ago who was eventually returned to sea. Abe Yuki is one of the team who took care of Live, leading to the creation of this picture book.

Live recovered but the waste problem persists. I wanted to address this issue through the book.

Live was washed ashore on the island after becoming tangled in a fishing net.

I lost my hand.

Weakened by the ordeal, she lost one of her limbs after being tightly constricted by the net. Here is Live at that time. Abe describes how she seemed to be in pain due to her injuries. Live was also in distress due to pieces of plastic that were found in her droppings. The turtle's plight raised environmental awareness among locals. After watching Live suffer, they were inspired to clean up their beaches. They collected about 100 tons of debris in a year. Younger residents also felt an increased respect for the ocean. Children at this nursery school performed a play based on Live's story. They also cleaned up trash on the beach.

Today, this picture book was read out loud to the children.

I hope they will continue to cherish and preserve our beautiful ocean.

The story ends with a scene in which Live, having recovered, returns to the sea. But it is not a typical happy ending. A jelly fish and a plastic bag can clearly be seen next to Live, highlighting how the issue of sea waste is not resolved.

Many turtles eat plastic bags thinking they are jelly fish, but there are now more people who are willing to clean up than before and I think Live would be happy about that.

Live not only showed strength and courage in recovering, the incident also taught humans a valuable lesson about marine debris and the importance of preserving the sea for future generations.

Source: (NHK World News)

**Now discuss the questions with a partner.**

1. How did the story of Live make you feel?
2. What other types of stories would make inspirational picture books? What types of activism do you think are important to teach elementary school children?
3. Do you think there are age limits to teaching types of activism? When is it appropriate for children to learn about specific types of activism?
4. Can you think of other ways to raise environmental awareness?
5. Is there any excusable time to litter? Should we make people who litter serve jail time?