

# TEACHING NOTES:

## I SPY TREASURE!

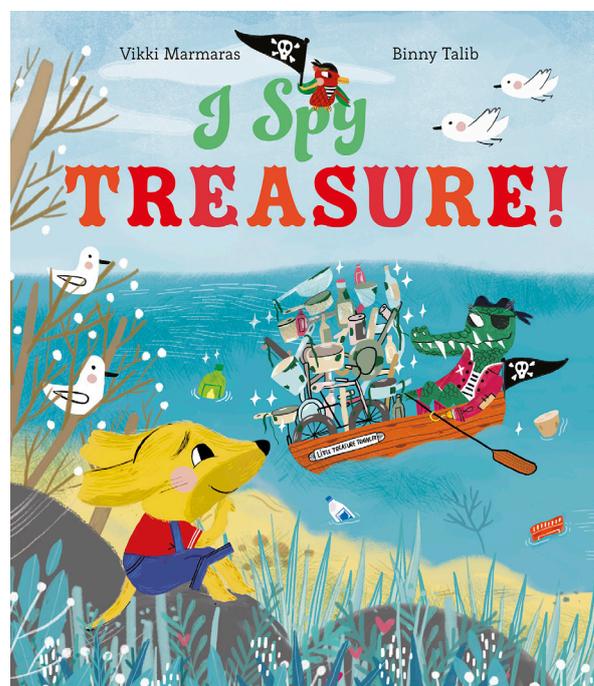
Written by Vikki Marmaras

Illustrated by Binny Talib

Published by New Frontier Publishing

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### SYNOPSIS

Captain Snarkle Tooth is a grouchy pirate who likes to spy and steal treasure. Treasure that no one else can see! Can Billy solve the mystery and learn to spy the sparkly treasure too? And is the villainous pirate as greedy as people think? Or is he taking the sparkles from the sea for a very different reason?

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Vikki Marmaras is a children's author with a passion for sustainability. She loves to recycle and reuse, and once furnished her entire house with only second-hand furniture. Originally from the UK, Vikki is lucky enough to call both England and Australia home and spends time at the beach in both countries. She often comes home with a bag full of rubbish which she has picked up from the sand. Vikki spends most of her free time writing but also enjoys reading, camping and spending time with friends and family. *I Spy Treasure* is her second picture book.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Binny Talib is an award-winning children's book illustrator. Her playful illustrations have secured licensing deals across major Australian and international brands. Binny was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards for her illustration of *Hark, It's Me, Ruby Lee* by Lisa Shanahan and this book also received an honour award by the CBCA. Binny has illustrated picture books for a range of publishers, including Scholastic, Hachette, Ladybird, Allen and Unwin, YoYo Belgium, Auzou France, Little Tiger Press (*Two Sides* with Polly Ho-Yen) and Oxford University Press. As well as illustrating books, Binny has designed her own wallpaper collection, textiles, children's toys, fashion lines, album covers and greeting cards. Her agency background as an art and creative director, as well as her honours degree in visual communications, set her apart in the world of illustration with a unique graphic style. She works in Sydney with her assistant, a Border Collie called Paddington.

### EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

*I Spy Treasure* is a fun and topical story about a grouchy pirate, Captain Snarkle Tooth, and his unusual treasure. This book champions the importance of protecting our oceans and celebrates the joy of upcycling, as well as offering a crucial starting point for children to talk about saving the planet. A secondary theme shines light on the judgements we can make when we don't get to know people properly.

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

**Read the book together, asking questions throughout.**

1. Look at the cover of the book together. What do you think the story might be about?
2. At the beginning of the story it says that Captain Snarkle Tooth stole anything that sparkled. What do you think he stole?
3. What do Billy, his family and the townspeople think about Captain Snarkle Tooth?
4. What is Captain Snarkle Tooth, in fact, doing? Name all the things that he finds in the sea and on the beach.
5. Have you ever seen plastic, tin or glass in the sea or on the beach? Why do you think it's important to keep the oceans clean?
6. What is upcycling? What does Captain Snarkle Tooth, and later Billy, make from all the rubbish they find? Have you got any other ideas? Ask the children to look at items they were otherwise going to throw away and see if they can think of other uses for them instead.
7. Think about items that you usually throw away and suggest other things that could be done with them. For example, a plastic bottle = bird feeder, yoghurt pot = plant holder.
8. If you're collecting rubbish, think about the different ways to stay safe. For example, wear gloves, use a litter picker, etc.
9. What is Captain Snarkle Tooth's real name? What does 'snark' mean?
10. What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part?

## ACTIVITY: DESIGN A POSTER

In the book, Billy is determined to keep the oceans and beaches clean of litter. On the next page, have a go at designing your own poster to raise awareness about the importance of keeping our oceans clean.

Here are some questions and things to think about when making your 'Save our Oceans' poster.

**Which oceans are affected?**

**What types of plastic are found in the oceans?**

**Why is this happening?**

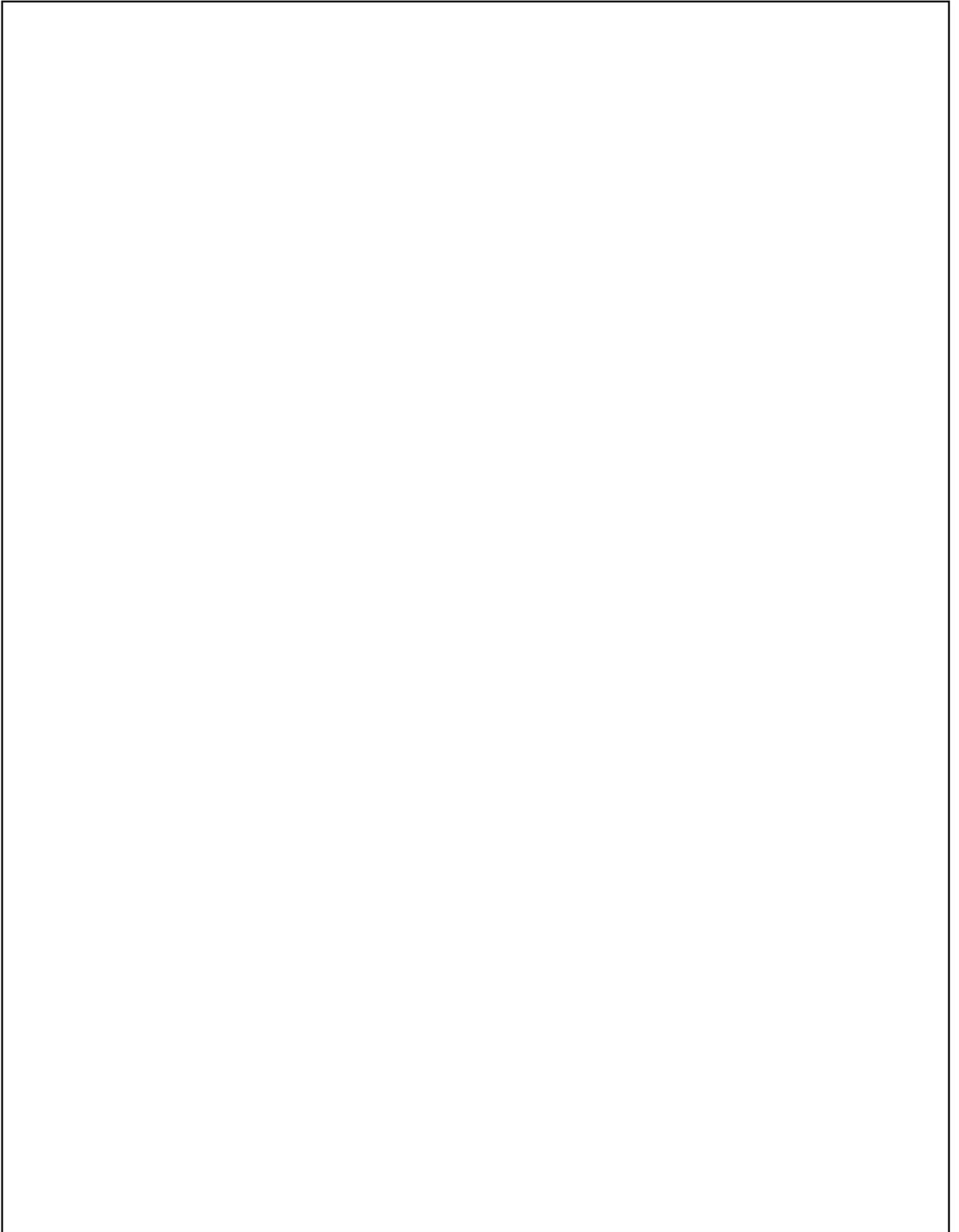
**What is being done now to protect the oceans?**

**How can people help with the conservation effort?**

**What can YOU do?**

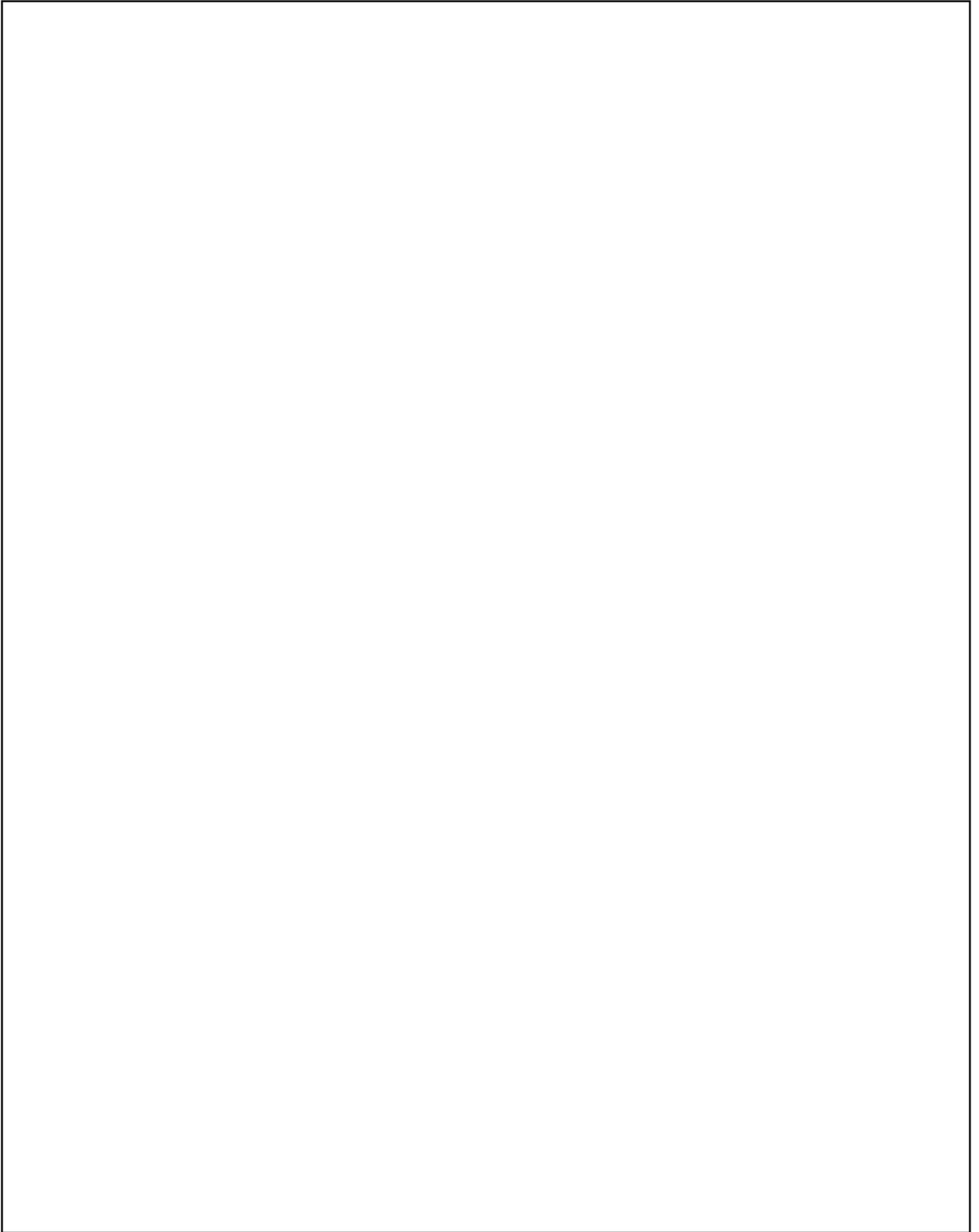


# SAVE OUR OCEANS



## ISPY TREASURE DRAW

Draw your favourite scene from the book.



# I SPY TREASURE WORDSEARCH

Find all the words in the *I Spy Treasure* wordsearch.

Name:

Class:

Date:

word search

## I SPY TREASURE

E R C A P T A I N  
C E H S Y I H S A  
I T L S S L N I E  
T T S K I A L S C  
S I S N R B L I O  
A L E K A A B G B  
L E L C Y C P U T  
P E T A R I P S R  
O S O L O A P E N

BILLY  
CANS  
CAPTAIN  
GLASS

LITTER  
OCEAN  
PIRATE  
PLASTIC

RUBBISH  
SNARKLE  
SPARKLE  
UPCYCLE

word search

[www.edu-games.org](http://www.edu-games.org)



# SOLUTION TO THE WORDSEARCH

Answer Sheet

word search

## I SPY TREASURE

E	R	C	A	P	T	A	I	N
C	E	H	S	Y	I	H	S	A
I	T	L	S	S	L	N	I	E
T	T	S	K	I	A	L	S	C
S	I	S	N	R	B	L	I	O
A	L	E	K	A	A	B	G	B
L	E	L	C	Y	C	P	U	T
P	E	T	A	R	I	P	S	R
O	S	O	L	O	A	P	E	N

BILLY  
CANS  
CAPTAIN  
GLASS

LITTER  
OCEAN  
PIRATE  
PLASTIC

RUBBISH  
SNARKLE  
SPARKLE  
UPCYCLE



# A-MAZE-ING BILLY

Help Billy find the litter in the ocean.

