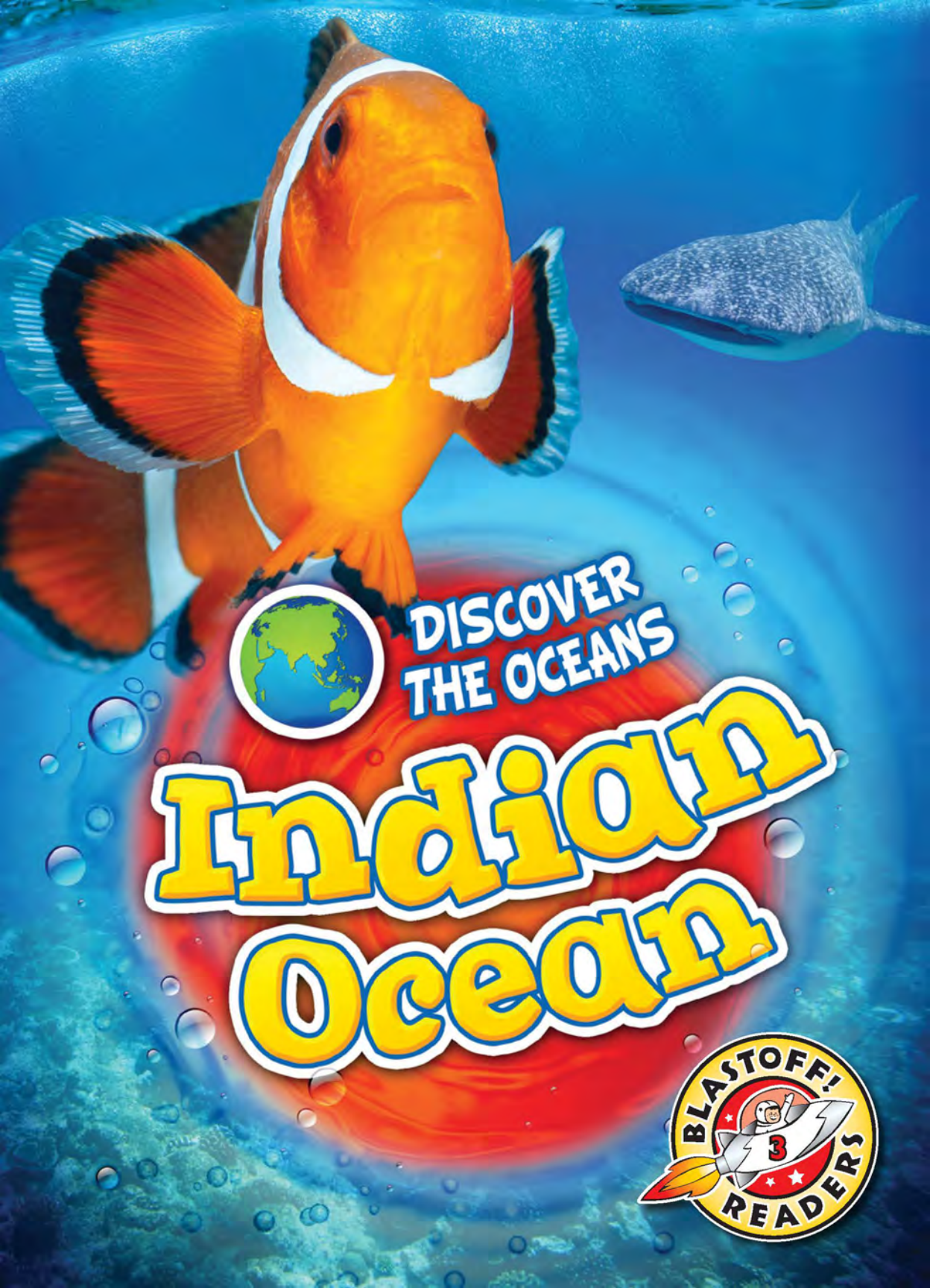




DISCOVER
THE OCEANS

Indian Ocean





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Trade Routes



Thousands of years ago, Asian, African, and Arabian sailors crossed the Indian Ocean. They traded their goods in distant lands.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Indian Ocean of today formed more than 35 million years ago!
- Some people believe that Egyptians first explored the Indian Ocean around 2300 BCE.
- The Suez Canal was built through Egypt in 1869. The waterway allows travel between Europe and Asia.
- The Indian Ocean is almost six times larger than the United States!



Suez Canal

Today, many companies have key **trade routes** in the Indian Ocean. Ships often carry oil to countries across the globe.

Where Is the Indian Ocean?



The Indian Ocean is in the Northern, Southern, and Eastern **hemispheres**. The **equator** crosses through it.



In the west, the Red Sea and Africa touch the Indian Ocean. Asia sits to its north and east. Australia is also east.

The Climate and Features



Monsoons blow across the Indian Ocean. These winds change direction each season. In summer, they blow rain into India. In winter, they carry rain to Southeast Asia and Australia.

Cyclones also appear over the ocean's warm waters. They are strong, spinning storms!

