INCREDIBLE ANIMAL LIFE CYCLES

LIFE CYCLE OF A JELLYFISH



pogo

Ideas for Parents and Teachers

Pogo Books let children practice reading informational text while introducing them to nonfiction features such as headings, labels, sidebars, maps, and diagrams, as well as a table of contents, glossary, and index.

Carefully leveled text with a strong photo match offers early fluent readers the support they need to succeed.

Before Reading

- "Walk" through the book and point out the various nonfiction features. Ask the student what purpose each feature serves.
- Look at the glossary together. Read and discuss the words.

Read the Book

- Have the child read the book independently.
- Invite him or her to list questions that arise from reading.

After Reading

- Discuss the child's questions. Talk about how he or she might find answers to those questions.
- Prompt the child to think more. Ask: What did you know about the life cycle of a jellyfish before you read this book? What more would you like to learn after reading it?

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For Review Only

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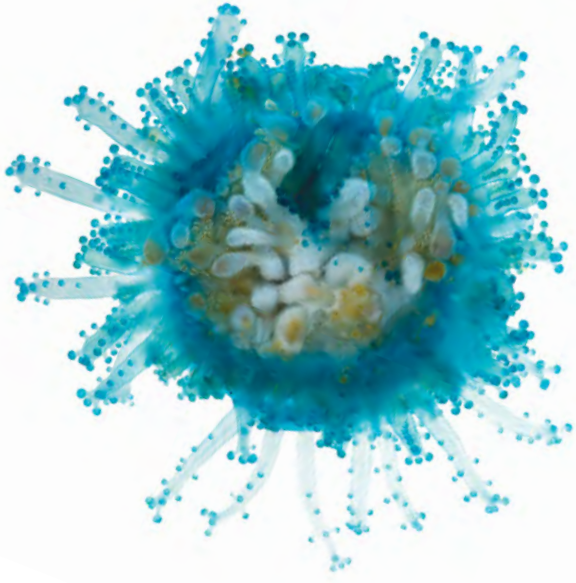
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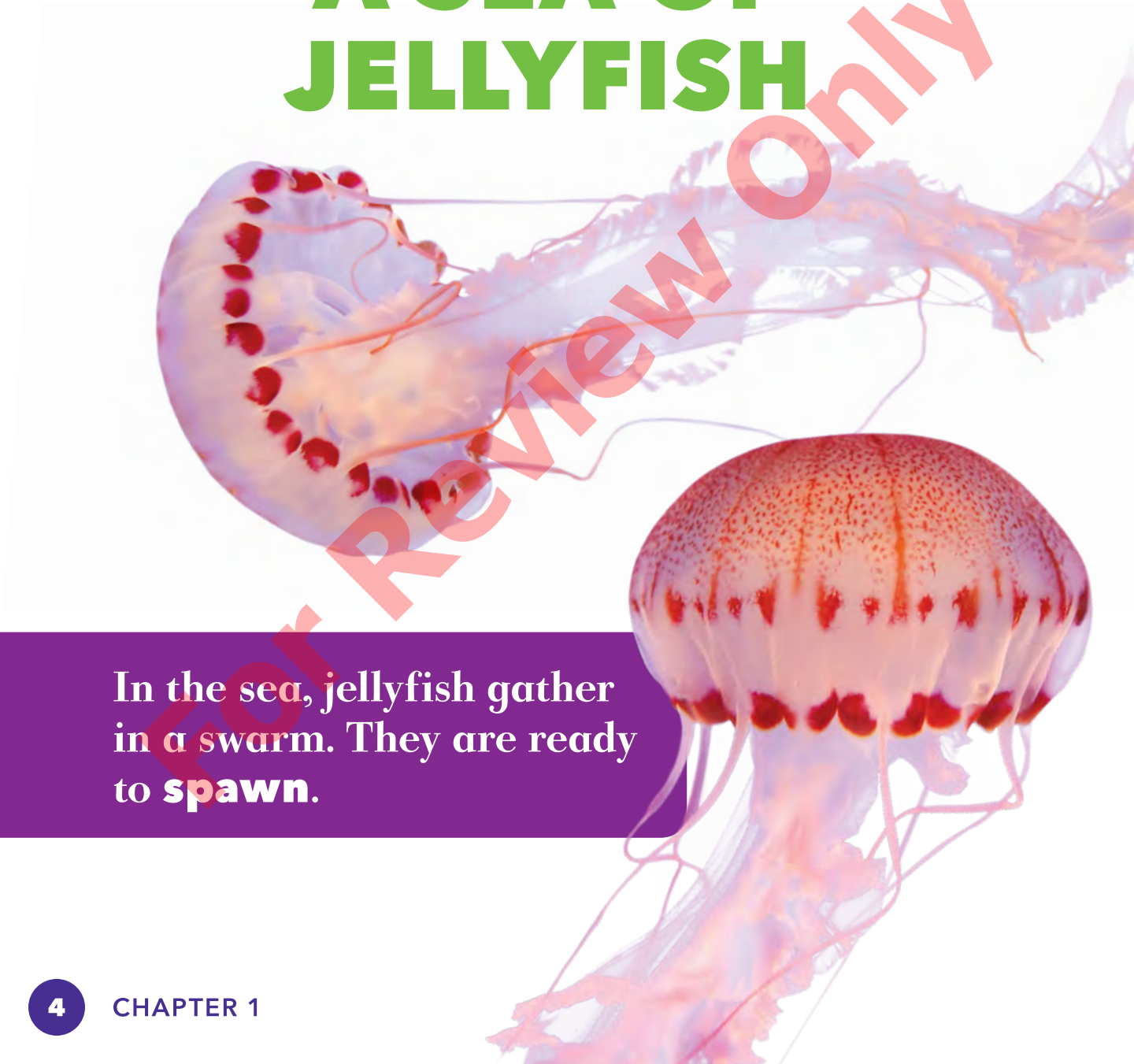
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CHAPTER 1

A SEA OF JELLYFISH



In the sea, jellyfish gather in a swarm. They are ready to **spawn**.

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The males release **sperm**. It finds a female's eggs in the water. Soon the eggs will grow and change. This is just the beginning of the incredible life cycle of jellyfish.

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Each egg looks like a tiny, hairy ball. It is the jellyfish's **planula**, or **larva**. The planulae are too small to see. They float down toward the ocean floor. Why? To find a rock or other surface.

The planulae plant themselves there. They grow into **polyps**.

DID YOU KNOW?

Many polyps grow near each other. They form a **colony**.



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Each polyp grows a disc-shaped foot. The foot sticks to the surface. Its body grows upward in a tube shape. Its **tentacles** wave in the water. But it is tiny. How tiny? As small as a pencil tip.

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ACTIVITIES & TOOLS

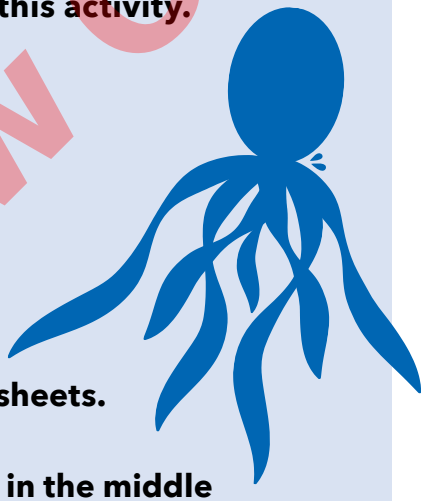
TRY THIS!

JELLYFISH LOOK-ALIKE

Some animals eat jellyfish. But plastic bags pollute the ocean. Animals think they are jellyfish and eat them instead. See how a plastic bag can look like a jellyfish with this activity.

What You Need:

- clear plastic grocery bag
- clear refillable water bottle
- rubber band
- food coloring
- scissors



1. **Lay the bag flat. Cut off the handles and bottom.**
2. **Cut along both sides to split it into two sheets. Discard one sheet.**
3. **Pick up the other sheet. Pull up a bunch in the middle to make a head. Wrap the rubber band around it.**
4. **Cut tentacles out of the hanging part of the bag. Cut as many as you want. You can trim them for different lengths, too.**
5. **Pour some water into the head part. Be sure to leave a little bit of air so it floats.**
6. **Fill up your water bottle and add a couple drops of food coloring.**
7. **Put your jellyfish in the bottle. Screw on the cap tight.**
8. **Turn the bottle upside down to watch the jellyfish swim! Notice how its tentacles move.**

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