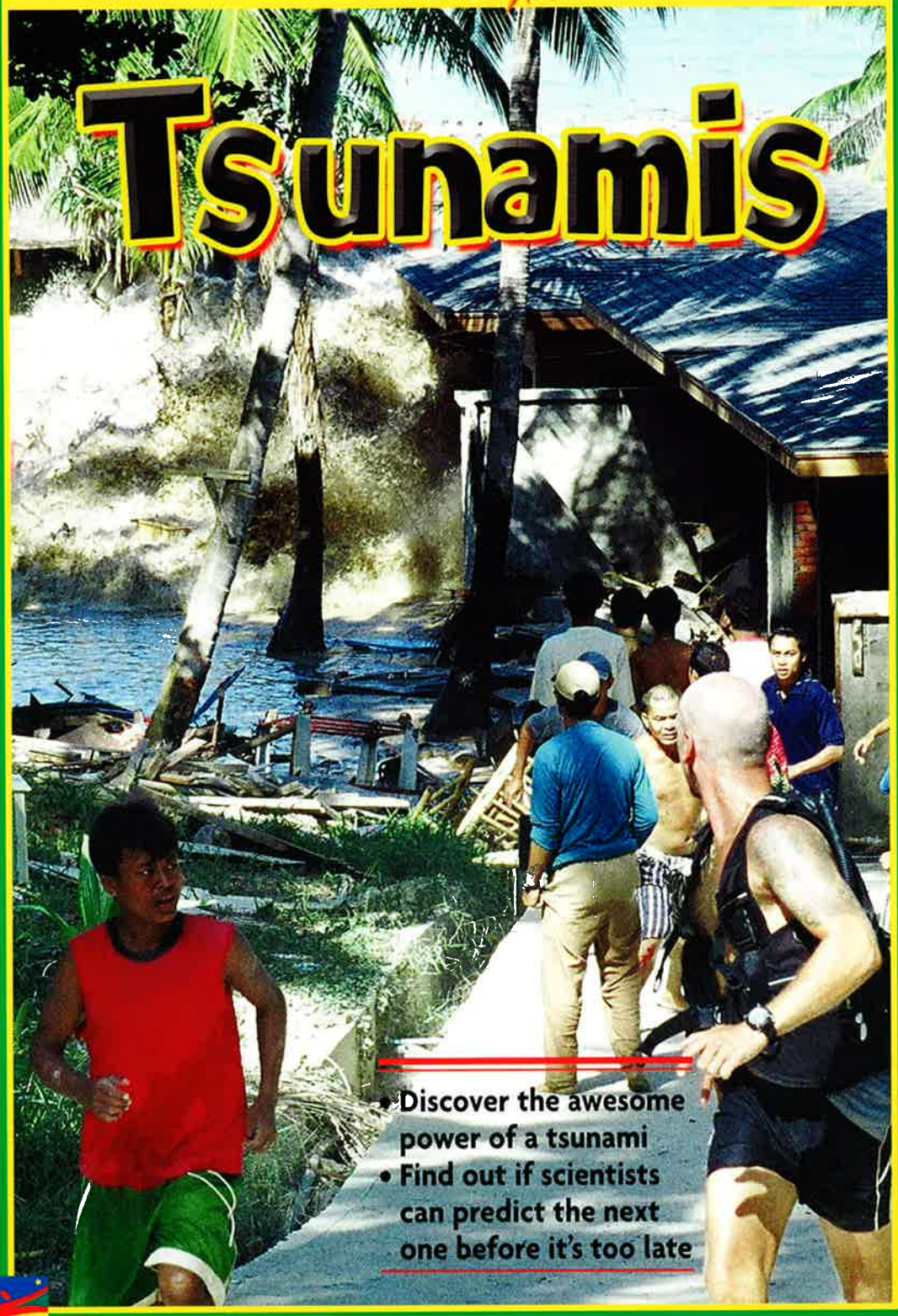
BRIDGES™

Tsunamis



- Discover the awesome power of a tsunami
- Find out if scientists can predict the next one before it's too late

GEORGE CAPACCIO

Benchmark EDUCATION

SCIENCE
Water and Weather
Level 34 O

For teachers' inspection ONLY

READING

Comprehension Skill:
Analyze Text Structure and Organization

As you read, look for signal words that help you to determine text structures such as descriptions and cause-and-effect relationships.

Phonics/Word Study:
Long a digraph

As you read, look for words with long a digraphs like **sailors**. This sound in a syllable rhymes with the word **day**.

Look for these text and graphic features.

Text Features

- Table of contents
- Introduction
- Sidebars
- Conclusion
- Glossary
- Index
- Information about the author
- Vocabulary words in boldfaced type
- Captions for photos, diagrams, and illustrations
- Lists with bullets. Pages 9, 29
- Checkpoints. Check yourself to see that you understand what you have read. Pages 12, 26

Graphic Features

- Photographs
- Labeled Diagrams. Pages 7, 8, 13, 14, 27
- Map. Pages 7, 8, 13
- Table. Page 14
- Chart. Page 30
- Time line. Page 25

SCIENCE

The Big Idea:

This book describes tsunami waves. It explains how tsunamis are different from other kinds of waves and tells about the causes of tsunamis. It also gives examples of the devastation caused by these waves.

Look for these special information features.

Content Sidebars

- **It's a Fact.** Interesting facts about tsunamis. Pages 3, 4, 6, 27
- **Solve This.** Solve these math problems to learn more about tsunamis. Page 14
- **Everyday Science.** See how science is part of your daily life. Page 24
- **Primary Source.** Examine original documents from the past. Pages 16, 21, 22, 23
- **Experiment.** Do your own experiment to see science in action. Page 12

Content Vocabulary

crest
crust
displace
ecosystem
marine geologist
meteorite
trench
tsunami
wavelength

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Tsunamis

by George Capaccio

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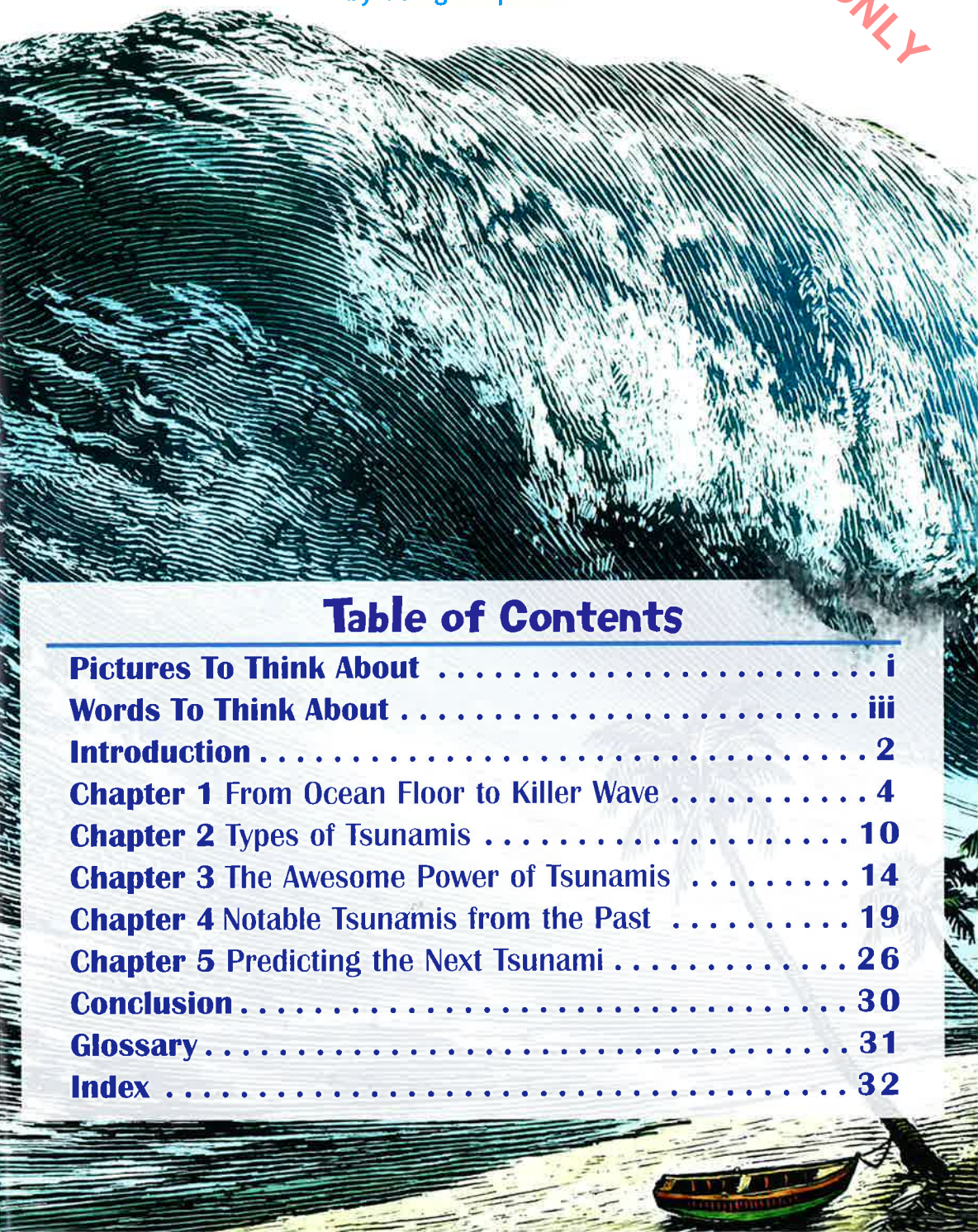


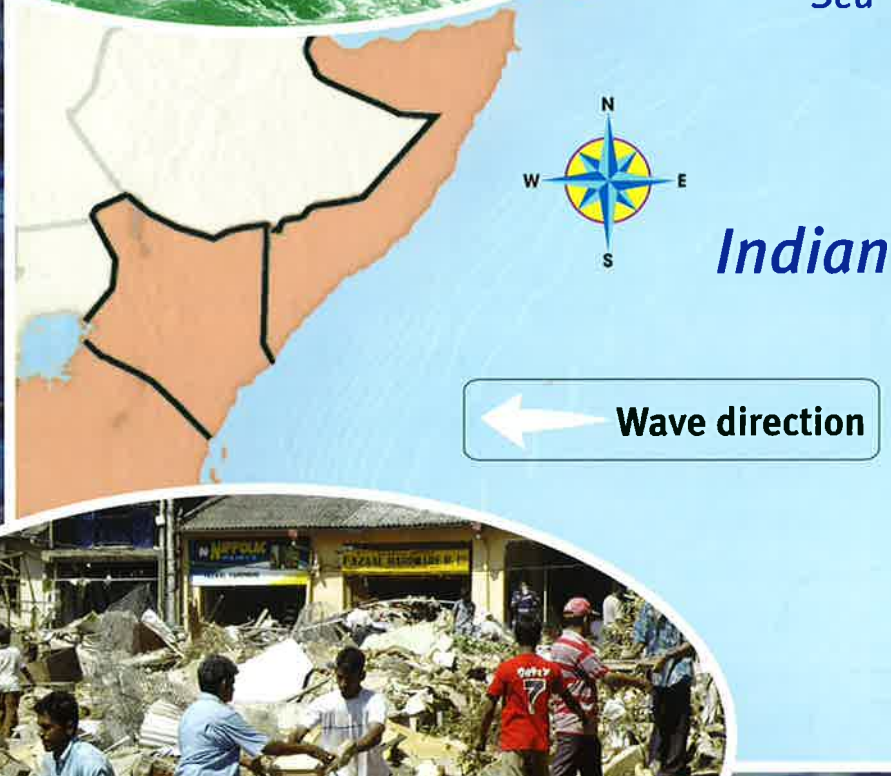
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Pictures To Think About

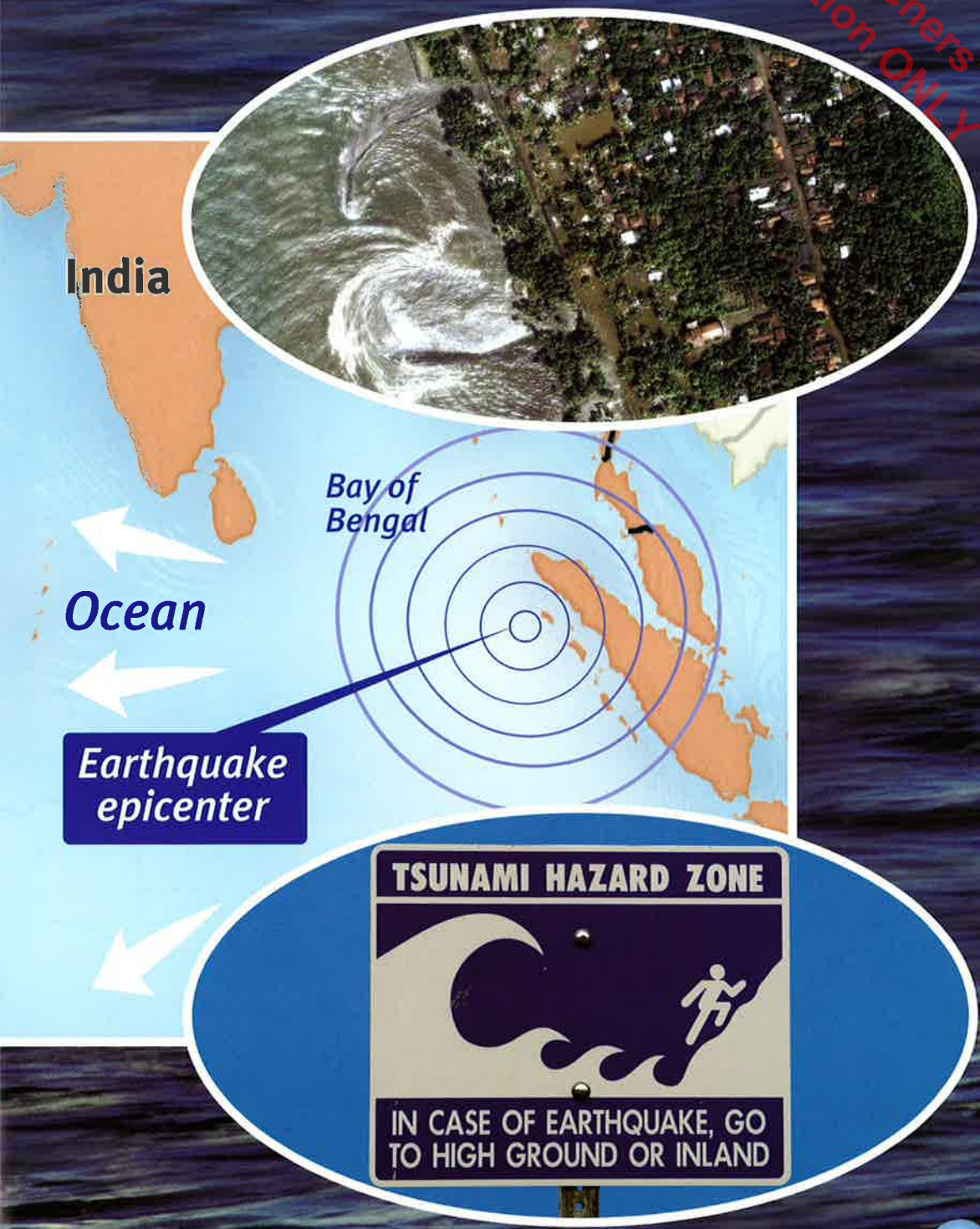
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Words To Think About

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Characteristics

- has plants and animals
- can be very small or very big
- ?

ecosystem

What do you think the word **ecosystem** means?

Examples

- wetlands
- coral reef
- ?

tsunami

What do you think the word **tsunami** means?

- Japanese: **tsu** (harbor)
- Japanese: **nami** (wave)

Read for More Clues
ecosystem, page 15
trench, page 7
tsunami, page 2

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trench

What do you think the word **trench** means in this book?

Meaning 1
a long, narrow hole dug in the ground (noun)

Meaning 2
a long, deep opening in the ocean floor (noun)

Meaning 3
to make a cut in or to carve (verb)

Introduction

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December 26, 2004:

Elephants near the coast of Thailand are acting strange. The elephants seem to be upset. The elephants can tell that something is wrong. They break their chains and charge into the forest.

The sea backs off from the beaches. Fish flop in the mud. People come out to look. Unlike the elephants, they do not sense danger. Suddenly a huge wave appears. The wave rushes to the beach. It is no ordinary wave.

It is a **tsunami** (soo-NAH-mee). A tsunami is a giant wave. A tsunami can be very deadly. The tsunami that hit Thailand killed about 5,000 people in that country. The wave also hit other countries along the Indian Ocean.

What caused the tsunami? What did the wave do to the land and people? Read on to find out about these giant waves. See if scientists can predict when the next tsunami will hit.

