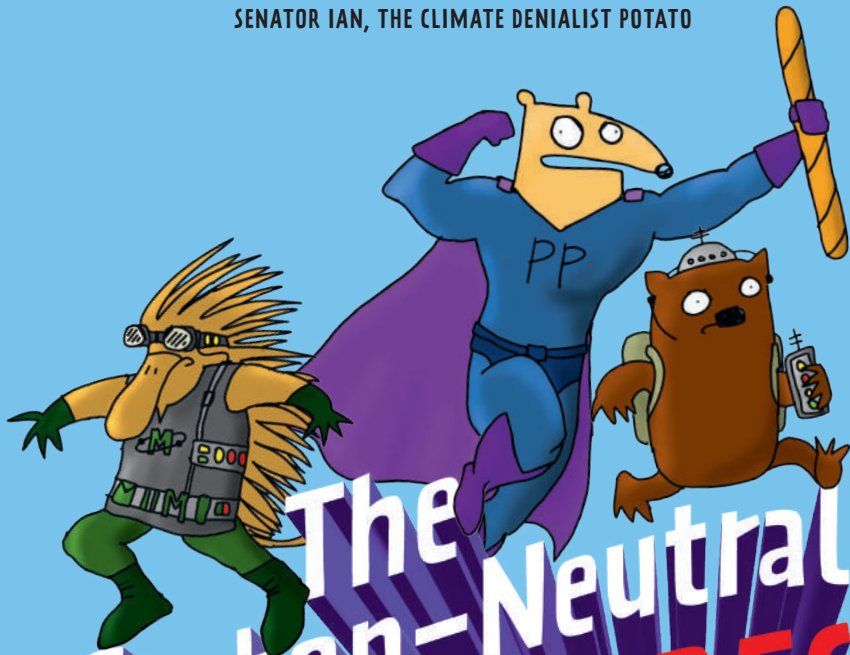


'Don't read this rubbish! Read my new book *Coal: Everyone's Delicious Friend!*'

SENATOR IAN, THE CLIMATE DENIALIST POTATO



The Carbon-Neutral  
ADVENTURES  
of the Indefatigable  
ENVIROTEENS

by First Dog on the Moon

First published by Allen & Unwin in 2020

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Allen & Unwin  
83 Alexander Street  
Crows Nest NSW 2065  
Australia  
Phone: (61 2) 8425 0100  
Email: [info@allenandunwin.com](mailto:info@allenandunwin.com)  
Web: [www.allenandunwin.com](http://www.allenandunwin.com)



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# The Neutral Carbon-Neutral ADVENTURES of the Indefatigable ENVIROTEENS



by First Dog on the Moon

  
**ALLEN & UNWIN**  
SYDNEY • MELBOURNE • AUCKLAND • LONDON

## Scientific Disclaimer



This is a book about a lot of things and one of those things is Science. There is a fair bit of science in here, some of it is made-up and some of it is real. You will have to decide which are the true bits and which bits are less true.

Remember though, just because YOU decide something is true or not doesn't actually make it true or not. Only science can do that. If you're not sure you might look it up (I did). It is pretty easy though the made-up things are RIDICULOUS (the armpits are real though).

I can tell you in Chapter 9 the science is pretty much all true - except the bit about the world's strongest meringue. Also I don't think anyone has come from Mars yet or built an interstellar space cannon out of an old aluminium smelter and some sticks.

ALTHOUGH YOU NEVER KNOW IT COULD BE A REALLY TRULY FACT!

It isn't.

BUT IT COULD BE.

It's not though.

ONLY TIME WILL TELL!

Stop this.

\* I'm not allowed to say I am a scientist because I am not one



## Editorial Disclaimer

Hi I'm Nicola and I am the editor of this book and I just want to say that First Dog was extremely unhelpful when I tried to fix all the punctuation in the book especially things like run on sentences which is where a sentence just goes on and on and on and doesn't have a comma anywhere to give your brain a rest even a bit. First Dog doesn't like commas and kept on saying no. Every time I suggested something First Dog would just keep shouting MORE EXCLAMATION MARKS!! So if there is anything in this book that doesn't make sense it is not my fault I tried to fix it but I wasn't allowed to and I didn't even write THIS sentence because it is a terrible sentence that just keeps going and going also I have a face like a squished tomato!!



Editorial Disclaimer Disclaimer - I didn't write that first disclaimer but the part about not being allowed to edit anything properly is true it is not my fault. MORE EXCLAMATION MARKS! I HAVE A FACE LIKE A SQUISHED TOMATO!!

# MEET THE ENVIROTEENS

//



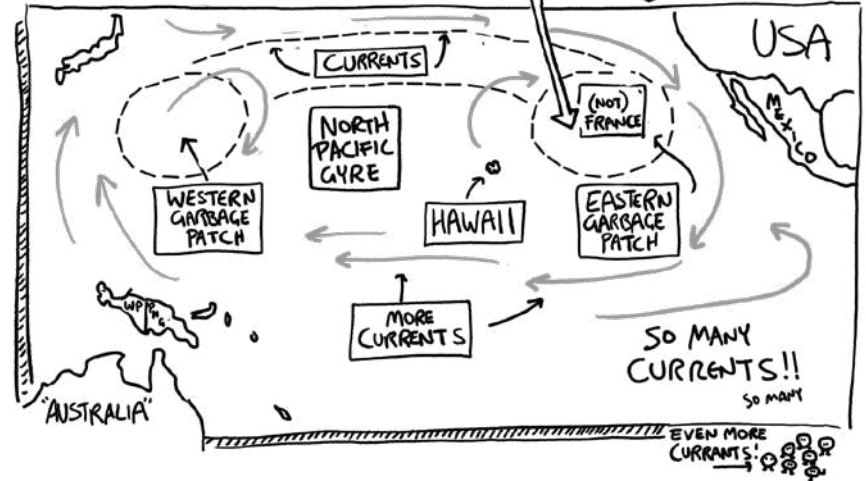
## CHAPTER 1 (one)

In which we travel to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, encounter a dreadful villain and Binky gets foosed right in the face by a clingwrapifier.



Our story opens as all stories should, on the **Great Pacific Garbage Patch!**

You may have heard of it... It is a garbagenormous collection of plastic floating in the Pacific Ocean. The bit where our story starts (this side over here) is three times the size of France! FRANCE! Lurking between Hawaii and California it is not Earth's only ocean garbage patch but it is where we find our heroes...



It's huuuuuge!  
And so garbagey!



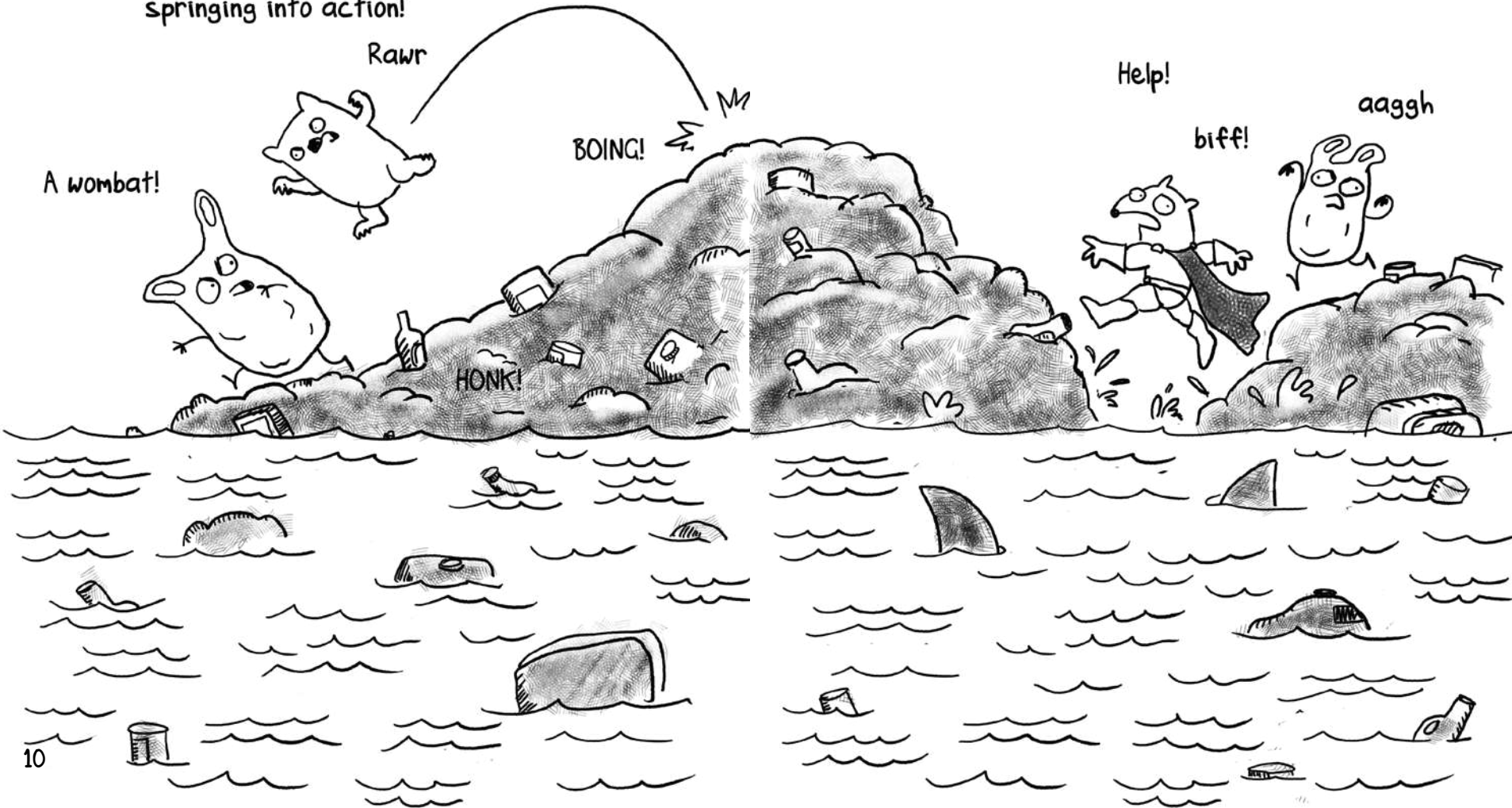
Bonjour!



A fierce battle is underway! Here are our heroes wrestling with a large angry plastic bag while hopping about on an enormous trash island! It is NOT JUST ANY large angry plastic bag, it is the villainous envirosoundrel known as Singleuse Plastic Brendan (Brendo to his friends) and he is assisted by his sinister crew of microbeads!

The battle rages on and on back and forth. The brave and courageous Pastry Person gets a fright and runs away but just for a minute then he runs back again.

Here we see Letitia springing into action!



Binky struggles against Singleuse Brendan's fiendish ray gun! Will she fall in the water and be eaten by that shark?!?

I can't look!

Social Distancing this!

tinkle FOOOOZ clang! erk! slurp

No! She catches herself just in time!

Not today shark!

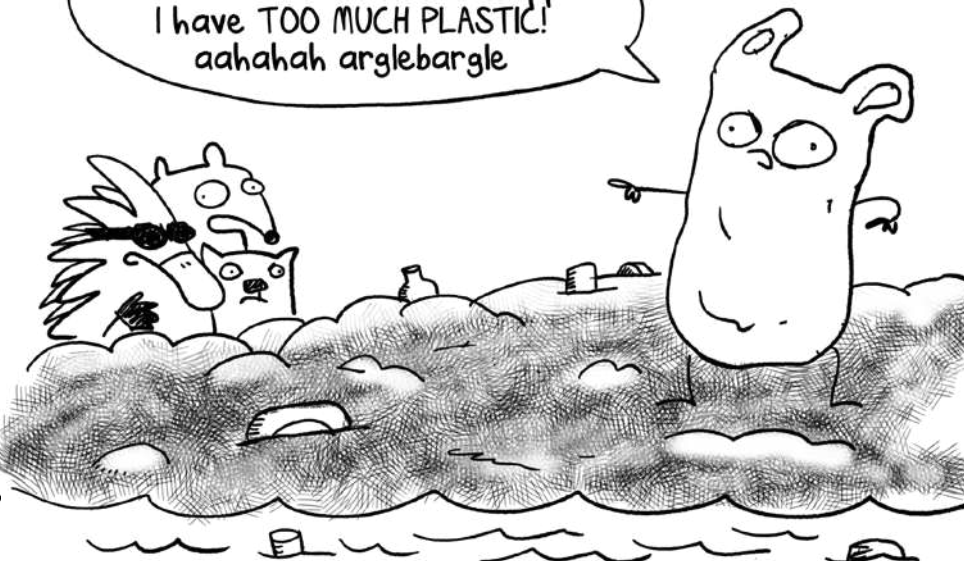
How about Thursday?

Go EnviroTeens Go!

Look out! Binky is almost foozed into oblivion by the Mach IV Fooz-o-tronic Clingwrapifier! A dastardly weapon which, as its name suggests, wraps its victim in cling wrap at high speed while making a sort of foook noise...



You will never defeat me EnviroTeens! I cannot be stopped. I have TOO MUCH PLASTIC! aahahah arglebargle



I will turn the shell of every sea turtle in the world into a tasteful fruit bowl or perhaps a lampshade! Maybe a ukulele or some decorative underwear catapults!

I will be rich and all those sea turtles that were meant to me when I was just a tiny ziplock bag at St Waterslide's School for Gifted Amphibians will be SORRY



I shall simply defeat these foolish EnviroTeens then turn on my fiendish deshellifier. I shall DESTROY all the mean turtles and all the foolish friendly turtles as well - and all those turtles who are occasionally unkind but generally nice and also the turtles that...

**ALL OF THEM**

ahahahaha

ahahah

haha

a

h

plinky  
plinkity  
pling  
plong

heeeelp



Let's take a Science Moment!

Did you know, the real truth about this Great Pacific Garbage Patch business is... (according to garbage patch scientists - here is one now...)

GARBAGE  
PATCH  
SCIENTIST →



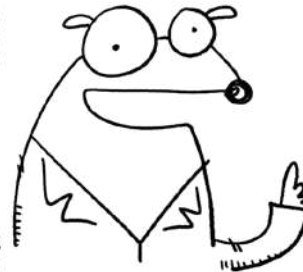
← SPECIMEN  
NET

SPECIMEN

It contains 1.8 trillion bits of plastic! 4 pieces of plastic every square metre so it's NOT an island and you CAN'T stand on it! You CAN'T see it from SPACE - it's just water with plastic in it like a RUBBER DUCK in a BATHTUB. 4 rubber ducks in a bathtub - but TRILLIONS of them. A huge bunch of the plastic that ends up in the ocean floats to this one spot and thus ruins it for anyone needing ocean without plastic in it which to be fair is pretty much everyone - so now you know.

**GARBAGE PATCH FACTS!**

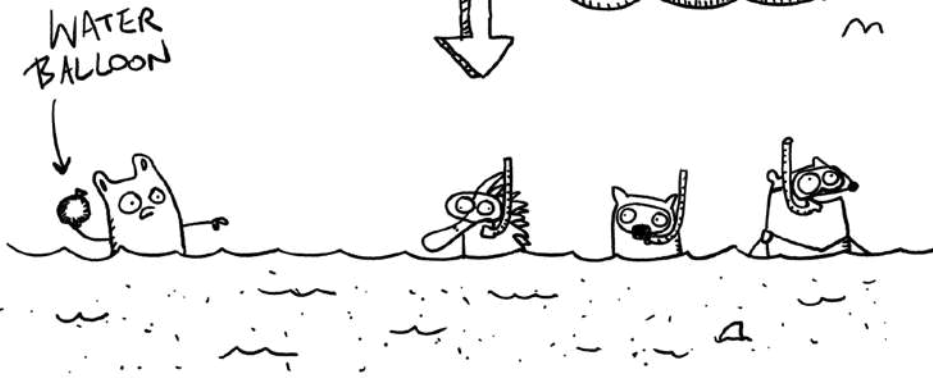
- Can't see it from space
- Can't run around on it
- Bigger than France! (x3)
- Has other garbage patch friends



Plastic can last for hundreds and hundreds of years. Even most "biodegradable" plastic breaks down into just MORE TINY PLASTIC. Booooooo!

What does this mean? It means that this excellent superfight to save the turtles should actually look like this picture here

Everyone should just be SNORKERLLING ABOUT (except Binky because platypii can swim)\*



YET IT DOES NOT LOOK LIKE THIS?! Why are these pictures LYING TO YOU?! LYING! WHY?!

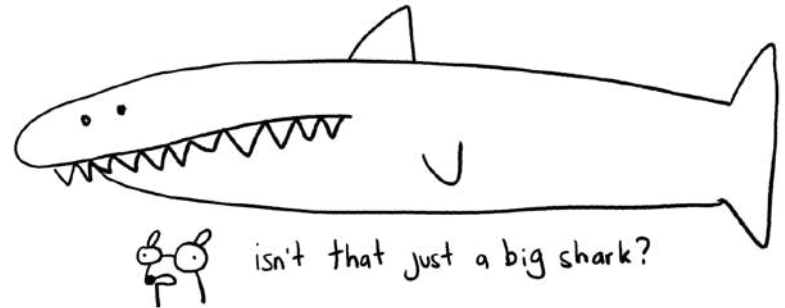


\*(Two words I made up here - "snorkerlling" is NOT A WORD, "platypii" IS A WORD but is wrong)

I'll tell you why it is lying. It is lying because you are more likely to ENJOY the story if the EnviroTeens are fighting a weirdy plastic bag on GARBAGE ISLAND rather than paddling about with snorkels like a bunch of snorkel babies.



or some sharp-teethed monstrous GIGANTIC DEATH FISH THE SIZE OF A SMALLISH WHALE!!



You see....



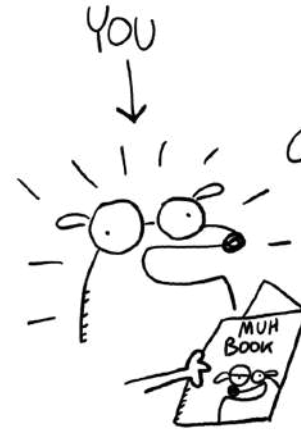
BETTER FIGHTS WITH SHARKS mean YOU will ENJOY this book MORE. And the MORE you enjoy it the more you will... TELL YOUR FRIENDS. Then your friends will make whoever buys books for them go out and BUY MANY COPIES OF THIS VERY ENTERTAINING BOOK! Or why not get that person's credit card if they have one and buy them yourselves! DO IT! (no! don't do this I'm serious don't do this it was a joke not even a funny one you will get me in a lot of trouble.)



me rolling around in a big pile of author money\*

\* not a real picture

Meanwhile...



This looks just like you →

THIS IS THE GREATEST BOOK I HAVE EVER READ IN MY WHOLE LIFE!!!

ME AGAIN →



OH STOP IT! YOU ARE TOO KIND

This is going very well.

Enough of this foolishness - what is happening to the EnviroTeens? How did they even get to the Pacific Garbage Patch what are they doing?!?!



# EnviroTeen Headquarters

Ohh  
Look it's

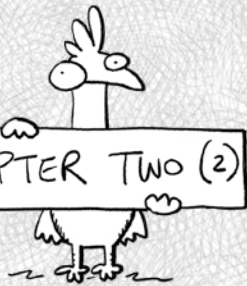
## Chapter 2

In which we go back in time (a week or so) to find out why the EnviroTeens are fighting on the garbage patch. We also meet Tanya (a tiny turtle) and we are amazed by an astoundingly alliterative explanation of an unspeakable apparatus.

What?



CHAPTER TWO (2)



How DID WE  
GET HERE?

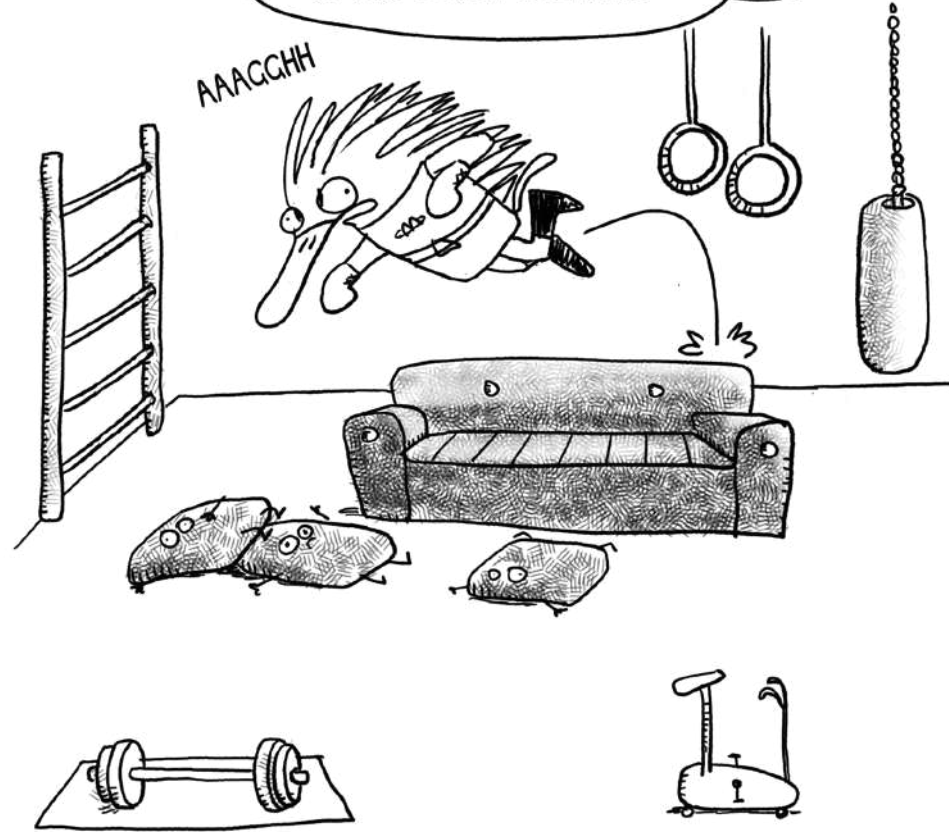


CONFUSED  
PICKLE

Let me explain...



It was just last Tuesday, Binky was in the gymnasium at the community centre (which is also EnviroTeen Headquarters) and she was practising her signature wrestling move (THE PLATYPULVERISER) on the couch cushions



AAACGHH

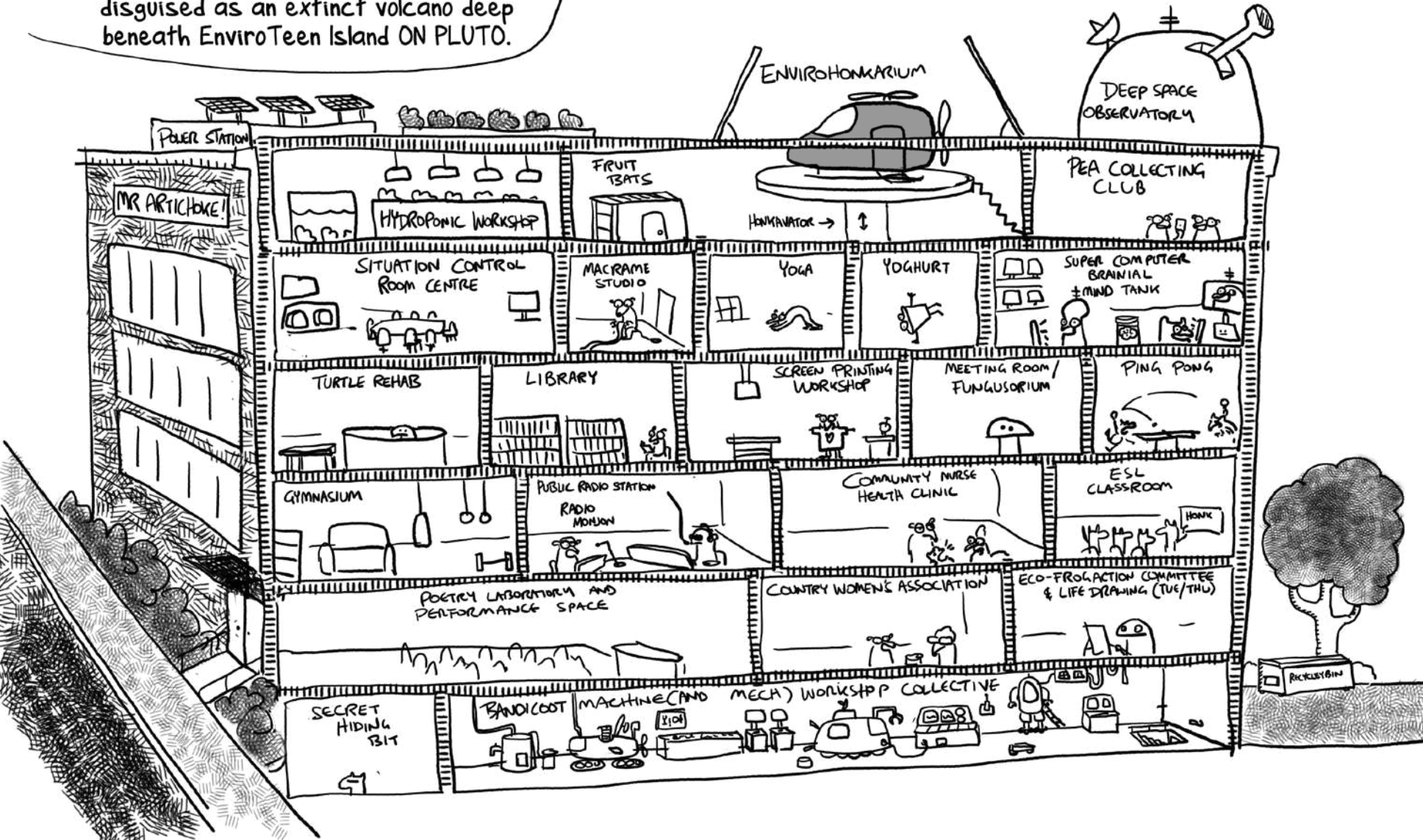
There was a tiny knock at the door

mip ← tiny knock

Who could that be? Nobody can see our sneakily disguised front door since we put it at the back. How did anyone even find our secret headquarters that is ever so cunningly hidden at the dark end of town near the old abandoned docks behind a burnt out warehouse inside a disused train yard at the bottom of an abandoned mineshaft disguised as an extinct volcano deep beneath EnviroTeen Island ON PLUTO.



It's also a community centre and local arts hub and the whole thing is housed in an old artichoke canning factory so they might have found it by looking up the address on [moopitymoopmaps.com](http://moopitymoopmaps.com).



No one can find us here (except people coming for yoga classes or using the screen printing workshop and the delivery person with Norman's gluten of the month club)



HELLO?

PLEASE DO NOT DING THE DINGER

mip

Help, please, EnviroTeens - cough cough - I saw your instastory how you saved the rare rhinoceros from the pizza oven and eerrrgl... PLONK



excuse me...

cough cough

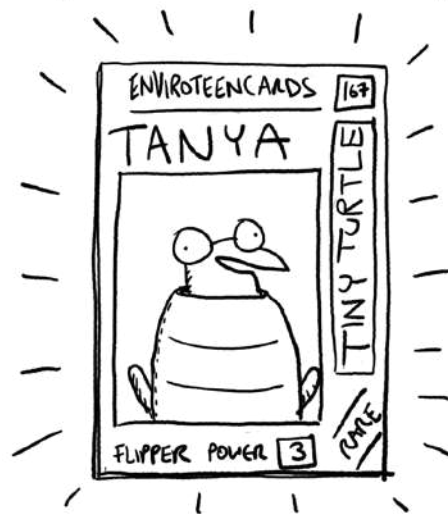
It's a tiny turtle and it has fainted!

Binky hits the "tiny turtle in trouble" alarm.

**BLLAAAARTYWOOD**



Everyone hurries to help the tiny turtle (her name is Tanya)



Nurse Barnevelder (the EnviroTeens' photocopier-mechanic, pilot and street medic) rushes the tiny turtle into the Turtle-Re-Habilitron.



Thank goodness we cleared your collection of toast-themed wallpaper out of the turtle re-habilitation unit on the weekend...

Let that be a lesson to all of us

I know right?!



After some turtle repair juice, a footrub and a strawberry, Tanya recovers enough to tell the EnviroTeens about the return of their old foe Singleuse Brendan the Angry Plastic Bag. Norman is shocked.

NOT SINGLEUSE PLASTIC BRENDAN?!



Yes it's him along with his awful crew of teeny tiny microbeads

NOT THE AWFUL CREW OF TEENY TINY MICROBEADS!!



Yes the microbeads and he is turtlenapping all the world's turtles

NOT TURTLENAPPING ALL THE WORLD'S TURTLES!!!



NORMAN WOULD YOU PLEASE STOP DOING THAT?!

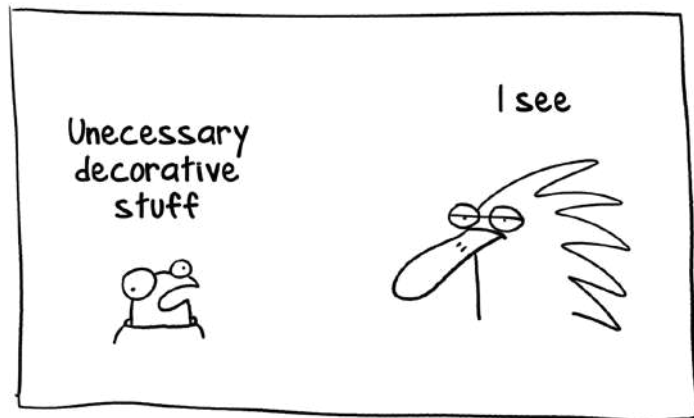


sorry

Singleuse Brendan is turtlenapping all the turtles in the world and turning their shells into frippery and gauche gewgaws!



What now?



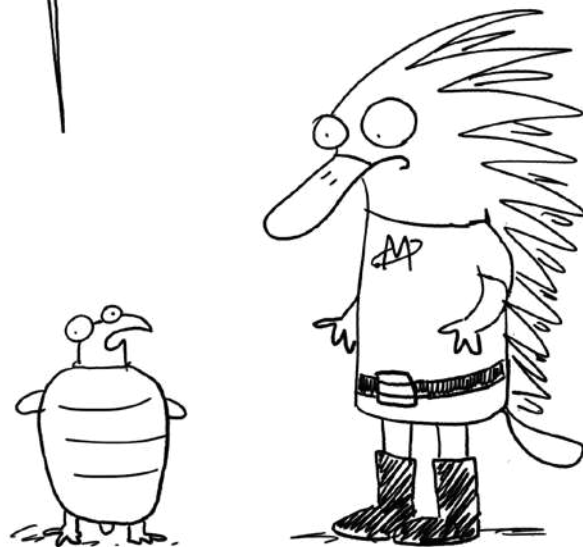
He certainly sounds like the sort of person who would really ruin a picnic or friendly get together.

Yes they were awful picnics.



He has built his fiendish tur-tele-pooter on the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and is preparing to deshell and gewgawify every turtle he catches!

His what?



An turtel -e-pooter! He has a teleporter but it's just for pooting turtles.

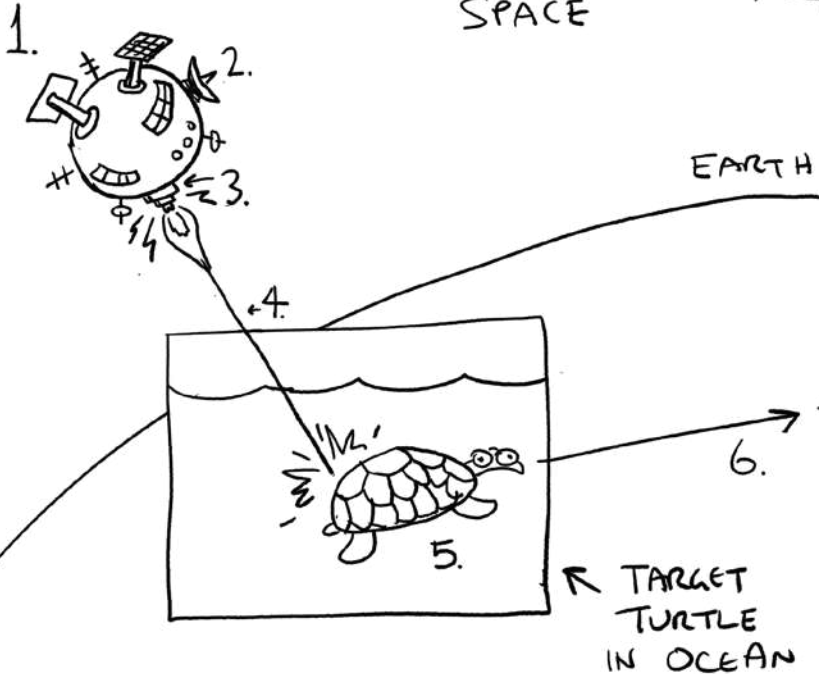


You see Singleuse Brendan uses the telescopic turtle tracker aboard his automated battle satellite to telemetrically target a turtle for tur-tele-putting. Then he fires a powerful projectile from the atomic turtle puncher which propels the target turtle so hard the turtle hurtles through the turtle portal and is teleported out the aperture above the Pacific Garbage Patch and into the deshellifier.

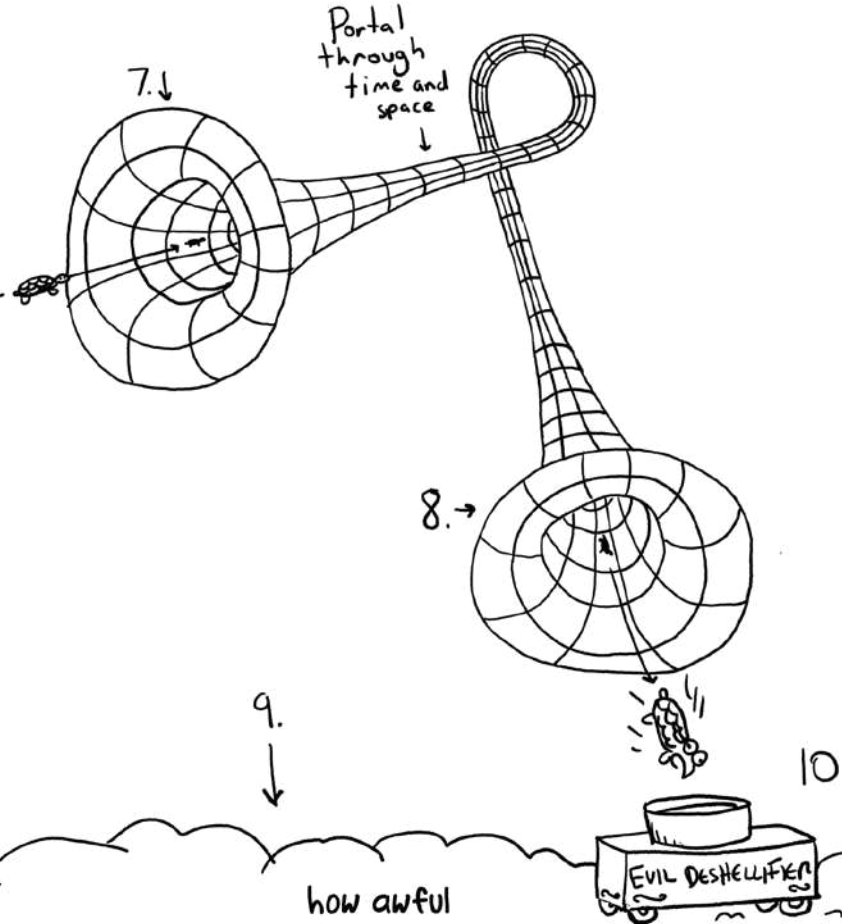


6. Turtle hurtle trajectory
7. Teleporter ingress aperture
8. Teleporter egress aperture
9. Pacific Garbage Patch
10. Evil deshellifier

SPACE



Portal through time and space



1. Automated battle satellite
2. Telescopic turtle tracker
3. Atomic turtle puncher
4. Powerful projectile
5. Target turtle

And so they did...

Nurse Barnevelder honked the  
EnviroTeens signal alarm bell honker



ANYWAY

The EnviroTeens will RESCUE ALL THE TURTLES  
and put an end to this Plastic Brendan person  
and his nefarious carrying on!

OR WILL THEY?! I DON'T KNOW!

It is so exciting I can't stand it!



ENVIROTEENS CHANGE INTO YOUR  
VILLAIN BIFFING OUTFITS!



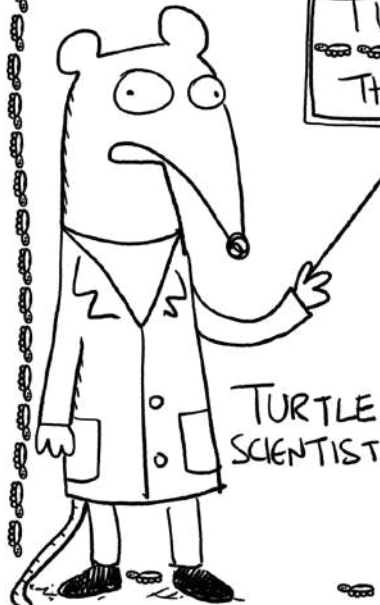
We really need a  
better catchphrase



## Science Moment! TURTLE SCIENCE

The truth is that the world's sea turtles are under threat from being caught in fishing gear (bycatch), people taking them for their eggs, meat and shells plus all the poisoning and warming of the oceans. Unfortunately that doesn't make for an exciting fight with ray guns on a pile of garbage in the sea no it does not and maybe that is why we hear more spectacular stories about superheroes and underpant catapults than we hear stories about animals that are having their homes squished. Wait what were we talking about.

SEA  
TURTLES  
THE TRUTH!



TURTLE  
SCIENTIST

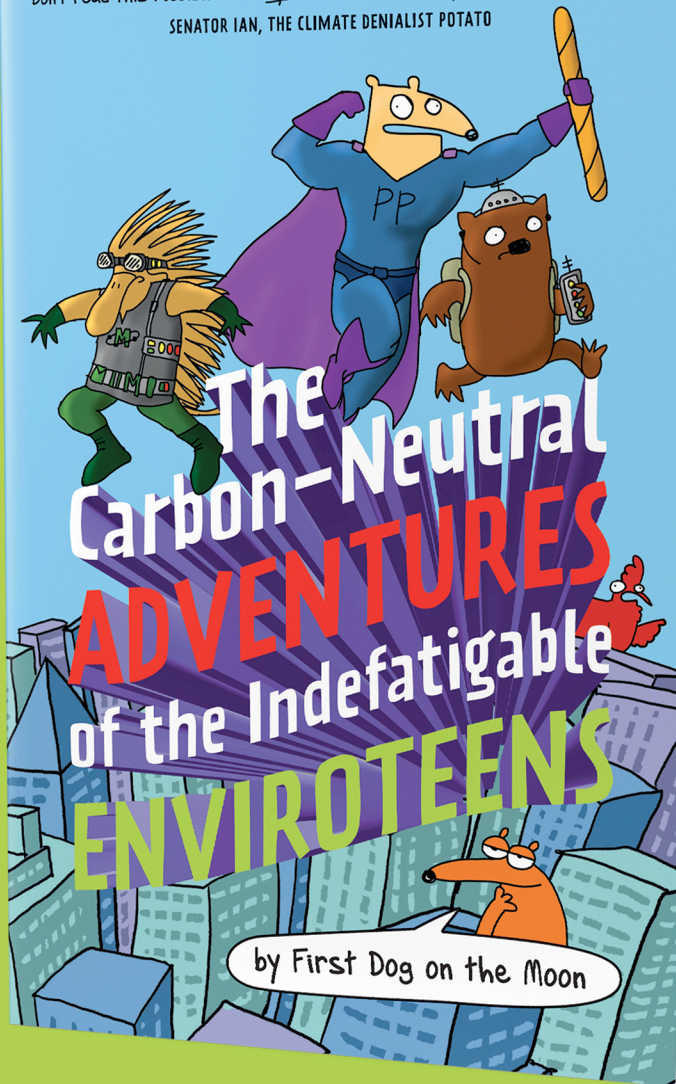


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