



Conservation Education Society

NEWSLETTER

Conservation Education Society's monthly newsletter
in partnership with the Marine Education Centre.



Photo by Competition Winner, Keya Shah, aged 16 Caption: Don't Worry

It's that time of year again when we come together to clean our beaches!

What is Marine litter?

Marine litter is any "persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of, or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment".

Contrary to what most of us think, marine litter is not just what has been discarded into the sea, rivers, or our beaches, but also what is discarded in our environments at home which can be brought indirectly to the sea via rivers, sewage, stormwater, or winds. Marine litter also includes materials lost at sea. To say the least, marine litter originates from many sources and its impacts are wide, from environmental impacts to economic, safety, health, and even cultural.

One of our main activities in our education programmes is informing guests about plastic pollution and holding beach cleanups with school groups. What we never fail to notice is that a majority of our guests are shocked by the information we share on the very slow rate of degradation of marine litter items, mainly plastics, together with the number of microplastics we come across on our beaches during cleanups. In 2019 alone, we conducted 28 beach cleans, removing 33,385 items of trash!

Historically, the majority of beach cleanups were held without data collection, but with the inception and growth of Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup (ICC), a habitual action to clean up our beaches and our coastal environments has emerged, and most importantly to document the types and quantity of trash collected.

In this newsletter:

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[Page 01](#)

And the Winners Are...
Global Giving Little by Little
Campaign Update

[Page 02](#)

News from the Marine
Education Centre

[Page 03](#)

Sea Animal Crossword

[Page 04](#)

Standardized data collection of trash from our beaches is important in establishing waste management practices.

Beach cleanups are also now organized on other commemorative environmental days throughout the year such as World Wetlands Day and World Environment Day. These cleanups have helped to build networks of environmentally-conscious individuals who seek to bring about positive changes within communities. What has been noticed in recent years is that more and more people come out to get involved in these cleanups, with at least 9000 volunteers reported to have participated in sections of the Kenyan coastal shoreline from Vanga to Lamu as part of the observance of ICC 2019. Country-wise 'Team Kenya ICC' was ranked fourth globally last year! With combined efforts, over 82 tonnes of rubbish were removed from 227km of coastline! Regionally, 'Team Kenya - South Coast' removed 22.3 tonnes of waste by collecting over 500,000 pieces along 167km of beach areas with over 2,300 volunteers engaged! We say kudos to all those who take their time to participate in fighting ocean trash.

What is even more inspiring is that it's not just environmental organisations coordinating the cleanups, but over the years, schools, corporate firms, hotels, and individuals of all ages, are now involved by either sponsoring the cleanups or taking part. And even more exciting are the strict laws enacted by the Kenyan government in fighting plastic pollution, with the recent law in burning the use of single-use plastic in all public areas including beaches taking effect this year! In addition to stimulating action, these beach cleanups have increased public awareness about the accumulation and negative impacts of litter in our oceans, on coastlines, and beaches. Awareness creation remains key to having cleaner beaches and protecting marine life.

In this year's ICC cleanup, things have happened a little different here in Kenya, and to be more specific for 'Team Kenya South Coast'. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing and other safety procedures have been considered and so several smaller beach cleanups have been spread out across September and October, unlike the previous years where the ICC cleanup took place simultaneously across the country. Our marine team is scheduled to be taking part in the 'ICC Team Kenya-South Coast' cleanups on the 8th and 13th of October. We welcome anyone who would like to join us!



Photos of Jenni Choma and volunteers conducting the 2019 International Beach Clean Up.

And the Winners Are...

Last month we ran our very first online photo competition. We had some amazing entrees but there can only be one winner and we are excited to share the winners with you, please see below. Prizes included a beautiful book on marine wildlife for our youngest winner, Alina, while the adult and youth winners received some of our awesome merchandise, including t-shirts and keyrings. We would like to thank everyone who participated and volunteered, with some of the prizes kindly donated by some of our supporters!

Adult Winner



Photo by Ayaz Lalani, Caption: Don't Worry, Beach Happy

Youth Winner



Photo by Keya Shah, aged 16 Caption: Don't Worry

Junior Winner



Photo by Alina Njeru, aged 9
Caption: New Life Begins

A Special Thank You to Everyone who Helped Make the Global Giving Little by Little Campaign a Success!

Between the 14th and 18th September 2020, Global Giving held their Little by Little Campaign. The campaign provided us a great opportunity to raise much needed funding, in addition, Global Giving matched donations up to \$50 by 50%. Raising funds has been incredibly challenging this year and the marine team was both humbled and grateful to have received several donations from individual supporters and amazing groups such as the Marine Life Protectors. In total, we raised over \$450, with over \$100 of this coming directly from Global Giving! This will go along way in supporting our work and amazing team! We truly wouldn't be here if we didn't have you such a great network of supporters! Please check out our blog on why campaigns like Little by Little is so important to us by visiting: www.ceskenya.org/little-by-little-we-will-get-there. You can also still donate, visit <https://buff.ly/2Zra4bH> to learn more!



This month we shared a series of 'thankful posts' on our [Facebook page](#) in order to spread love and awareness for marine life! The talented [Peppermint Narwhale Creative](#) design beautiful graphics which show the huge variety of species we have living on our planet. Each post displays both the species related to each other in families or orders, along with fun facts about the animals. We also created a series of new quizzes with the Conservation Education Society which will be released throughout October. You will find one per week on our pages, each of which is full of the astonishing feats of marine species. We believe that as we learn more about the natural world, we are more likely to take action to protect it. These fun quizzes aim to not only test your knowledge of marine life, but also to show their amazing evolutionary achievements!



This September, a member of our marine team attended the first virtual meeting to discuss Kenya's coral reefs! The meeting was hosted by the Coastal Oceans Research and Development – Indian Ocean (CORDIO) team and centred around the threat status of Kenyan coral reefs from the Red List of Ecosystems (RLE) assessment of coral reefs of the Western Indian Ocean. A huge variety of researchers from a number of organisations were in attendance, including a guest speaker from Nature Kenya. Discussions enabled teams to address future coral reef assessments, policies, and management.

New month, new stock!

With winter just around the corner in the Northern Hemisphere, we have received requests for warmer clothing, so we now have hoodies for men and women, and jumpers for children! But don't worry, we haven't lost our other products! For those of you in the Southern Hemisphere, we still have our t-shirts, vests, and long-sleeved t-shirts! And remember, every item is made from 100% organic cotton and all production occurs in a renewable energy run factory, with a percentage of every sale coming directly to us, which we use to further our work in marine conservation. Check out our store here: <https://marine-education-centre.teemill.com/>



News From Our Turtle Partners

Diani Turtle Watch have found 7 new nests this month and monitored the hatching of 4. The remaining 3 nests incubating at the nest relocation site near the Marine Education Centre were unfortunately attacked by red ants! This sadly left the eggs riddled with holes and unable to successfully support the incubation of the growing turtles. The entire site has been dug out and new sand will be added with measures in the hope to reduce the chance of ants entering in the future. Check out the DTW monthly updates for more information of their work.

The Olive Ridley Project team received 2 hawksbill turtle and 12 green turtle submissions from Diani residents this month, 3 of which were new to the database! They also launched their e-turtle school which is a new online platform where anyone can learn about sea turtles for free via one of their two fun courses; visit www.oliveridleyproject.org/courses to sign up today! And they have a new fundraising campaign specifically for their work in Kenya, so if you are able to donate please visit www.oliveridleyproject.enthuse.com/pf/oliveridleyproject-kenya. We encourage you to support the valuable work of both of these projects by adopting a turtle or turtle nest online here: www.ceskenya.org/product/diani-turtle-watch-nest-adoption or here: www.ceskenya.org/product/olive-ridley-project-sea-turtle-adoption.



CESNOMADS IS AN UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE IN NOMAD MAGAZINE AT A DISCOUNTED PRICE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY SUPPORT MARINE CONSERVATION ALONG DIANI BEACH KENYA!

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- 1 Facebook post + 1 Instagram post + 2 Instagram stories on Nomad Magazine's page

WHAT WE DO

- Create awareness about marine conservation
- Educate the local community on sustainable living
- Create a network of partners to strengthen conservation efforts along Diani Beach Kenya.

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Please contact us on campaigns@ces-kenya.org for further information.

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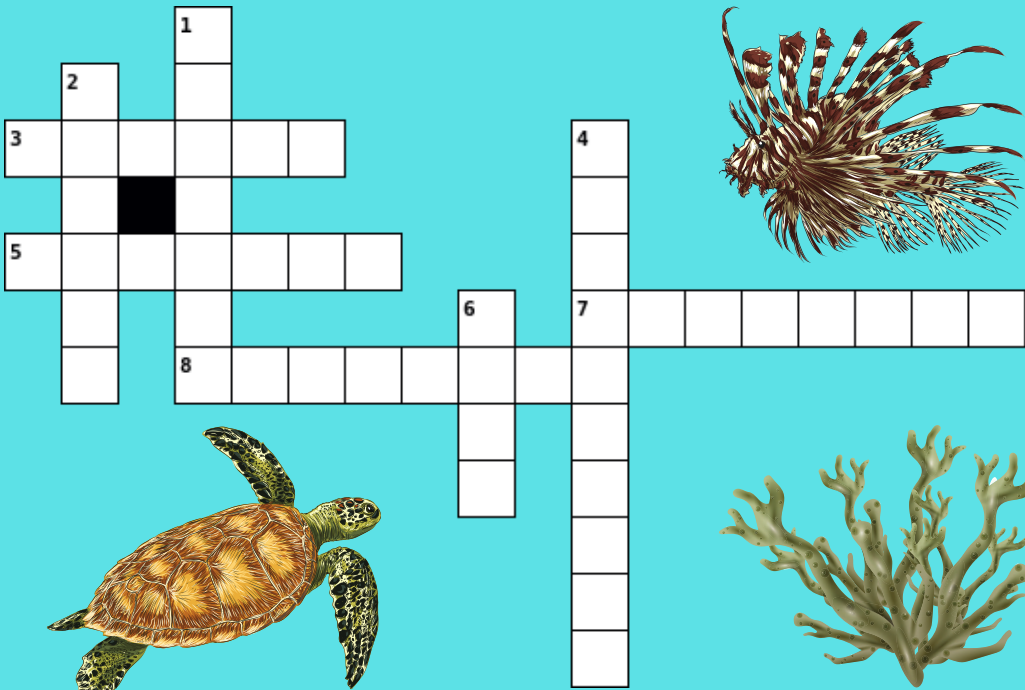
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Sea Animal Crossword

Join us this month and complete our crossword on sea animals! We will reveal the answers in next months newsletter. You can email us your answers on info@ces-kenya.org and we will give you a shout out in next months newsletter!



Across

- 3. I have a hard shell to protect me.
- 5. I am the most intelligent animal in the ocean.
- 7. If I lived on the land I would probably ROAR!
- 8. It is the male that gets pregnant!

Down

- 1. I have 8 legs, 9 brains and 3 hearts.
- 2. I am also known as a seacow!
- 4. I am the biggest fish in the ocean.
- 6. I run along the beach and hide in sandy holes.

A special thank you to the following businesses, without them, our work would not be possible.



Marine Education Centre Opening Times

Monday	Closed until further notice
Tuesday	Closed until further notice
Wednesday	Closed until further notice
Thursday	Closed until further notice
Friday	Closed until further notice
Saturday	Closed until further notice
Sunday	Closed until further notice

Our Conservation Partners



Remember

If you see a turtle nesting or an injured turtle, please contact Diani Turtle Watch on +254 758 961 322



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