

Octavia

And Her Purple Ink Cloud

By Donna and Doreen Rathmell Illustrated by Connie McLennan



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Imagine an octopus that shoots yellow ink clouds! Octavia and her sea-animal friends love playing camouflage games to practice how they would hide from a “big, hungry creature.” Octavia, however, just cannot seem to get her colors right when she tries to shoot her purple ink cloud. What happens when the big, hungry shark shows up looking for his dinner? It’s so much more than a picture book . . . this book is specifically designed to be both a fun-to-read story and a launch pad for discussions and learning. Whether read at home or in a classroom, we encourage adults to do the activities with the young children in their lives. Free online resources and support at www.ArbordalePublishing.com include:

- For Creative Minds as seen in the book (in English & Spanish):
 - Camouflage, Protection, & Adaptations
 - Octopus Fun Facts
- Teaching Activities:
 - Reading Questions
 - Language Arts
 - Science
 - Math
 - Geography
 - Coloring Pages
- Interactive Quizzes: Reading Comprehension, For Creative Minds, and Math Word Problems
- English and Spanish Audiobooks
- Related Websites
- Aligned to State Standards (searchable database)
- Accelerated Reader and Reading Counts Quizzes
- Lexile and Fountas & Pinnell Reading Levels

eBooks with Auto-Flip, Auto-Read, and selectable English and Spanish text and audio available for purchase online.

Thanks to educators at the South Carolina Aquarium for verifying the accuracy of this book.

Donna Rathmell German is the author of *Carolina’s Story: Sea Turtles Get Sick Too!* published by Arbordale and the best-selling series, *The Bread Machine Cookbooks*, (over 3 million sold) published by Bristol Publishing. Doreen Rathmell Meredith is a first-grade teacher and former elementary school librarian. This is Doreen’s first book. The sisters have a passion for children’s books and believe that reading to children is the best way to instill imagination and a love for learning. The annual family beach reunion and a Discovery Channel video about octopuses sparked the beginnings of this book. Donna lives in South Carolina and Doreen lives in Delaware.

Award-winning illustrator **Connie McLennan** has been a freelance artist for over 25 years. In addition to illustrating *Octavia and Her Purple Ink Cloud*, she has also illustrated *Ready, Set, Wait!*, *Mother Osprey: Nursery Rhymes for Buoys & Gulls*, *The Rainforest Grew All Around*, *River Beds: Sleeping in the World’s Rivers*, and *Water Beds: Sleeping in the Ocean* for Arbordale Publishing. Her studio is at her home in California, where she lives with her husband, teenage son, and one big black cat.



Donna and Doree Rathmell



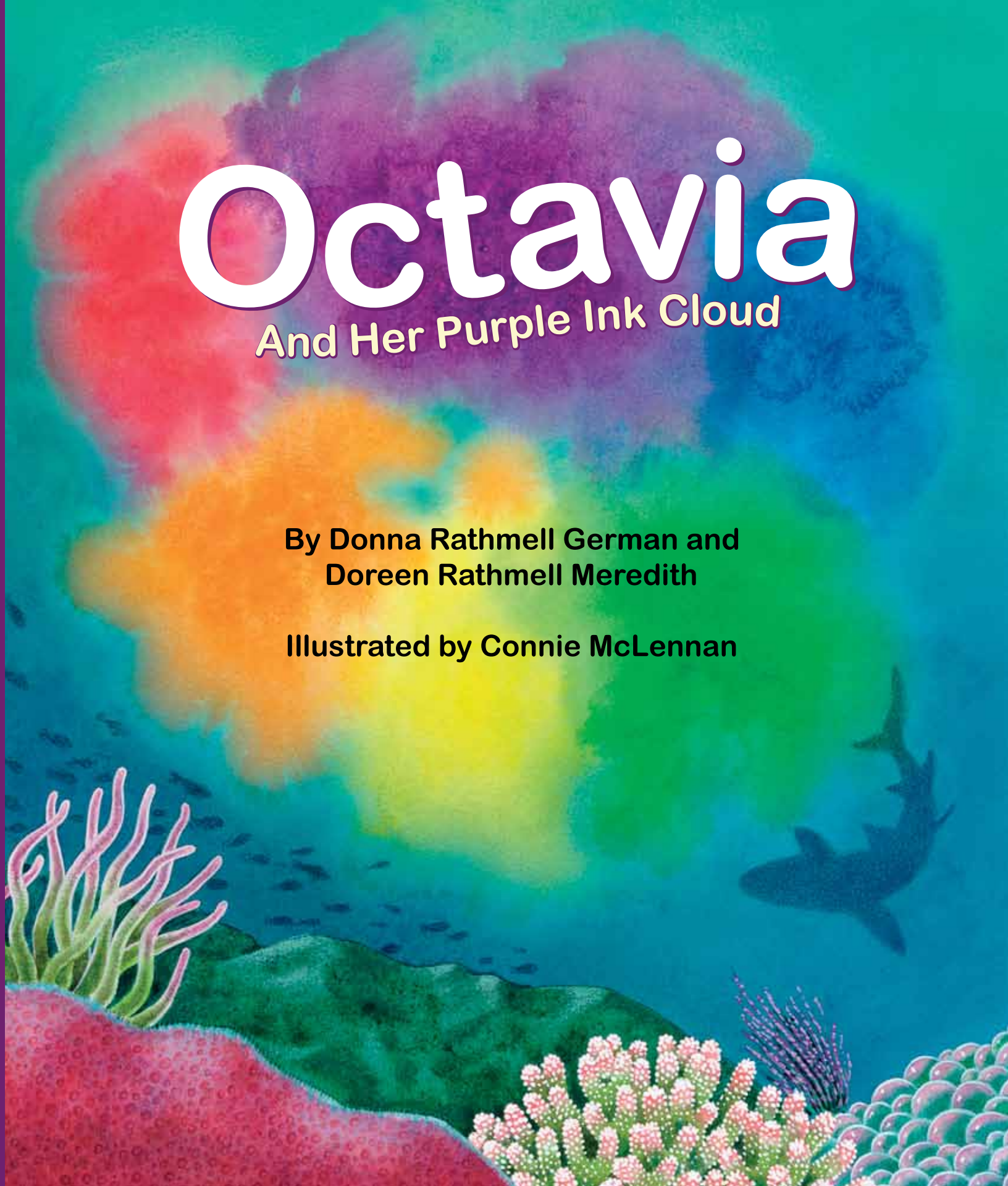
Connie McLennan

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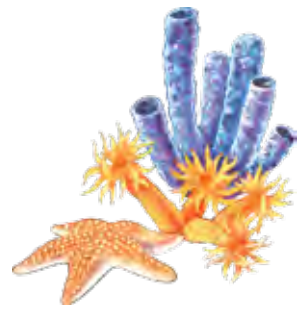
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To the many generations of the Rathmell family: thanks
for all the encouragement—DRG & DRM

For Karla Yaconelli: my sister, my friend, and my
staunchest cheerleader—CM

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verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.



Publisher's Cataloging-In-Publication Data

Octavia and her purple ink cloud / by Donna Rathmell German and Doreen Rathmell Meredith ; illustrated by
Connie McLennan.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 27 cm.

Summary: Octavia the octopus can shoot every color of ink cloud except the usual purple one. She practices
knowing that she needs the purple one to camouflage from predators. Will she be able to shoot her purple cloud
when it counts? Includes For Creative Minds educational section.

ISBN: 978-0-976494355 (hardcover)

ISBN: 978-1-607185864 (pbk.)

ISBN: 978-1-934359426 (English eBook)

ISBN: 978-1-607180074 (English eBook)

Also available as eBooks featuring auto-flip, auto-read, 3D-page-curling, and selectable English and Spanish text
and audio ISBN: 978-1-60718-2535

Interest level: 003-007 Grade level: P-2 Lexile Level: 730

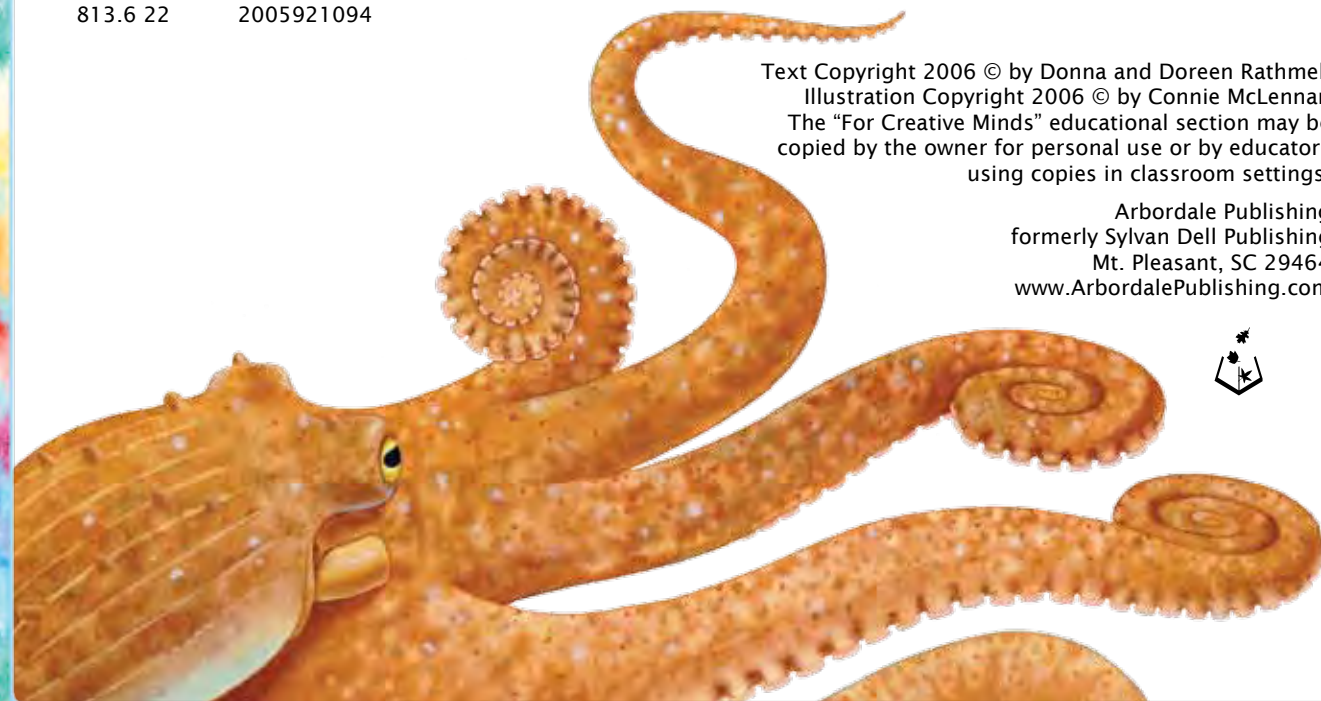
1. Octopuses --Juvenile fiction. 2. Perseverance (Ethics) --Juvenile fiction. 3. Octopuses --Fiction. 4. Color --Fiction.

I. McLennan, Connie. II. Title.

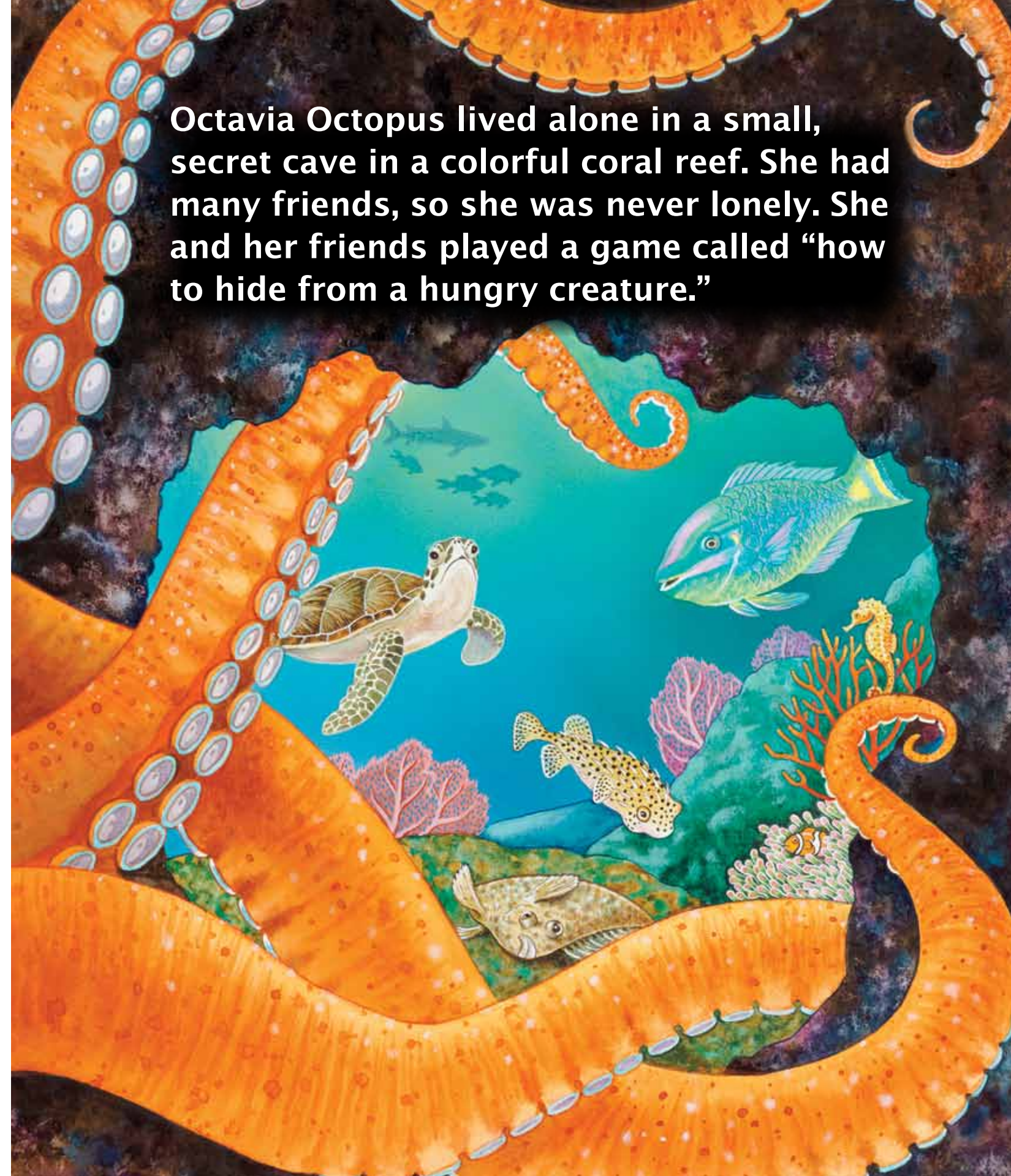
813.6 22 2005921094

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Arbordale Publishing
formerly Sylvan Dell Publishing
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
www.ArbordalePublishing.com



**Octavia Octopus lived alone in a small,
secret cave in a colorful coral reef. She had
many friends, so she was never lonely. She
and her friends played a game called "how
to hide from a hungry creature."**

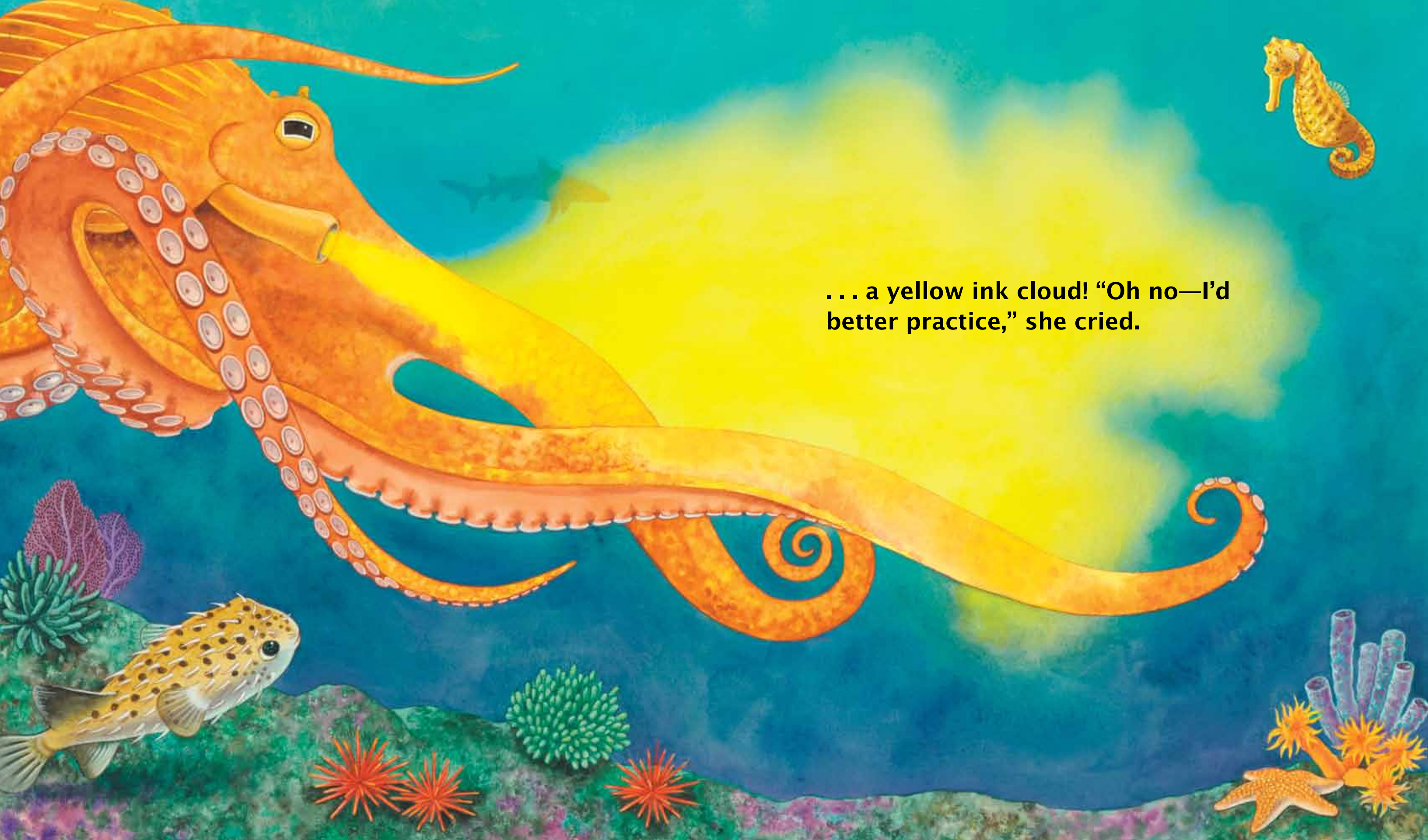




Octavia clapped all eight arms when Paul Porcupine Fish puffed up to show how he could confuse a hungry creature. He was so big and prickly that Octavia knew Paul would be safe.

Octavia bragged that she could squirt a purple ink cloud to escape. "Watch me!" she said as she squirted . . .





... a yellow ink cloud! "Oh no—I'd better practice," she cried.



Octavia laughed when Sandy Seahorse showed how he could hold onto a plant with his tail. He swayed in the water like he was part of the plant. She knew that he would be safe.

Octavia boasted that she could squirt a purple ink cloud to escape. She squirted . . .





... an orange ink cloud! "Oh no—I'd better practice," she sighed.

For Creative Minds

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Camouflage, Protection, & Adaptations—Who am I?

Animals have adaptations to help them survive in their habitats. These adaptations can be physical (body parts) or behavioral (something the animal does). Many animals use camouflage to hide from predators (animals that want to eat them) and prey (animals that they want to eat). But camouflage isn't the only way that animals protect themselves. Match the animal to its adaptations that help it to survive life in the ocean. Answers are upside down on the bottom of the next page.

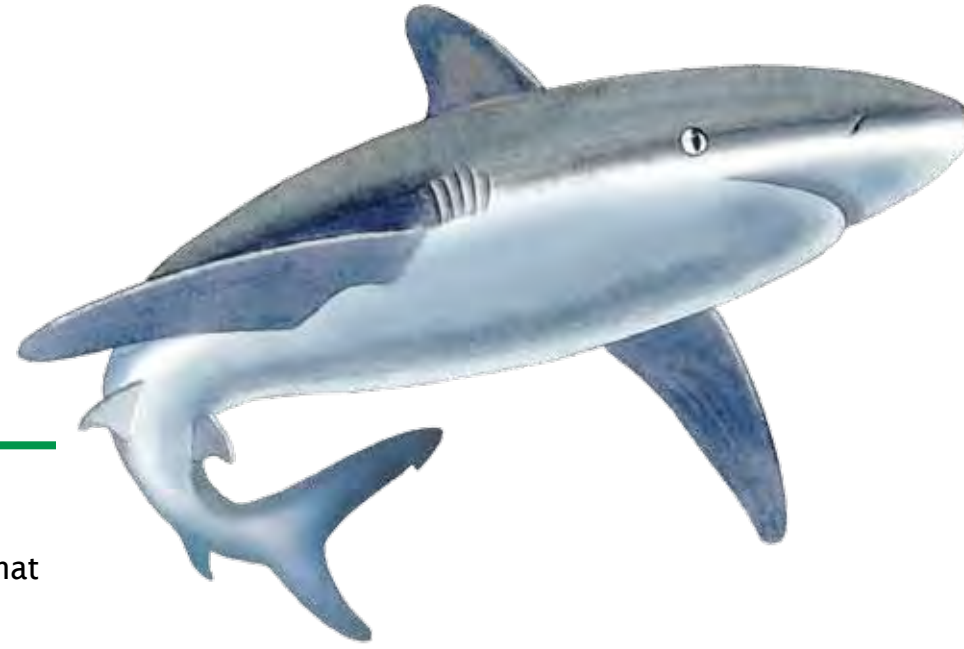
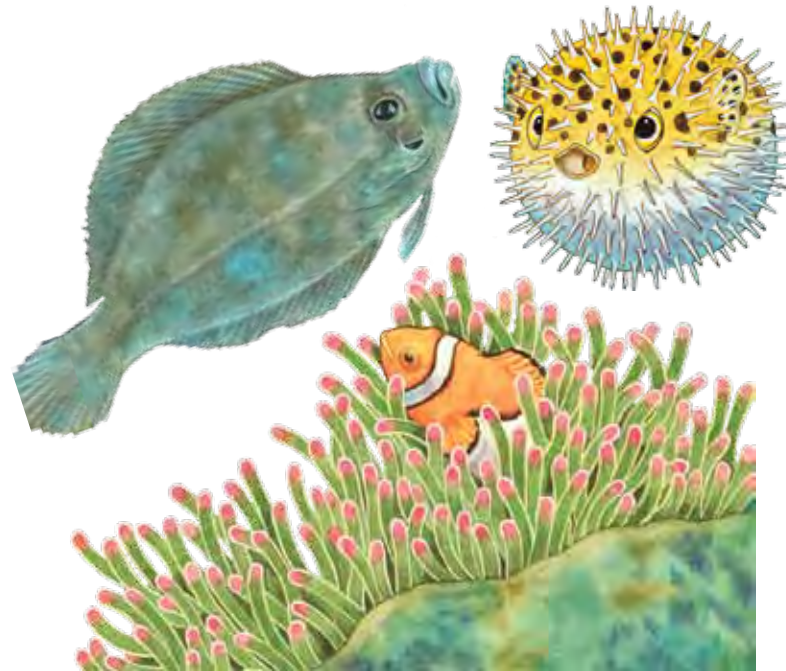


1 I am the top predator of my food chain. I use my sleek body to move quickly through the water to catch prey. My underside is light colored so animals from below don't see me against light, but the top of my body is dark to blend in with the water below for animals looking down at me.

2 I have bright colors to blend in with the colorful reef where I live. I like to hide from predators in caves or crevices (cracks) in the reef.

3 I have a carapace (hard shell) to protect me from predators. My brownish-green color helps me to blend in and hide in sea grass. My flippers help me swim. Unlike some of my land cousins, I cannot pull my head into my shell.

4 I am a fish but I don't swim very well. I do have a really strong tail that I wrap around grass or corals. I can be hard to see. I use my long, narrow mouth like a vacuum cleaner to catch food as it drifts by.



5 I can change colors to match my surroundings! I use dark red, purple, or black ink clouds to confuse my enemies to escape or to catch my prey.

6 I can change the color of my skin to copy the area around me. I usually lay flat on the ground but can swim too. Both my eyes are on top of my head and can move in different directions at the same time, so I can see all around me!

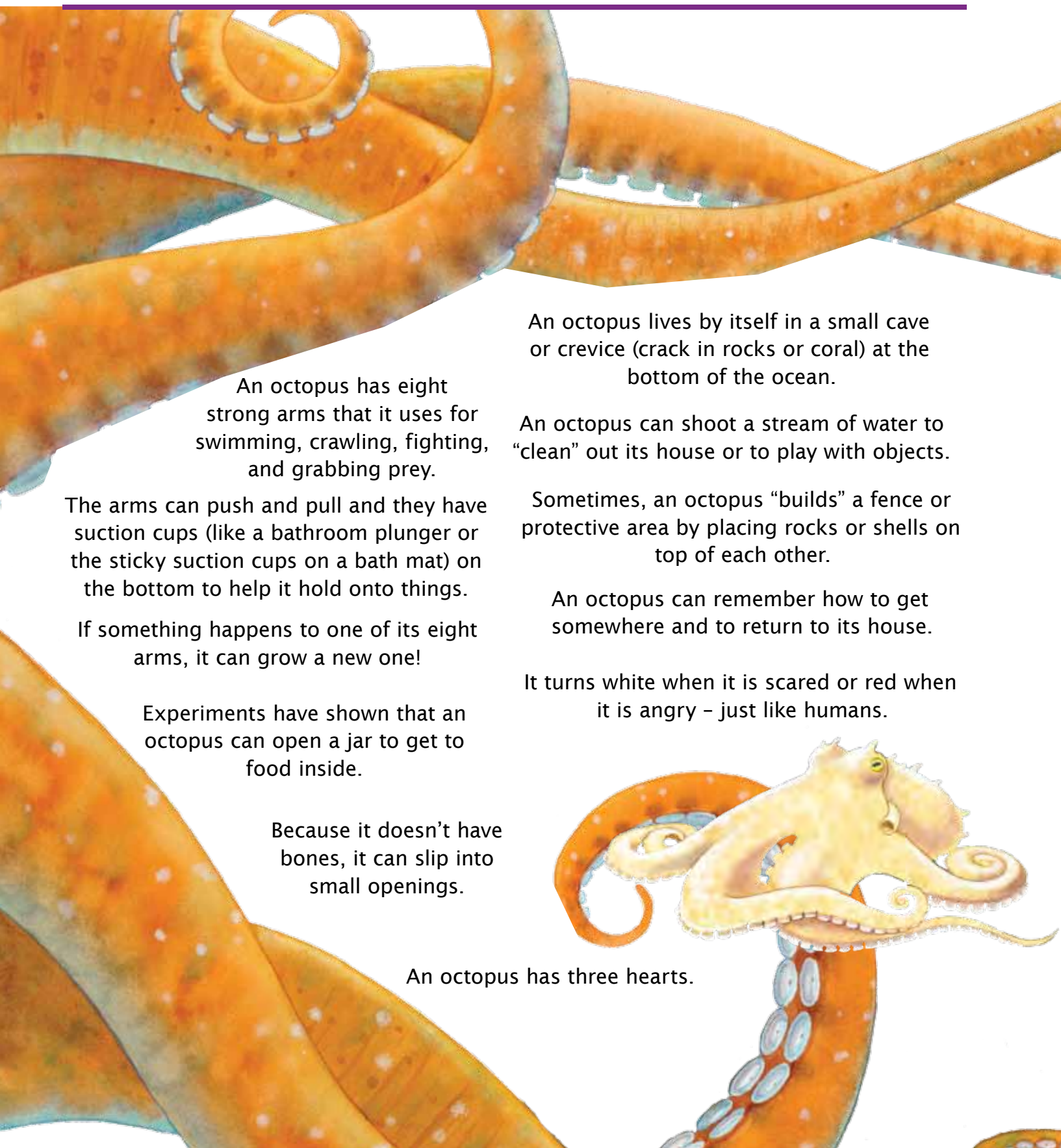
7 When I get scared, I blow myself up like a balloon. I might even have quills or barbs that could stick in the throat of any predator that tries to eat me.

8 I live in a sea anemone. I have a special mucus that prevents me from getting stung. My bright color attracts other fish and they get stung. I get to eat the leftovers!



Answers: 1-shark, 2-parrot fish, 3-sea turtle, 4-seahorse, 5-octopus, 6-flounder, 7 puffer fish, 8-clown fish

Octopus Fun Facts



An octopus has eight strong arms that it uses for swimming, crawling, fighting, and grabbing prey.

The arms can push and pull and they have suction cups (like a bathroom plunger or the sticky suction cups on a bath mat) on the bottom to help it hold onto things.

If something happens to one of its eight arms, it can grow a new one!

Experiments have shown that an octopus can open a jar to get to food inside.

Because it doesn't have bones, it can slip into small openings.

An octopus has three hearts.

An octopus lives by itself in a small cave or crevice (crack in rocks or coral) at the bottom of the ocean.

An octopus can shoot a stream of water to "clean" out its house or to play with objects.

Sometimes, an octopus "builds" a fence or protective area by placing rocks or shells on top of each other.

An octopus can remember how to get somewhere and to return to its house.

It turns white when it is scared or red when it is angry - just like humans.



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Includes 3 pages of learning activities.

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