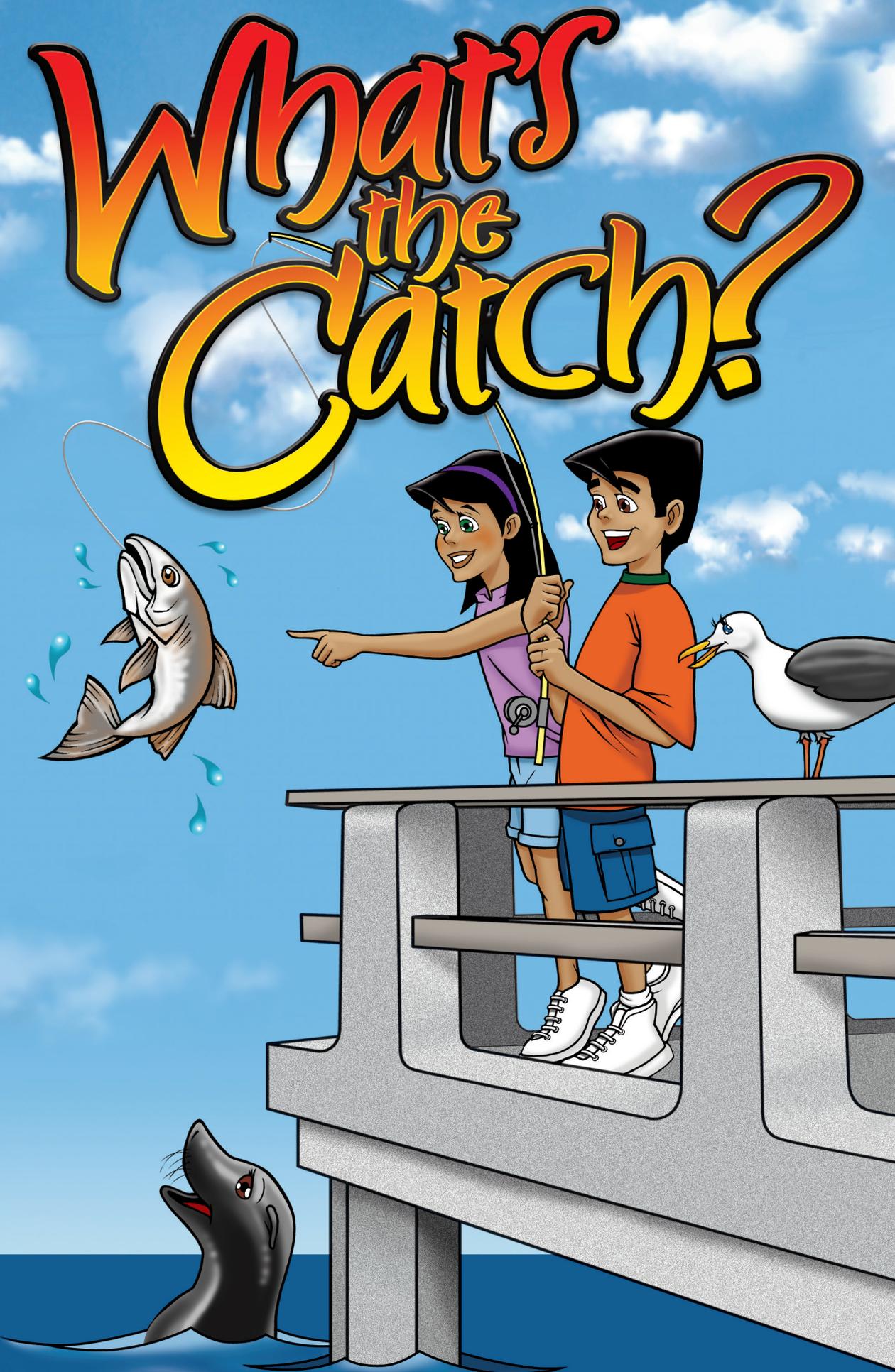


What's the Catch?





**Cabrillo
Marine
Aquarium**

MSRP and Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
present

Our Gull Amanda

in

**What's
the
Catch?**



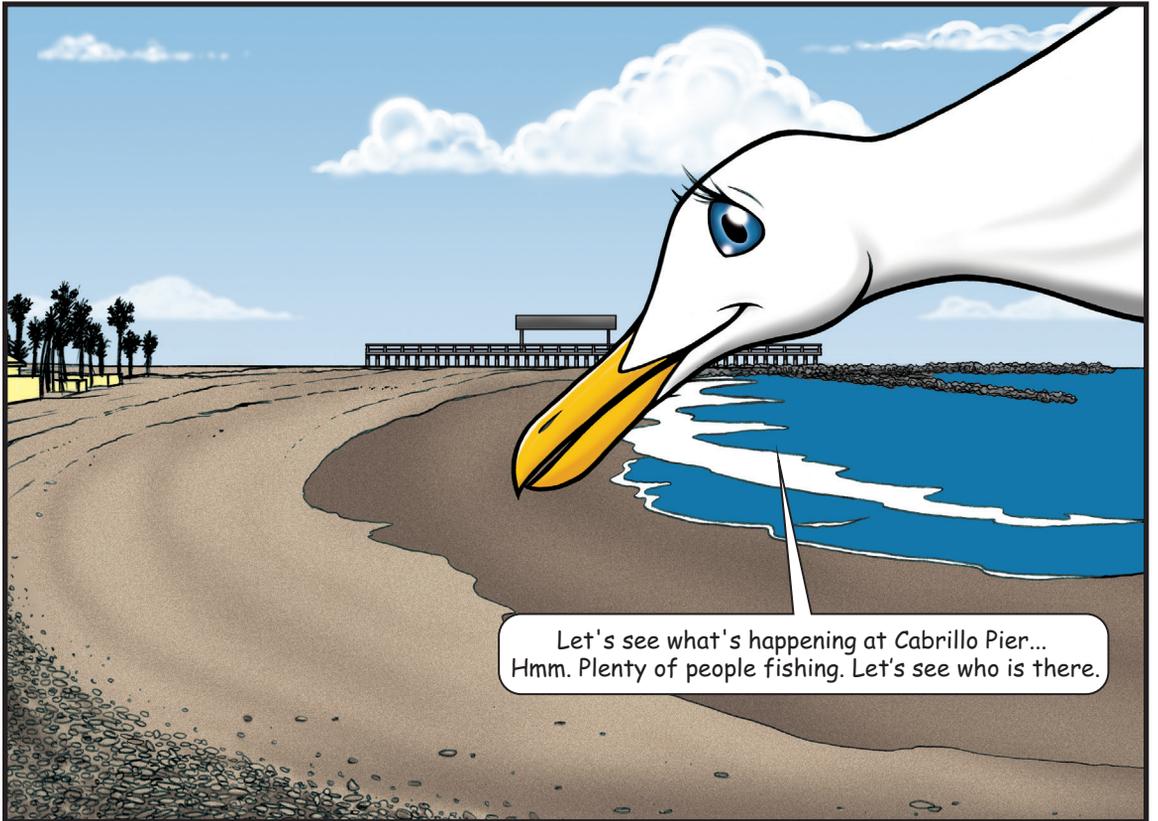
MSRP is a multi-agency effort to restore natural resources harmed by past releases of DDTs and PCBs in the southern California marine environment. Funded by a legal settlement with the companies and industries responsible for the chemical releases, MSRP is working on a variety of restoration projects, including projects to restore fishing opportunities in Southern California. For more information, please visit us at www.montrosere restoration.noaa.gov.



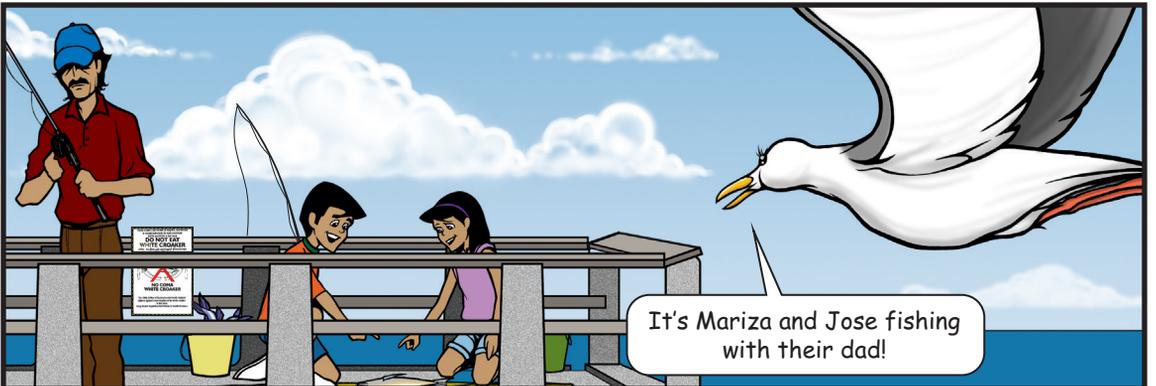
**Cabrillo
Marine
Aquarium**

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is an educational, recreational, and research facility dedicated to providing rich and varied opportunities for early and continuing education of the general public about the marine environment of Southern California. Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is located at 3270 Stephen White Drive in San Pedro and is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks with support from FRIENDS of CMA. Visit our website at www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org.

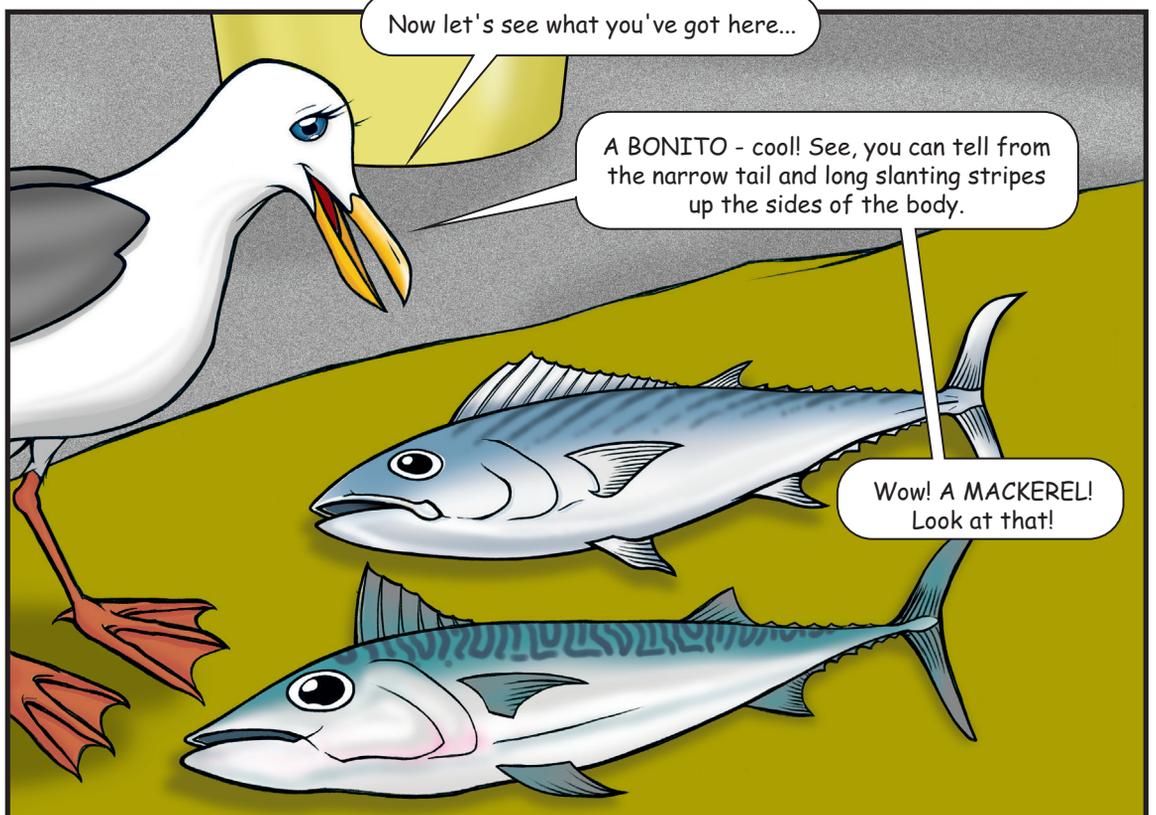
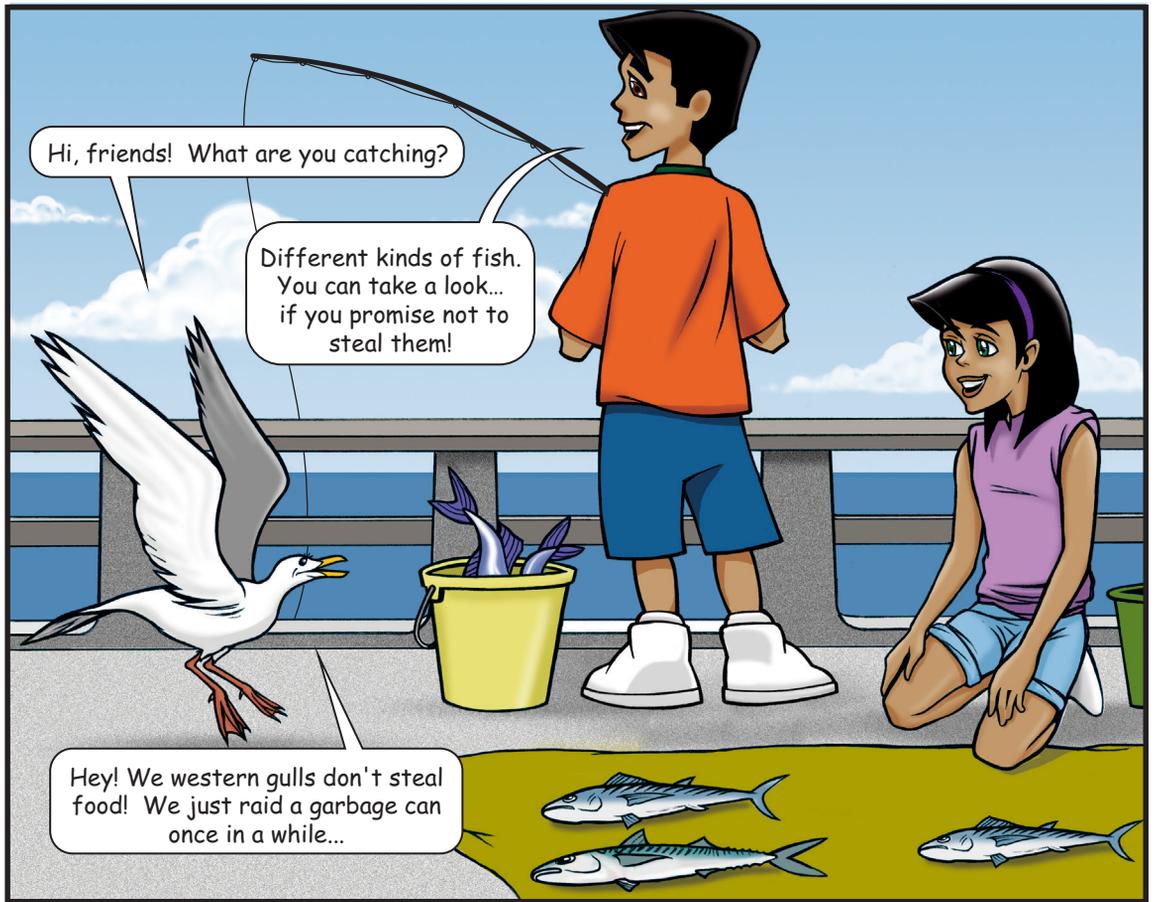
Amanda, a western sea gull, likes to hunt for food in San Pedro, an old fishing town and seaport in Los Angeles Harbor.

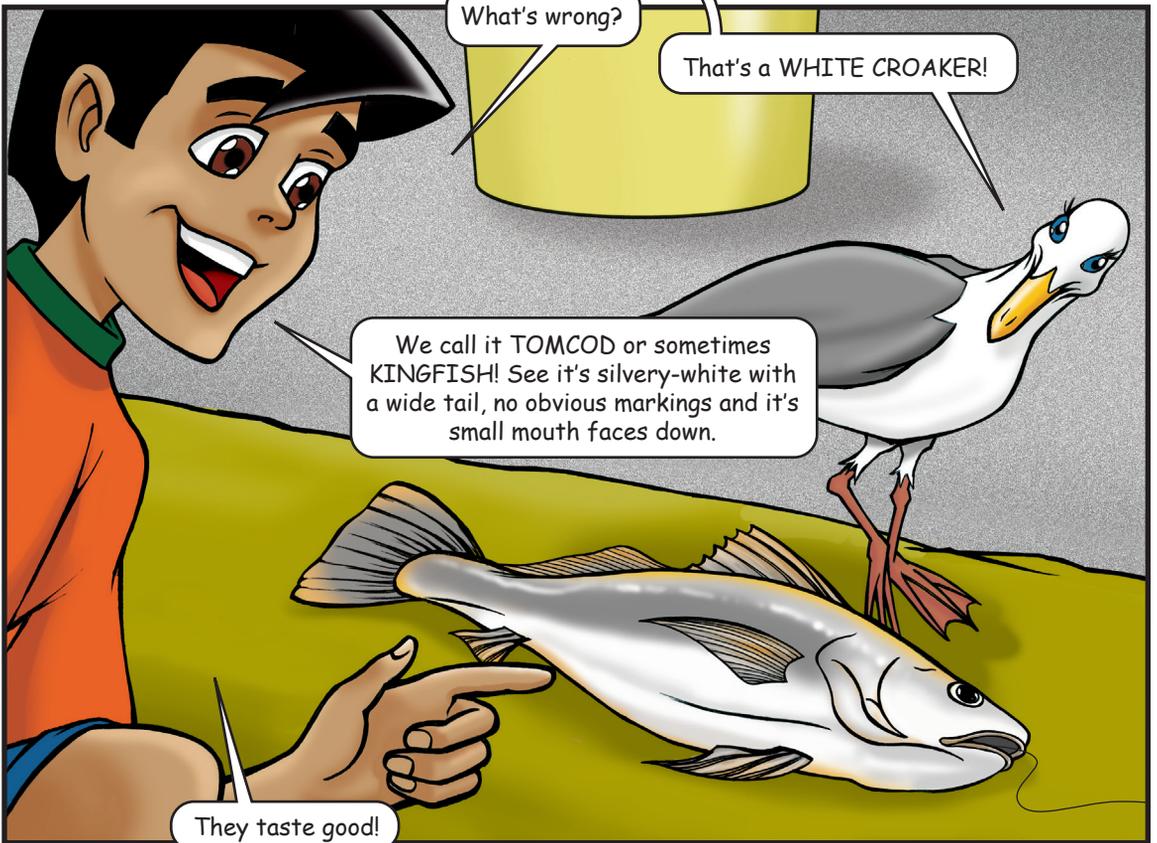
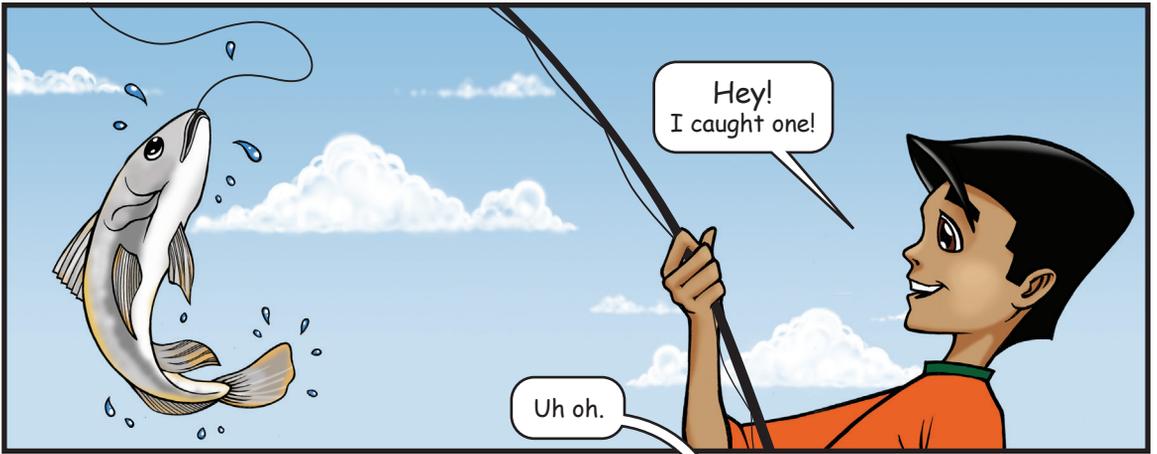


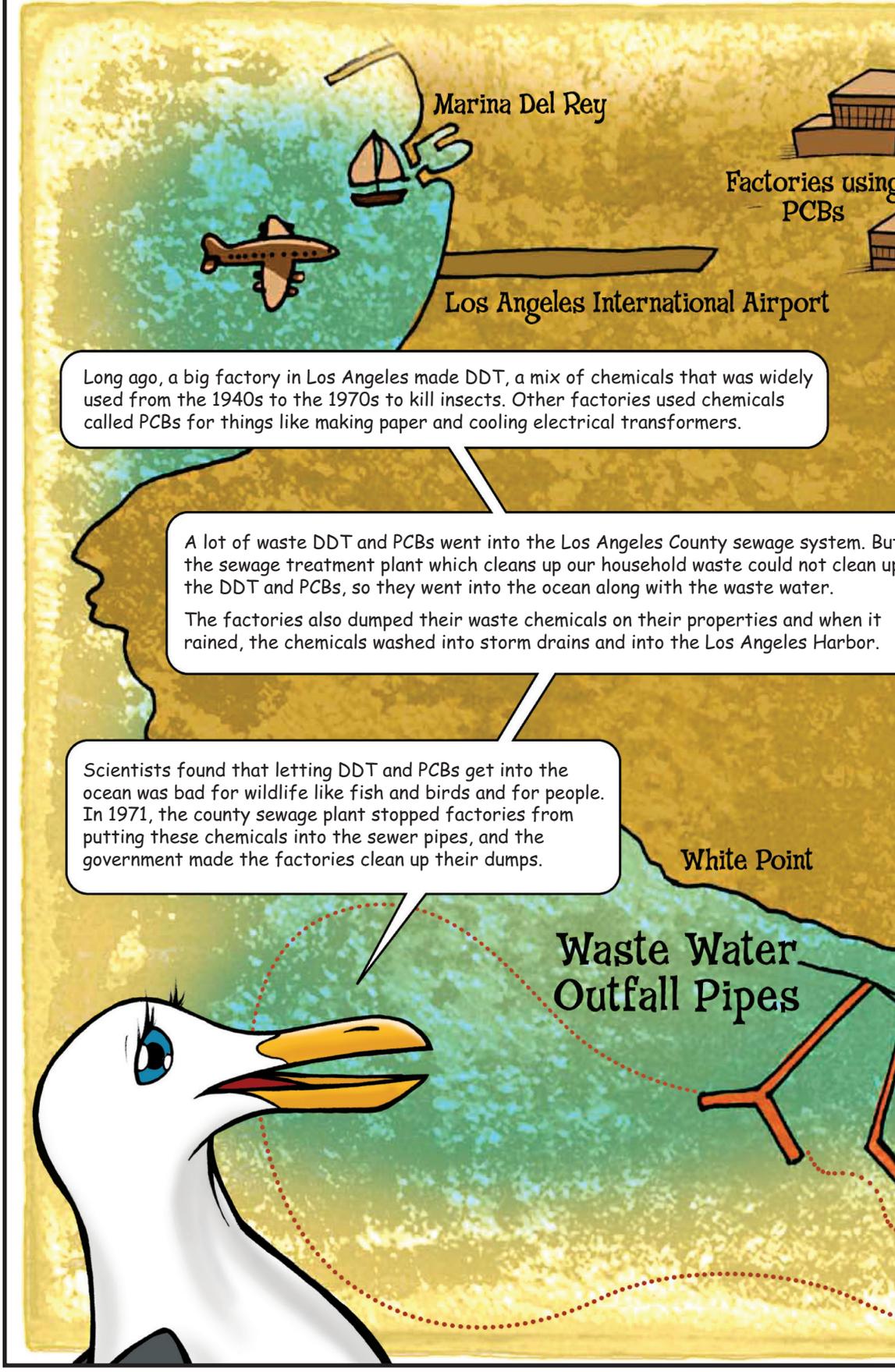
Let's see what's happening at Cabrillo Pier...
Hmm. Plenty of people fishing. Let's see who is there.



It's Mariza and Jose fishing
with their dad!







Marina Del Rey

Factories using
PCBs

Los Angeles International Airport

Long ago, a big factory in Los Angeles made DDT, a mix of chemicals that was widely used from the 1940s to the 1970s to kill insects. Other factories used chemicals called PCBs for things like making paper and cooling electrical transformers.

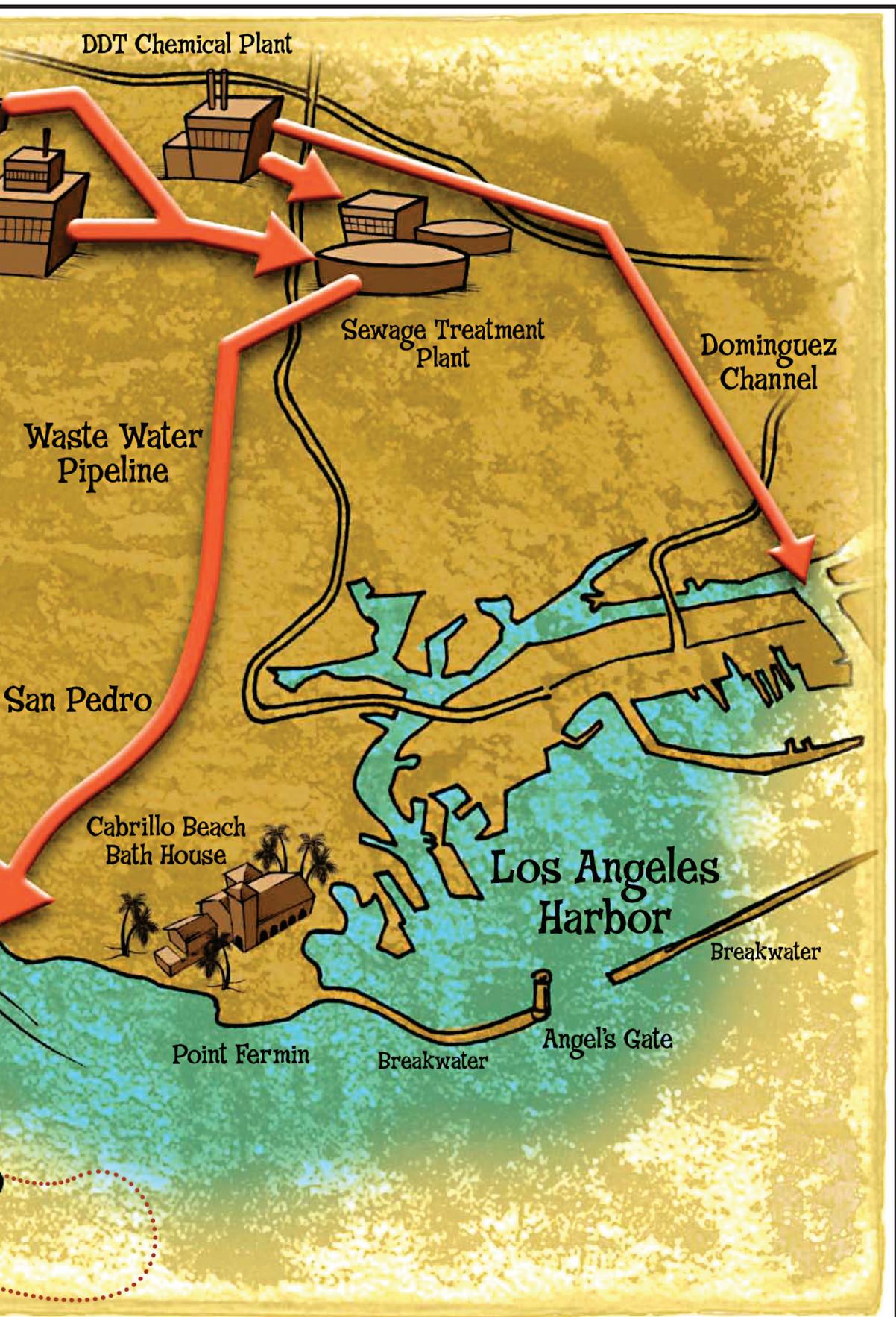
A lot of waste DDT and PCBs went into the Los Angeles County sewage system. But the sewage treatment plant which cleans up our household waste could not clean up the DDT and PCBs, so they went into the ocean along with the waste water.

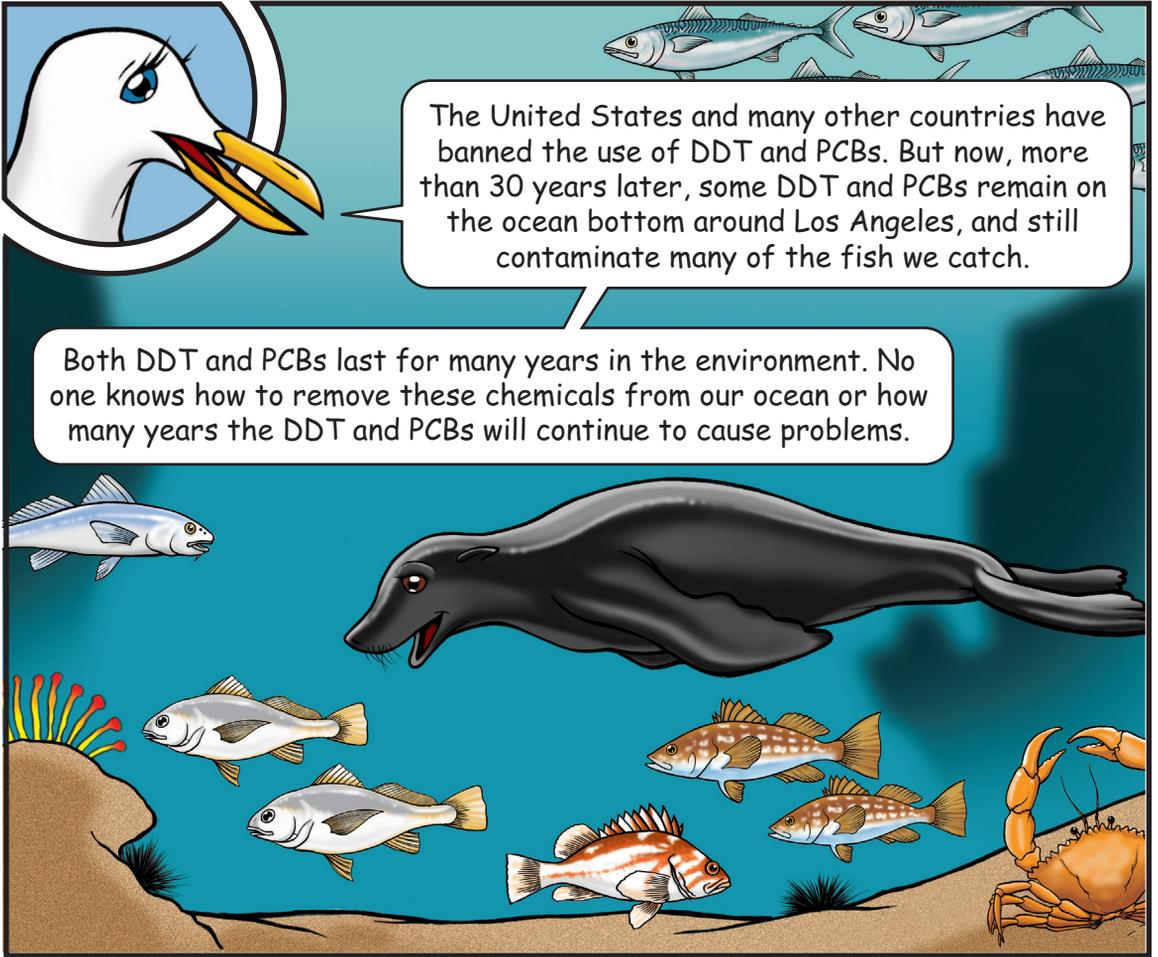
The factories also dumped their waste chemicals on their properties and when it rained, the chemicals washed into storm drains and into the Los Angeles Harbor.

Scientists found that letting DDT and PCBs get into the ocean was bad for wildlife like fish and birds and for people. In 1971, the county sewage plant stopped factories from putting these chemicals into the sewer pipes, and the government made the factories clean up their dumps.

White Point

Waste Water
Outfall Pipes





The United States and many other countries have banned the use of DDT and PCBs. But now, more than 30 years later, some DDT and PCBs remain on the ocean bottom around Los Angeles, and still contaminate many of the fish we catch.

Both DDT and PCBs last for many years in the environment. No one knows how to remove these chemicals from our ocean or how many years the DDT and PCBs will continue to cause problems.



What do DDT and PCBs do to fish and birds?

Well...I know a friend who can help me explain it to you.



Let's see...Ah ha! There he is!

Ahoy, Fernando!



Ahoy Amanda! What brings you this way?

Could you help me explain about DDT and PCBs to some friends of mine?

DDT and PCBs? I'd be glad to!



Mariza, Jose...



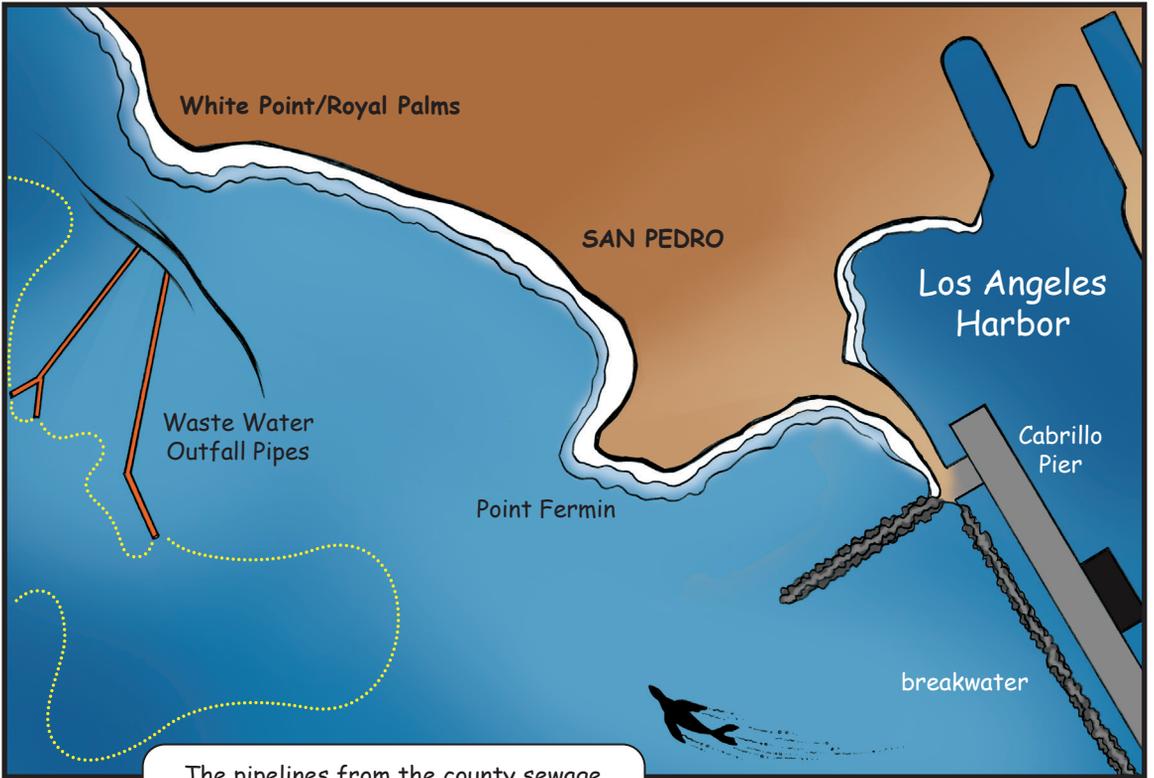
...meet Fernando!

Hi kids!

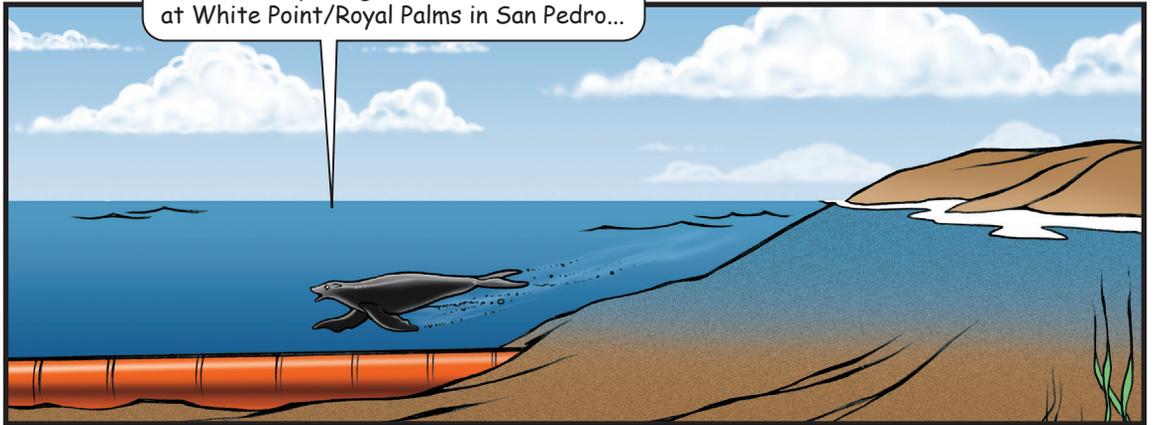
Hi!

Cool! He's a California sea lion!

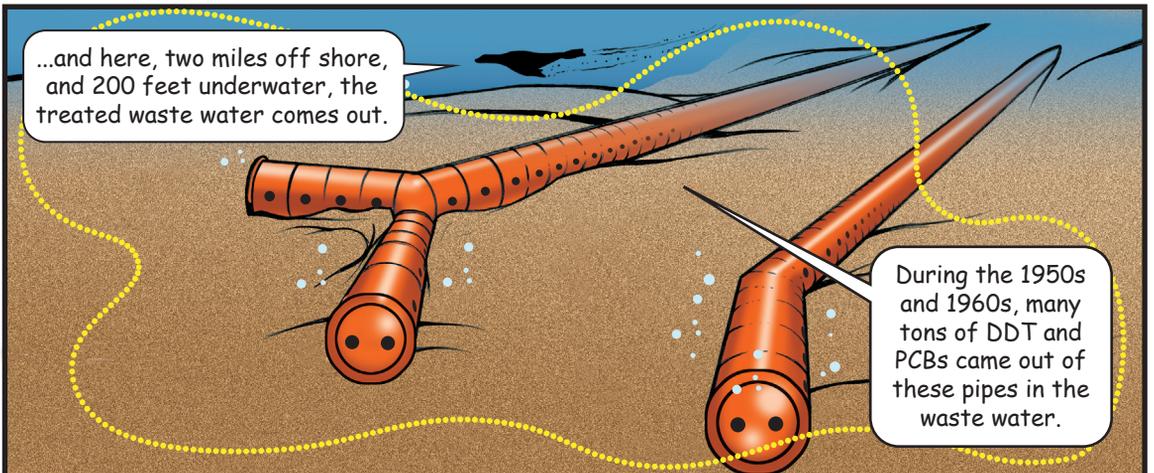
Amanda said you wanted to know more about DDT and PCBs. I'll tell you what I know...



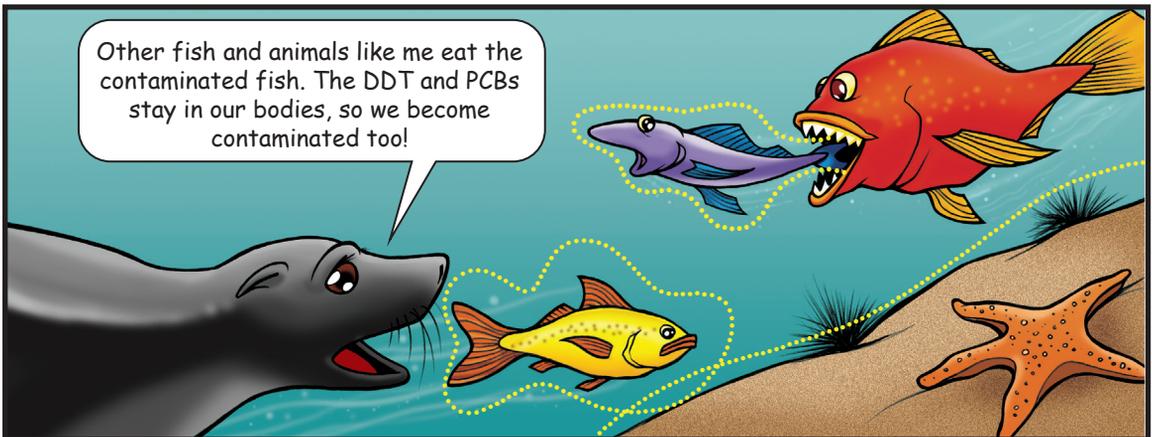
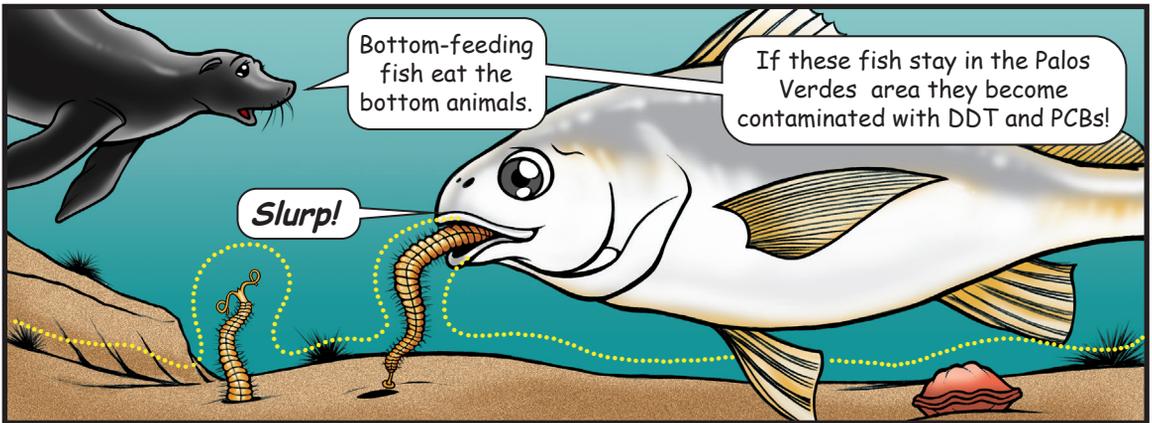
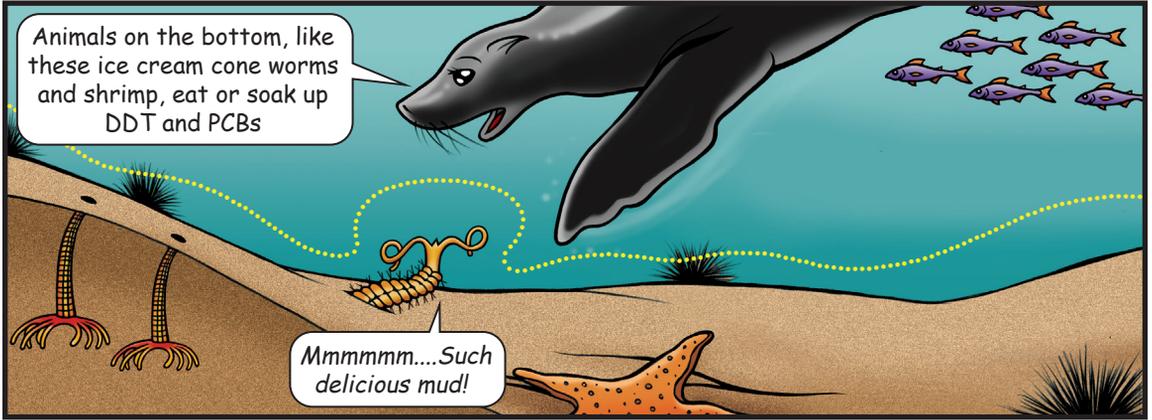
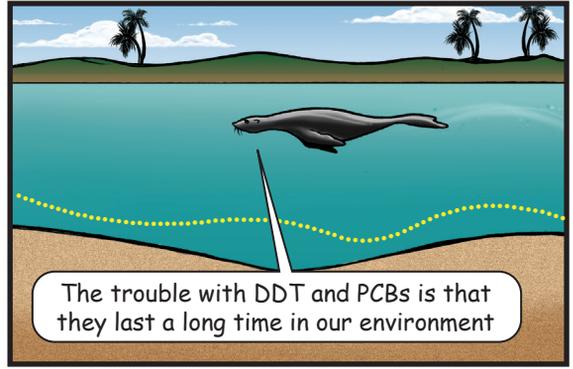
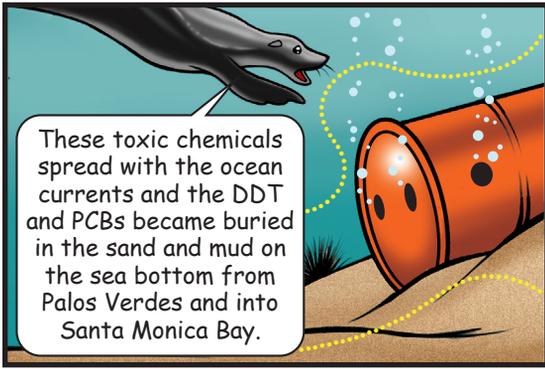
The pipelines from the county sewage treatment plant go into the ocean here at White Point/Royal Palms in San Pedro...

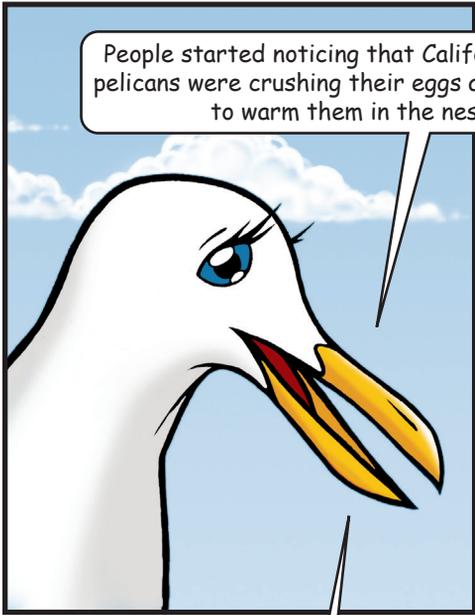


...and here, two miles off shore, and 200 feet underwater, the treated waste water comes out.

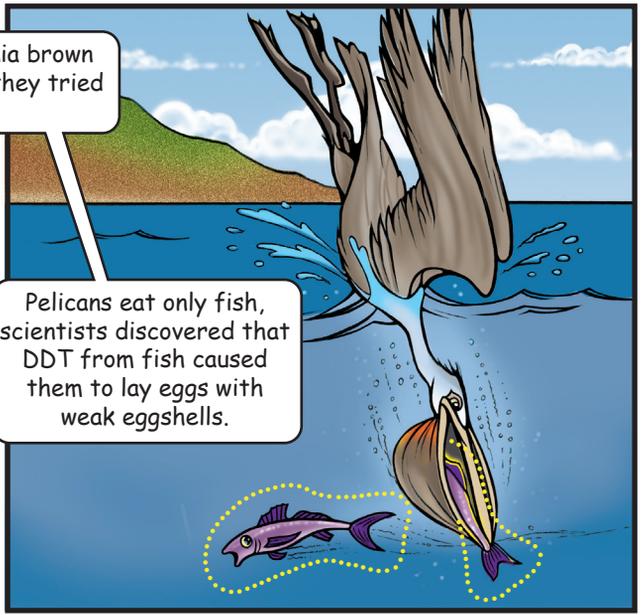


During the 1950s and 1960s, many tons of DDT and PCBs came out of these pipes in the waste water.





People started noticing that California brown pelicans were crushing their eggs as they tried to warm them in the nest.



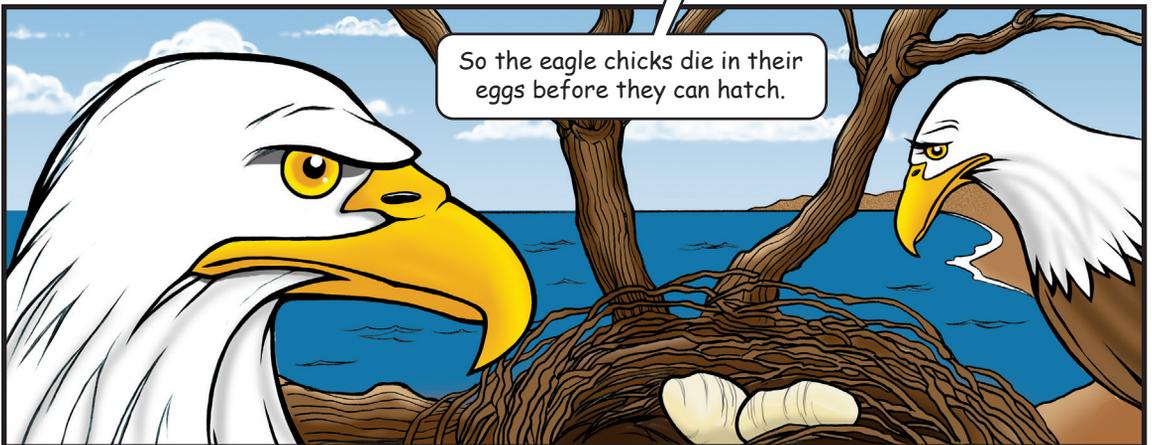
Pelicans eat only fish, scientists discovered that DDT from fish caused them to lay eggs with weak eggshells.



The eggshells were too thin, and almost all the baby pelicans died!



DDT hurt other birds too. For example, bald eagles on Catalina Island are getting too much DDT from their food.

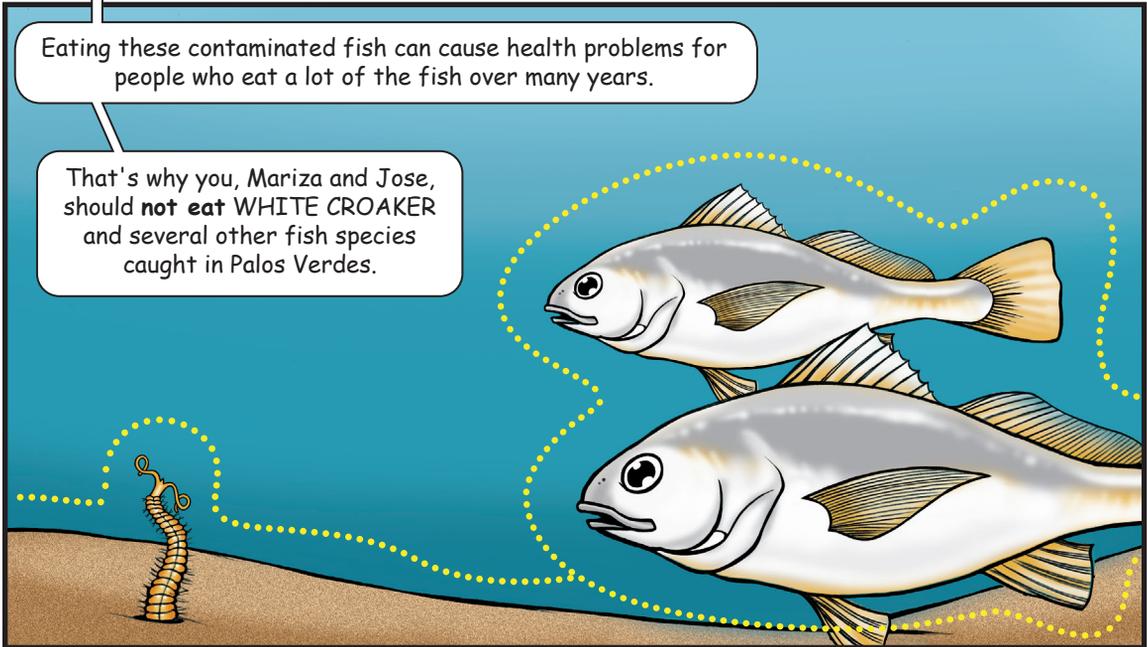


So the eagle chicks die in their eggs before they can hatch.



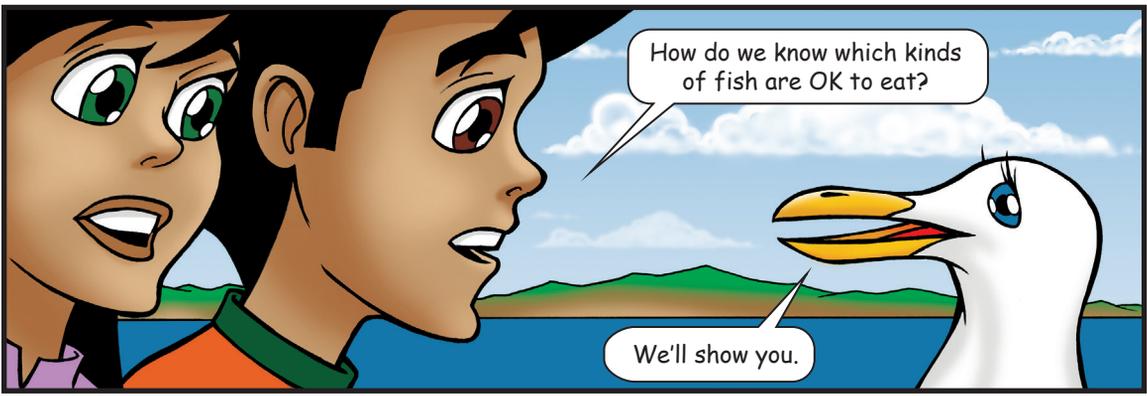
And DDT and PCBs are especially bad for human babies and children too! Mothers who are nursing a baby and women who are pregnant or may become pregnant should avoid eating contaminated fish that are found on local advisories.

Growing children should also avoid eating these fish.



Eating these contaminated fish can cause health problems for people who eat a lot of the fish over many years.

That's why you, Mariza and Jose, should **not** eat WHITE CROAKER and several other fish species caught in Palos Verdes.



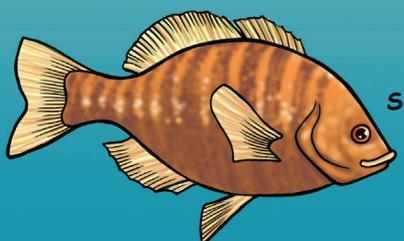
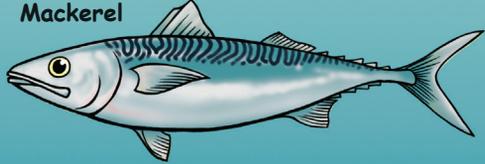
How do we know which kinds of fish are OK to eat?

We'll show you.

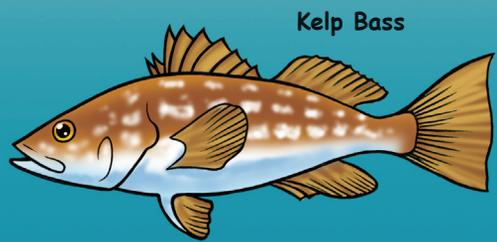


The fish species on this page can be caught locally and are good to eat once a week. You want to make sure you take the skin off before eating too. The recommended serving of fish is about the size of your hand. Children should eat smaller portions!

Mackerel

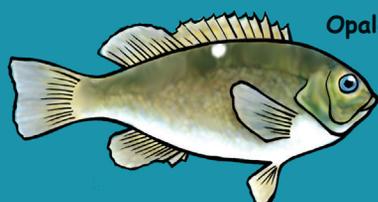
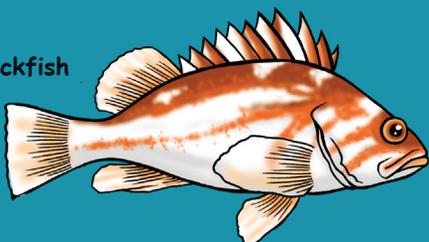


Surf Perch



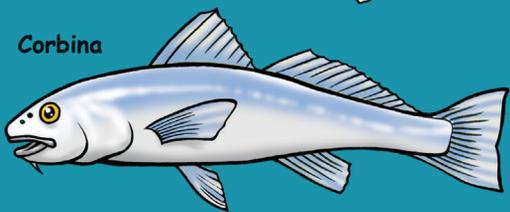
Kelp Bass

Rockfish

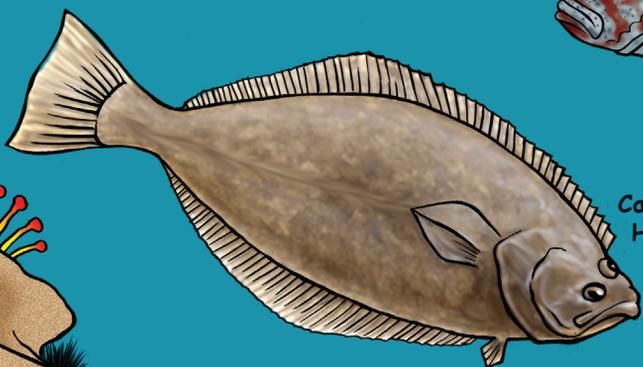
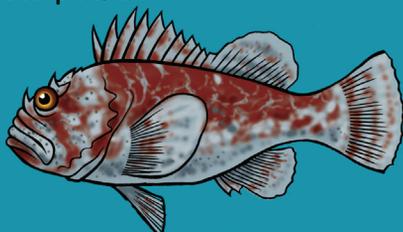


Opaleye

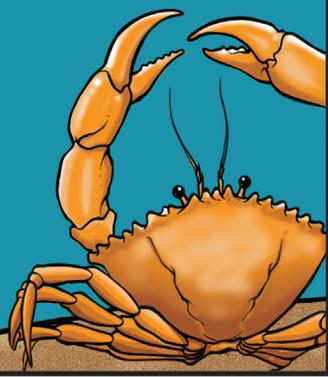
Corbina

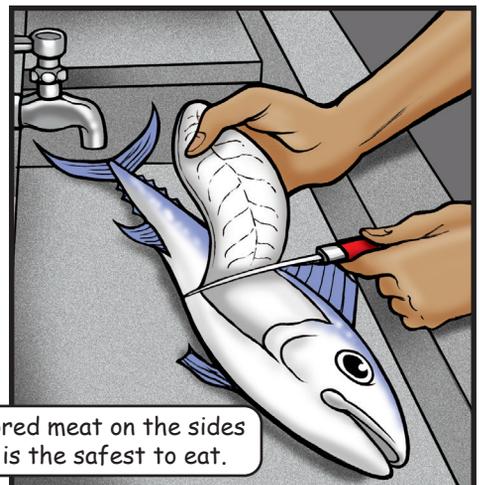
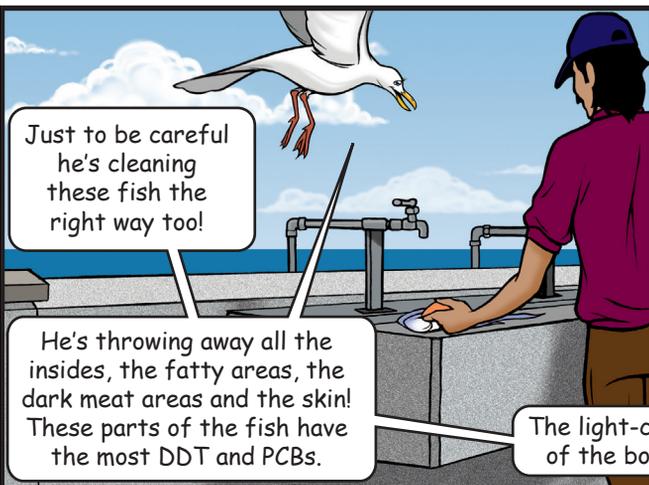
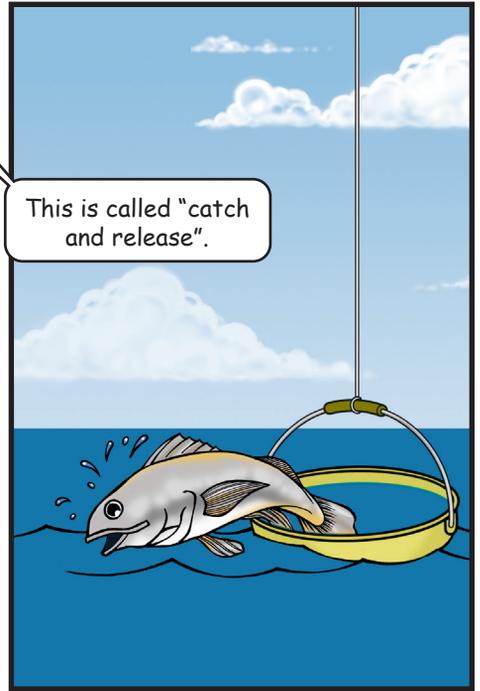
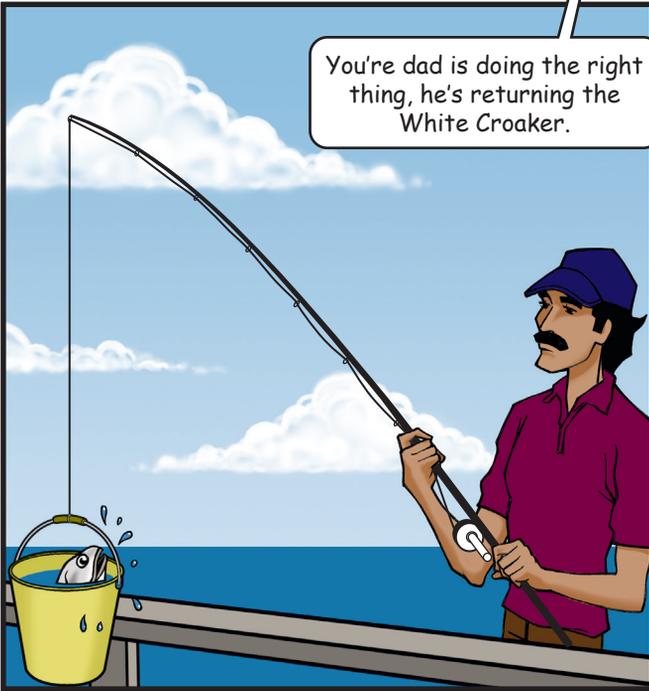
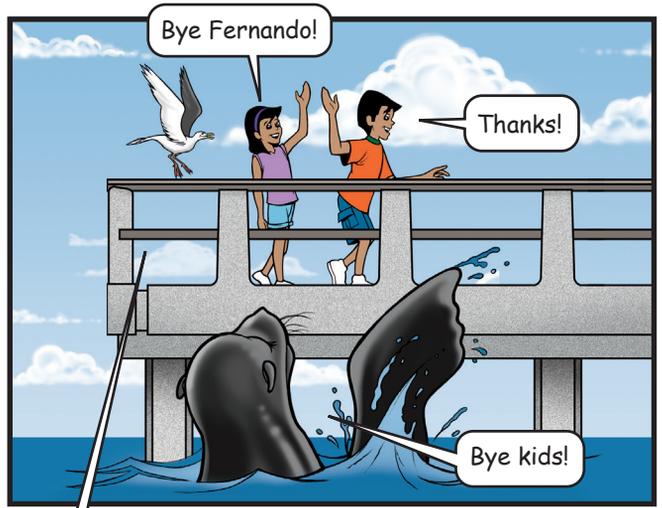


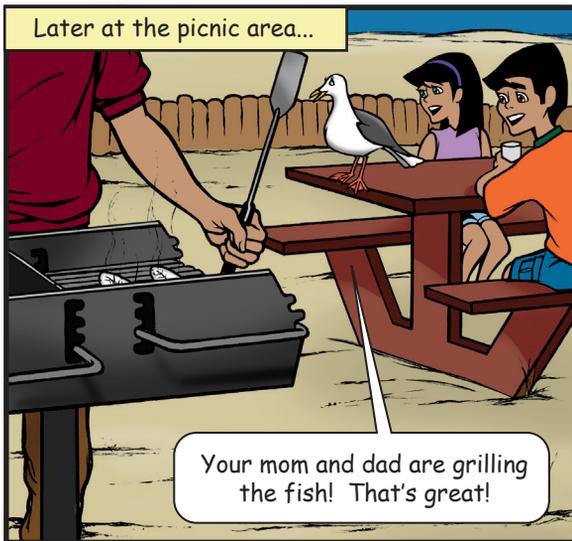
Scorpionfish



California Halibut

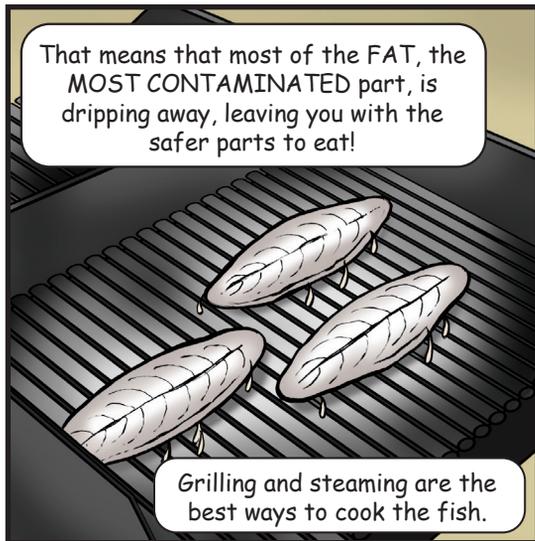






Later at the picnic area...

Your mom and dad are grilling the fish! That's great!



That means that most of the **FAT**, the **MOST CONTAMINATED** part, is dripping away, leaving you with the safer parts to eat!

Grilling and steaming are the best ways to cook the fish.



Pan-frying, or even worse, throwing the whole fish into a soup, are **NOT** good, because all the toxic chemicals stay with the fish you eat.



You know, fish is a great food—nutritious and usually healthy!



And it tastes great!

Yes it does!

But in the Los Angeles area, you have to be careful where you catch the fish, and which ones you eat!



Fish Smart!



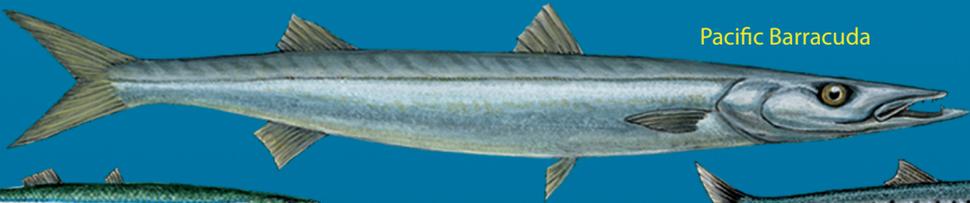
Some of the most common fish along the Los Angeles coast are contaminated with DDT and PCBs. The State of California issues fish consumption advisories that warn about fish that are not safe to eat.



Use the drawings on the next page to know what fish you catch. Compare them to consumption advisories in your area to help you decide what fish you can keep and eat.

You can learn more about fish contamination and consumption advisories by:

- Looking for signs on fishing piers in the Los Angeles area.
- Talking to people handing out information about fish contamination, on fishing piers, at health clinics, and at local outreach events.
- Visiting www.pvsfish.org, the website of the Fish Contamination Education Collaborative.



Pacific Barracuda



Jacksmelt



Topsmelt



Pacific Sardine



Pacific Bonito



Pacific (chub) mackerel



White Seabass



Yellowtail



Opaleye



Black Perch



Kelp Bass,
Calico Bass



Barred Surfperch



Sculpin, California
Scorpionfish



Barred Sandbass



Yellowfin Croaker



Queenfish



Copper Rockfish



White Croaker,
Kingfish, Tomcod



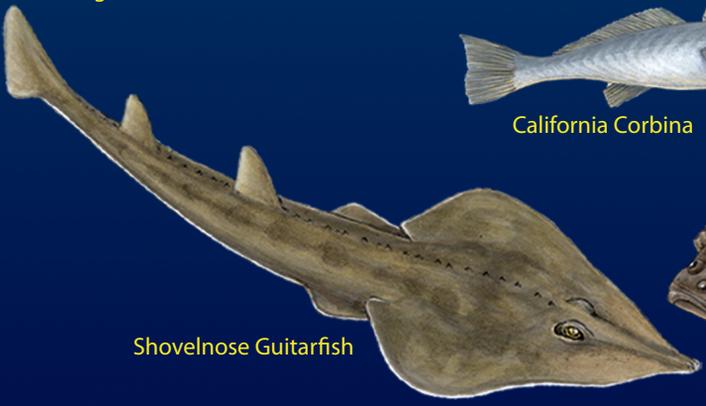
Spotfin Croaker



Black Croaker



California Corbina



Shovelnose Guitarfish



California Halibut

Look at this pier sign telling you which fish not to eat in this area.

You can find these signs on every pier between Seal Beach and Santa Monica.



Protect your health
Proteja su salud

Do Not Eat Contaminated Fish
¡No Coma Pescado Contaminado!



White Croaker
Corvineta blanca, Roncador blanco
白姑魚 | Cá Lú Đù Trắng



Barred Sand Bass
Cabrilla de arena
星雲胡鱸 | Cá hánh sọc



Black Croaker
Corvineta negra, Roncador negro
黑姑魚 | Cá Lú Đù Đen



Topsmelt
Pejerrey
擬銀漢魚 | Cá Suốt



Barracuda
Barracuda
梭子魚 | Cá Nhông

Choose healthy fish; check your local advisory.
Coma pescados saludables; infórmese con su asesor local.

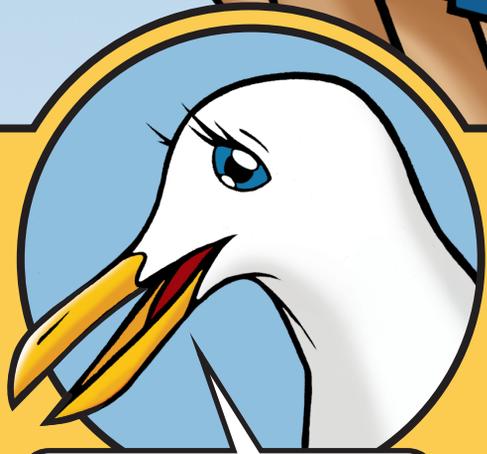
www.pvsfish.org



Remember:

Fish smart by following these tips:

1. Look for signs posted at local piers about contaminated fish.
2. Learn which fish should not be eaten in this area.
3. Only eat the skinless filet of other fish that are safe to eat once a week.



Fishing can be fun if it is done safely!