

# CHANGES IN THE ENVIRONMENT

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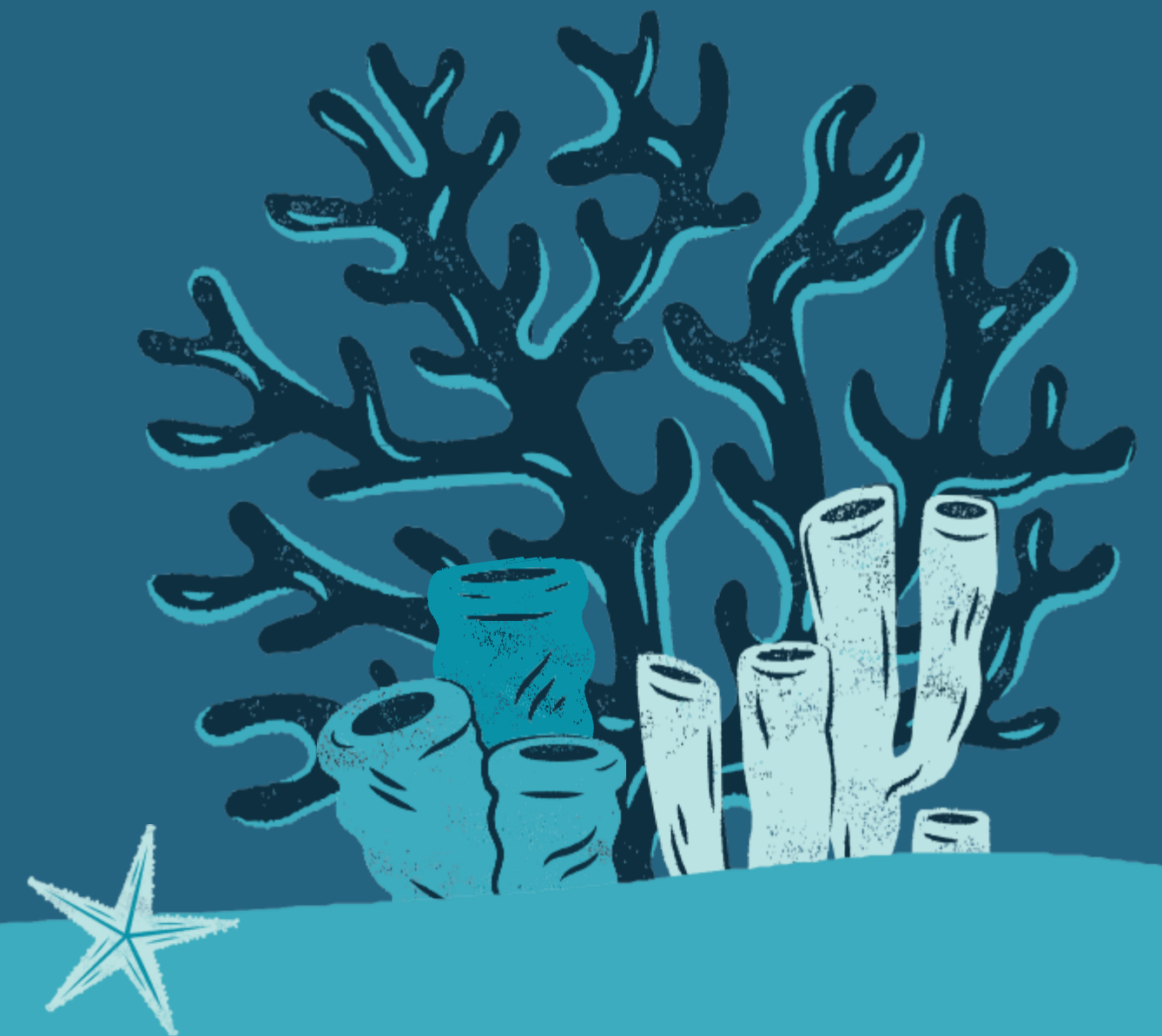
# THROUGH CLASSES AT THE ECO SCHOOL WE

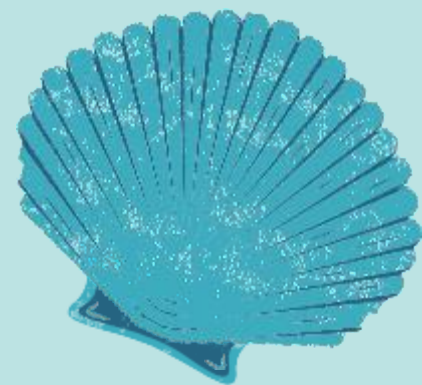
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💡 ***Knowledge  
is the key!***

- learn about changes in our  
environment
- look for scientific answers and solutions
- study on other examples of good practice

THESE ARE SOME OF THE CHANGES  
WE HAVE NOTICED...





# UNKNOWN STRANGERS IN OUR SEA

Increasingly in the media we see reports of unknown or strange species in our sea

LAGOCEPHALUS SCELERATUS,  
KNOWN US SILVER-CHEEKED TOADFISH  
This species contains an strong poison that can cause health problems, even death.  
Also has a strong jaw with sharp teeth, so its bite can cause serious injuries.



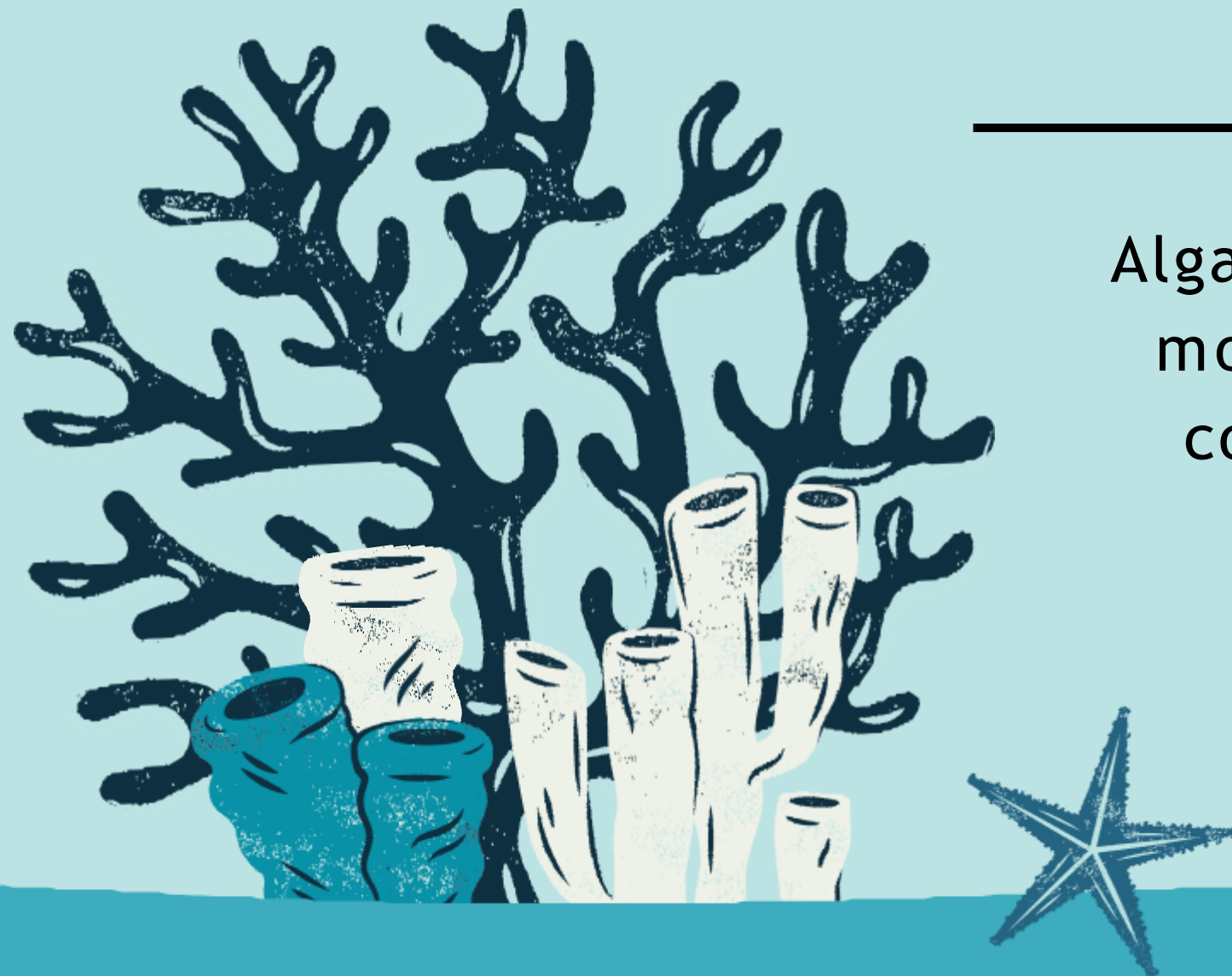


# CAULERPA TAXIFOLIA CAULERPA RACEMOSA KNOWN AS KILLER ALGAE

Adriatic sea is attacked by two species of algae Caulerpa, extremely aggressive with no predatory that would limit the growth of their population. In the last decade research shows that they are destroying the ecological balance and biodiversity of the Adriatic seabed. It reproduces vegetatively which allows it to spread quickly on the anchors of vessels, or in fishing nets. It can survive without water for more than a week.

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Algae contains a poison that is not dangerous to humans, but is for most marine organisms .When it spreads, the algae completely covers the bottom, destroying sponges, corals and sea urchins, suppressing all other organisms.



# WHERE DID THE NOBLE PEN SHELL GO?

The noble pen shell (*Pinna nobilis*) is the largest endemic Mediterranean bivalve. It can grow up to 120 cm. It plays an important role in the ecosystem as a filter of the sea and its shells are inhabited by numerous species.

In May 2019, mass deaths of noble pen shell was recorded in Croatia. The infection has spread very quickly and has affected Croatian part of the Adriatic sea.

A possible cause of mass death of noble pen shell is parasite. The temperature of Adriatic sea is rising due to global warming. That helps development of a parasite that attacks shell.



# THE "SEA MAN " RETURNS

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The Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) is one of the most endangered mammal species in the world. It is a medium-sized seal that weighs about 275 kg and grows up to 2.5 m, light-colored belly.

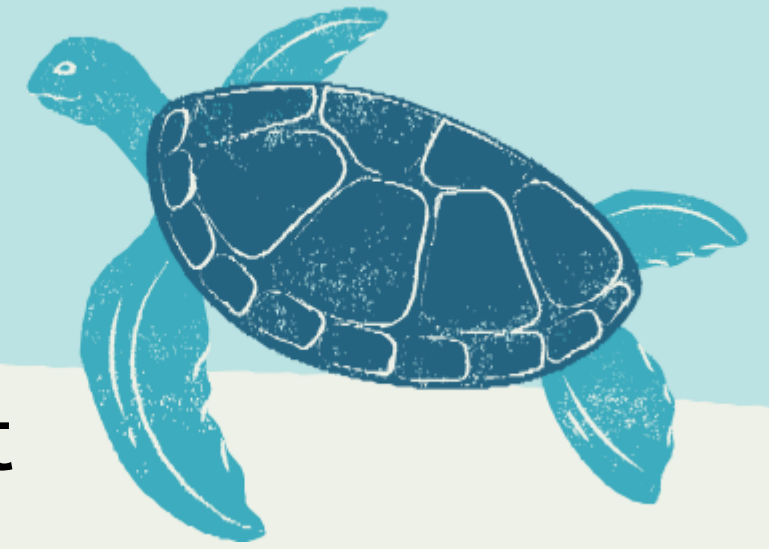
Today there are about 600 individuals in the whole Mediterranean. Once a social species that formed colonies, today we find them as individuals or in small groups.

Their endangerment was contributed by: destruction of their habitat, hunting, fishing, lack of food, ocean pollution, plastic poisoning.





# SEA TURTLES



Sea turtles have inhabited the seas and oceans for the last 150 million years and did not have almost changed at all.

The biggest threat to the sea turtles are humans. All species of sea turtles are protected and written on the Red List.

It is estimated that over 2,000 sea turtles are caught in the Adriatic Sea every year, mostly in the net.

Changes in fishing techniques (larger and rounder hooks, shorter time to leave nets in the sea, TED devices (Turtle Excluder Devices) can reduce mortality.

A large number of sea turtles die from swallowing plastic bags, bottles and other waste thrown into the sea. Plastic bags look like jellyfish that are prey to many sea turtles.





# IT IS TIME TO TAKE ACTION!

Through our activities, we wanted to warn the public about the changes that are happening in our environment.



We participated in World cleanup day with activity named Blue Cleaning Day - Let's do it Mediterranean.  
It is a one-day volunteer activity for cleaning the sea, the seabed and the coast.



Three continents - one common goal: a clean Mediterranean.





We participated in the Green cleaning Day - Let's do it Croatia! The one-day activity of cleaning up illegal landfills. It is the largest environmental volunteer project in Croatia.

Manage with waste responsible to keep the environment, nature and the planet Earth.



# Let the blue stay blue

With this action we analyzed the waste found on our beaches and in the sea.

With lecture we held in several primary schools on the Brač we tried to point out how important is to sort waste, how plastic, aluminum and other waste found in the sea affects marine animals, how long it takes to decompose. ..





Nature  
takes care  
of us,  
Let's return  
the favour.!

