## Ocean Stewardship

We, the Big Blue Reporters, think we should all take care of our marine environment. Taking care of things is called "stewardship." You can be a good steward of the marine environment even if you're not at the ocean. What you do each day can make a big difference...let us tell you how!

**CONSERVE** to take care of your marine environment!

 Conserve water whenever possible. This reduces the amount of wastewater going into the ocean.

**PROTECT** your marine environment!

- Use less plastic, and properly recycle any you use. Plastic that gets into the ocean can harm and kill marine life.
- Clean up after your animals so that their waste doesn't end up in the ocean.
- Recycle batteries, computers, TVs and other electronics at a waste disposal facility. When not disposed of properly, chemicals can get into the ocean and damage our marine environment.
- Keep from polluting any type of water source, including rivers and streams, because they run down into the ocean.

**ENJOY** your marine environment...if you enjoy something, you'll want to take care of it!

- Home aquariums are pretty, fun, educational and can inspire stewardship. Buy your aquarium animals at a store; NEVER take ocean animals for your aquarium. And, don't dump your aquarium animals into the ocean. You could introduce species that are not native to our area, which could harm the local marine environment.
- Join a beach or river clean up activity as often as possible.
   This is a good way to earn community service hours and help the environment.
- Most of all, share what you've learned with your friends and family, and continue to learn about and care for this amazing local resource.

JOIN US IN BEING GOOD STEWARDS!



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