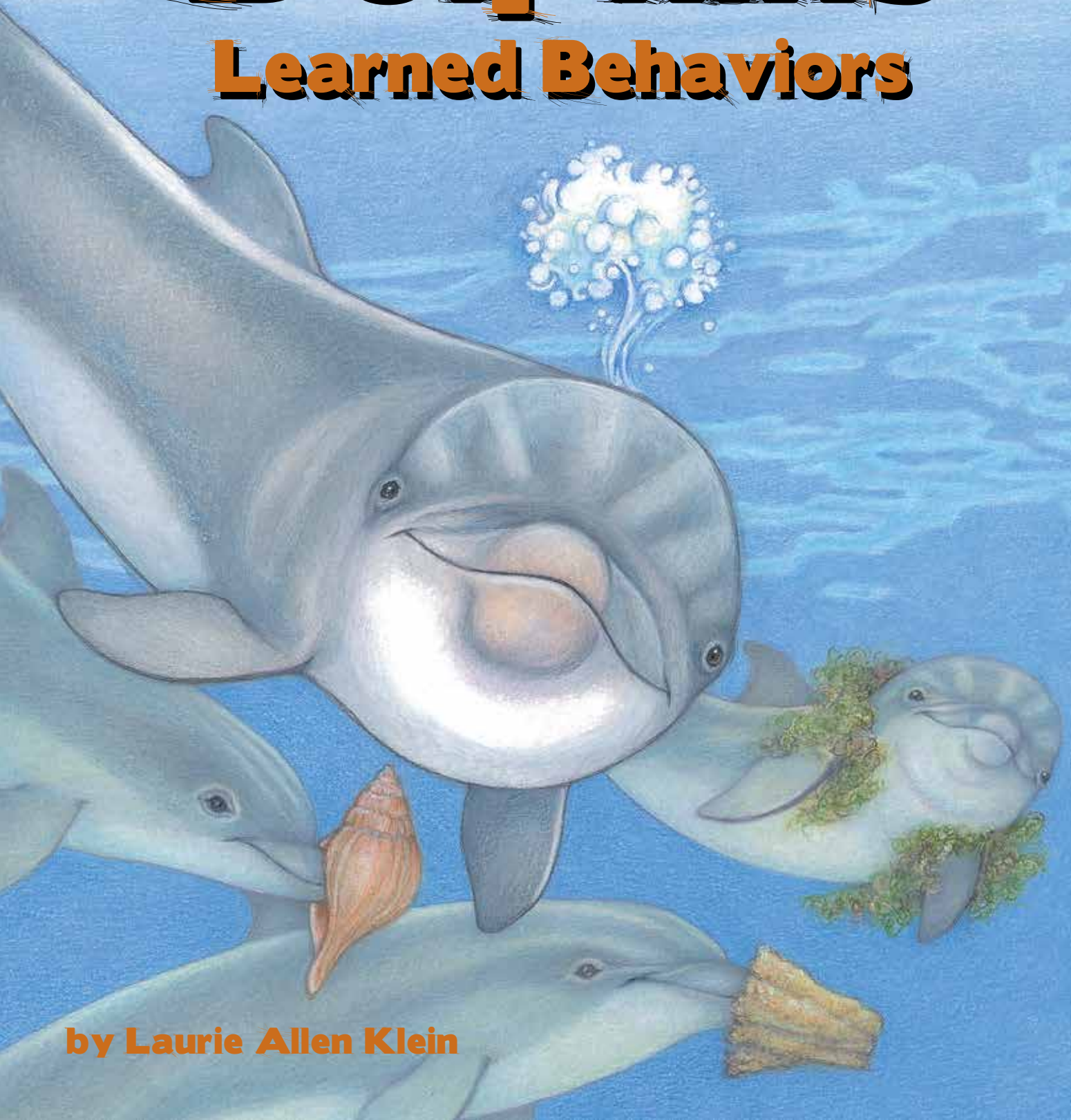


# **Dolphins**

## **Learned Behaviors**



by **Laurie Allen Klein**

# Dolphins

## Learned Behaviors

Like humans, dolphins learn through play, observation, and experimentation. Some learned behaviors are fun things to pass the time. In different parts of the world, dolphins have learned some fascinating hunting techniques that help them survive. Whether these learned behaviors are taught from one generation to the next or learned by observation, those dolphins have unique hunting skills found only in those areas.

Arbordale Publishing offers so much more than a picture book. We open the door for children to explore the facts behind a story they love.

The *For Creative Minds* includes

- Thinking it Through
- Match the Hunting Style

Thanks to Dolphin Quest for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.

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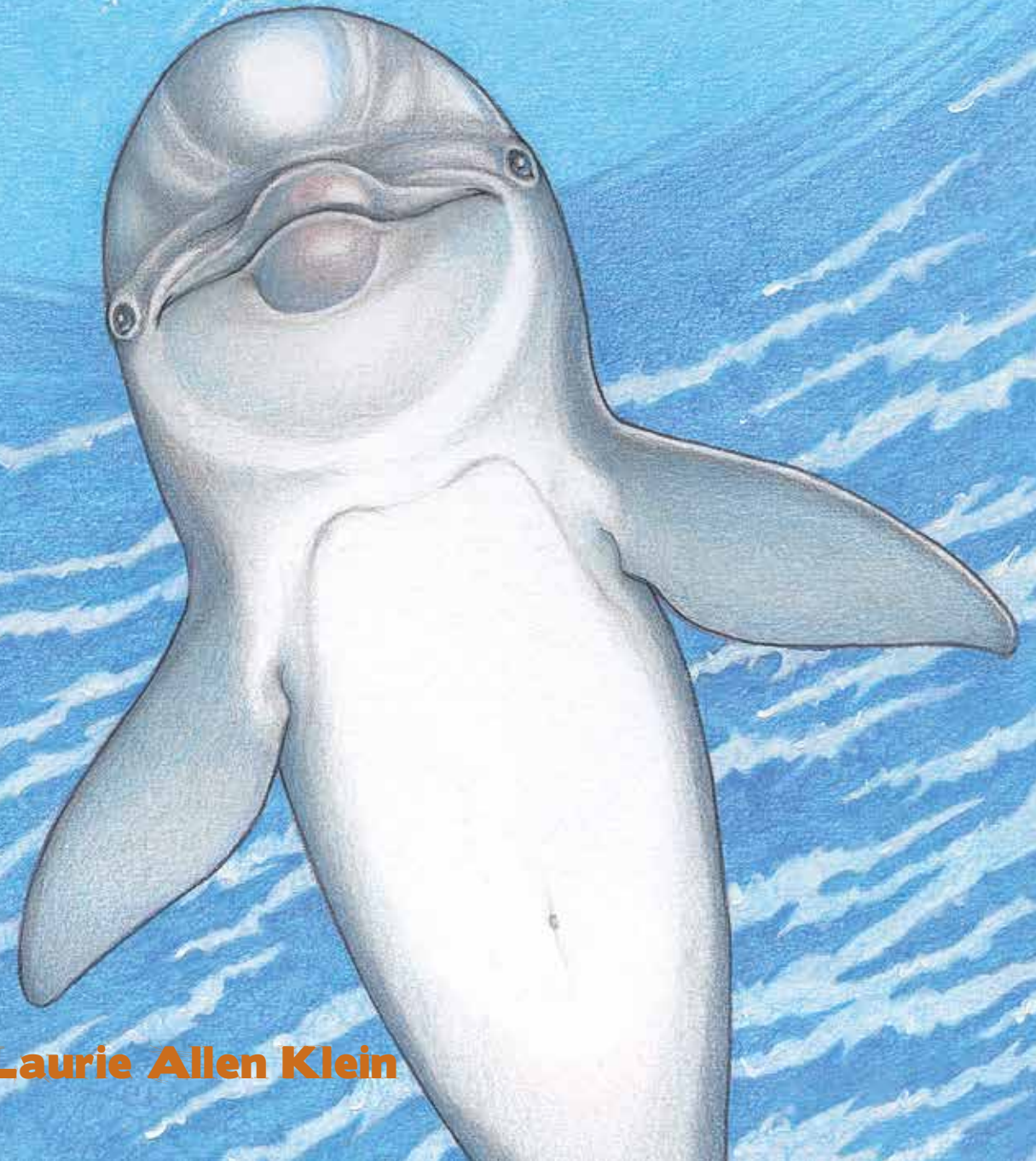
Award-winning illustrator Laurie Allen Klein's *Dolphins: Learned Behaviors* is the first book she has both written and illustrated. Laurie has been a freelance artist for over 30 years, working with a variety of education teams at zoos, marine parks, and aquariums creating life-size animal murals, animal ID art, camp field guides, activity books, and posters. Laurie has illustrated *The Pangolin Revelation*, *The Long and Short Tail of Colo and Ruff*, *Dear Komodo Dragon*, *Saving Kate's Flowers*, *Balloon Trees*, *Fur and Feathers*, *The Ghost of Donley Farm*, *If a Dolphin Were a Fish*, *Little Skink's Tail*, *Meet the Planets*, *Solar System Forecast*, *They Just Know*, and *Where Should Turtle Be?* for Arbordale. Laurie lives in Florida. Visit her website at [www.lauriekleinarts.com](http://www.lauriekleinarts.com).



Laurie Allen Klein

# Dolphins

## Learned Behaviors

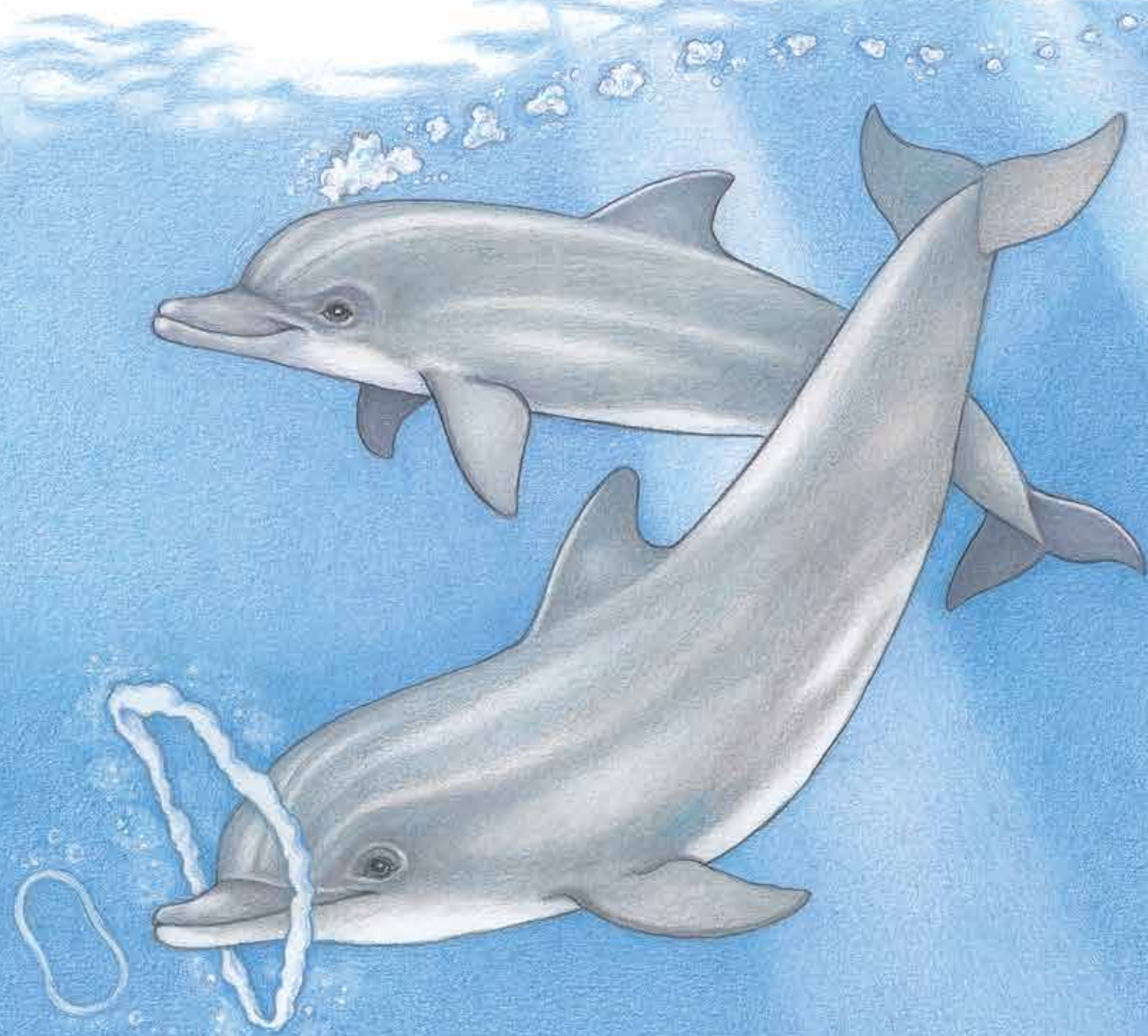


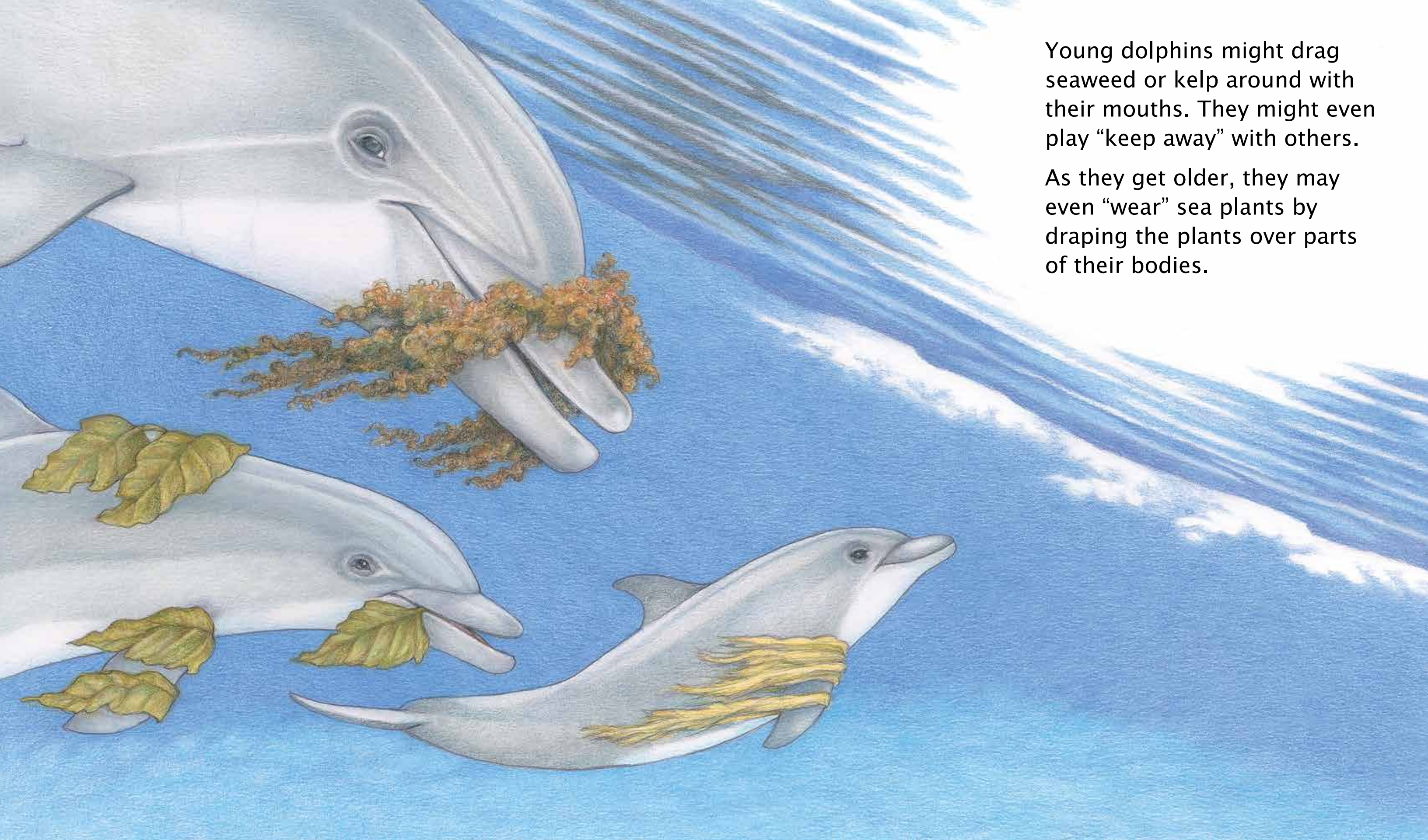
by Laurie Allen Klein

Human children learn by playing and experimenting with things. They also learn by observing others.

So do dolphins!

Dolphins love playing with bubbles. But not just any old, run-of-the-mill bubbles. No, dolphins make bubble rings. The rings might spin up and down or side to side. They might even be big enough to swim through!

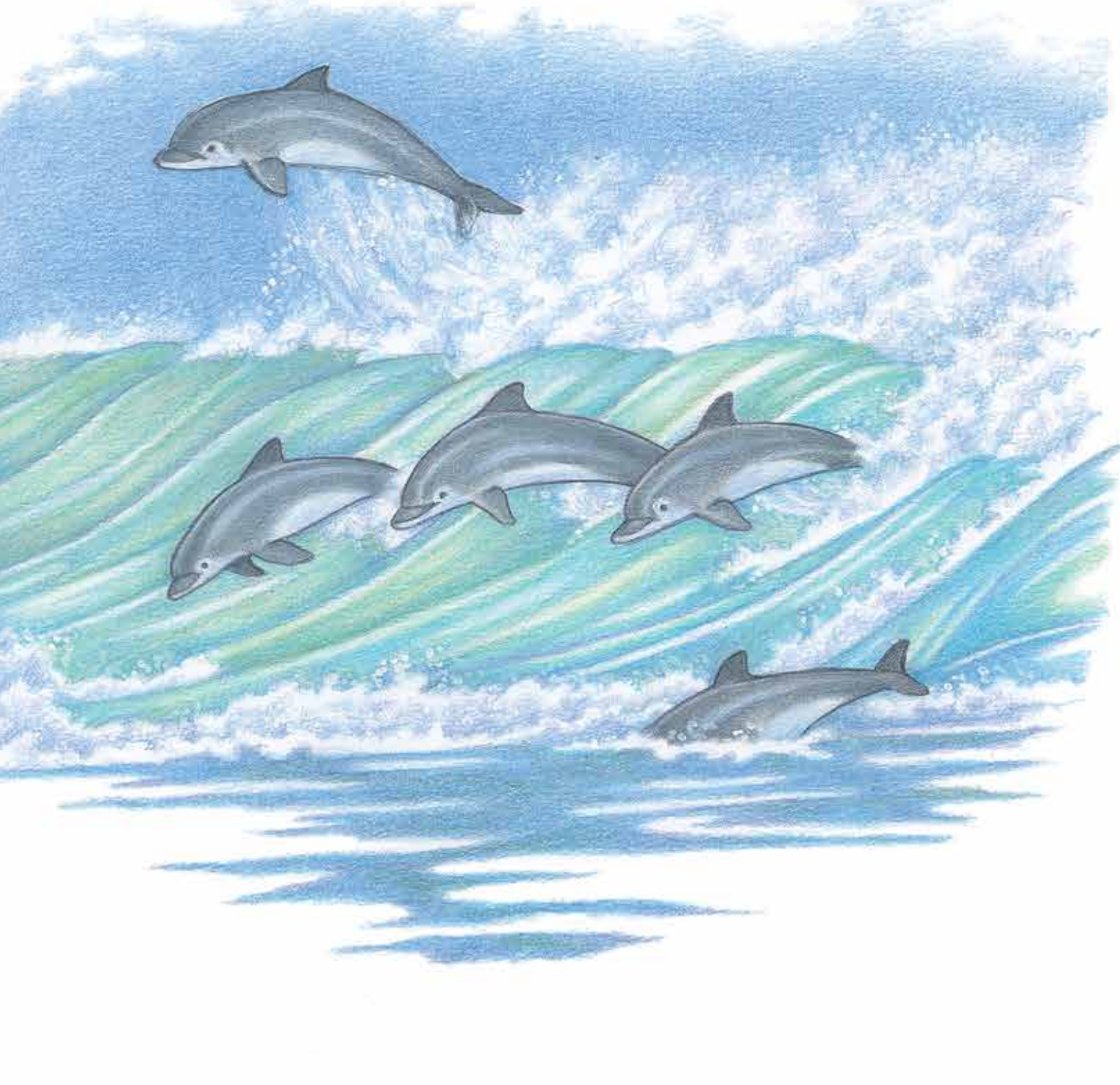




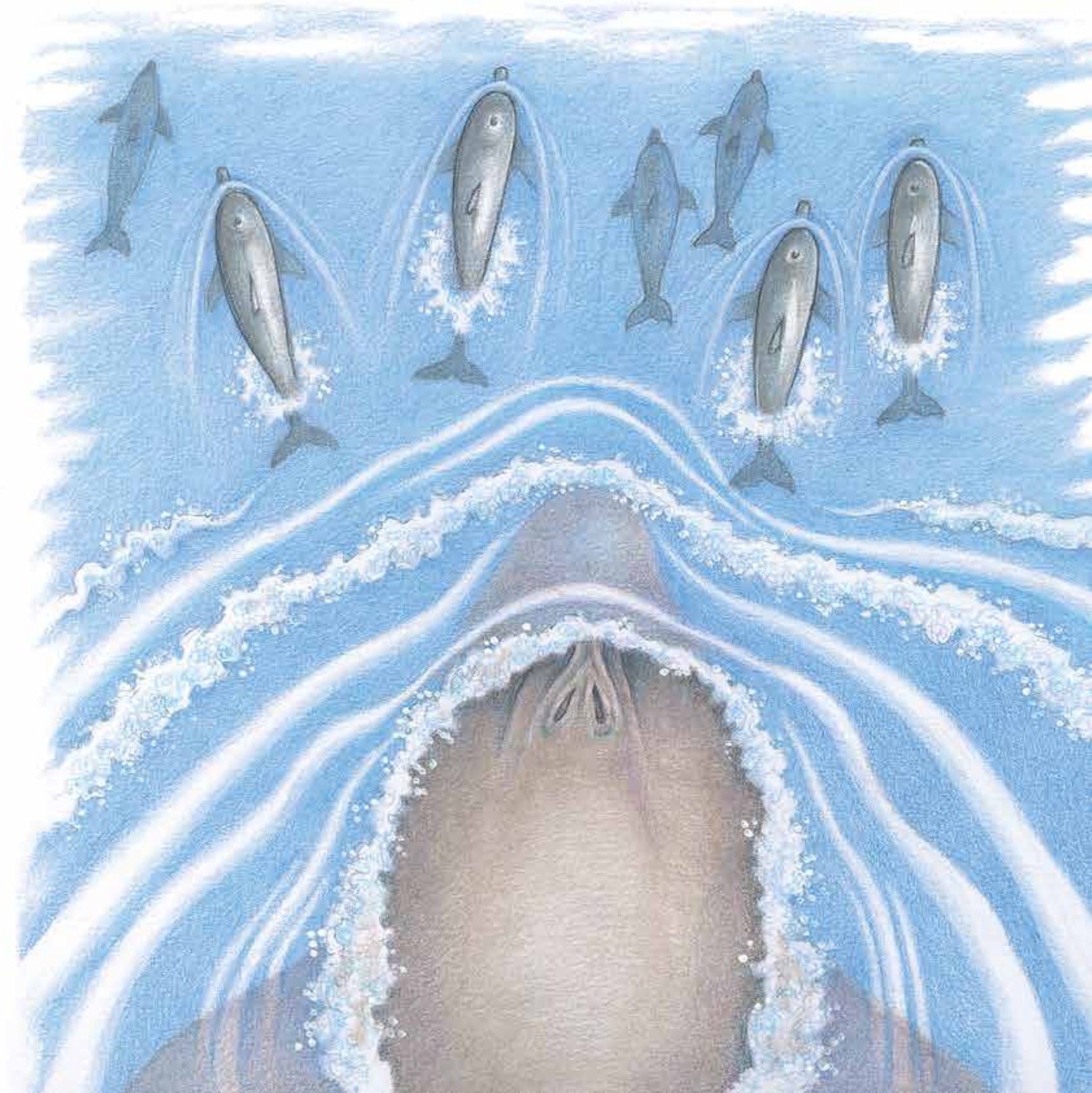
Young dolphins might drag seaweed or kelp around with their mouths. They might even play “keep away” with others.

As they get older, they may even “wear” sea plants by draping the plants over parts of their bodies.

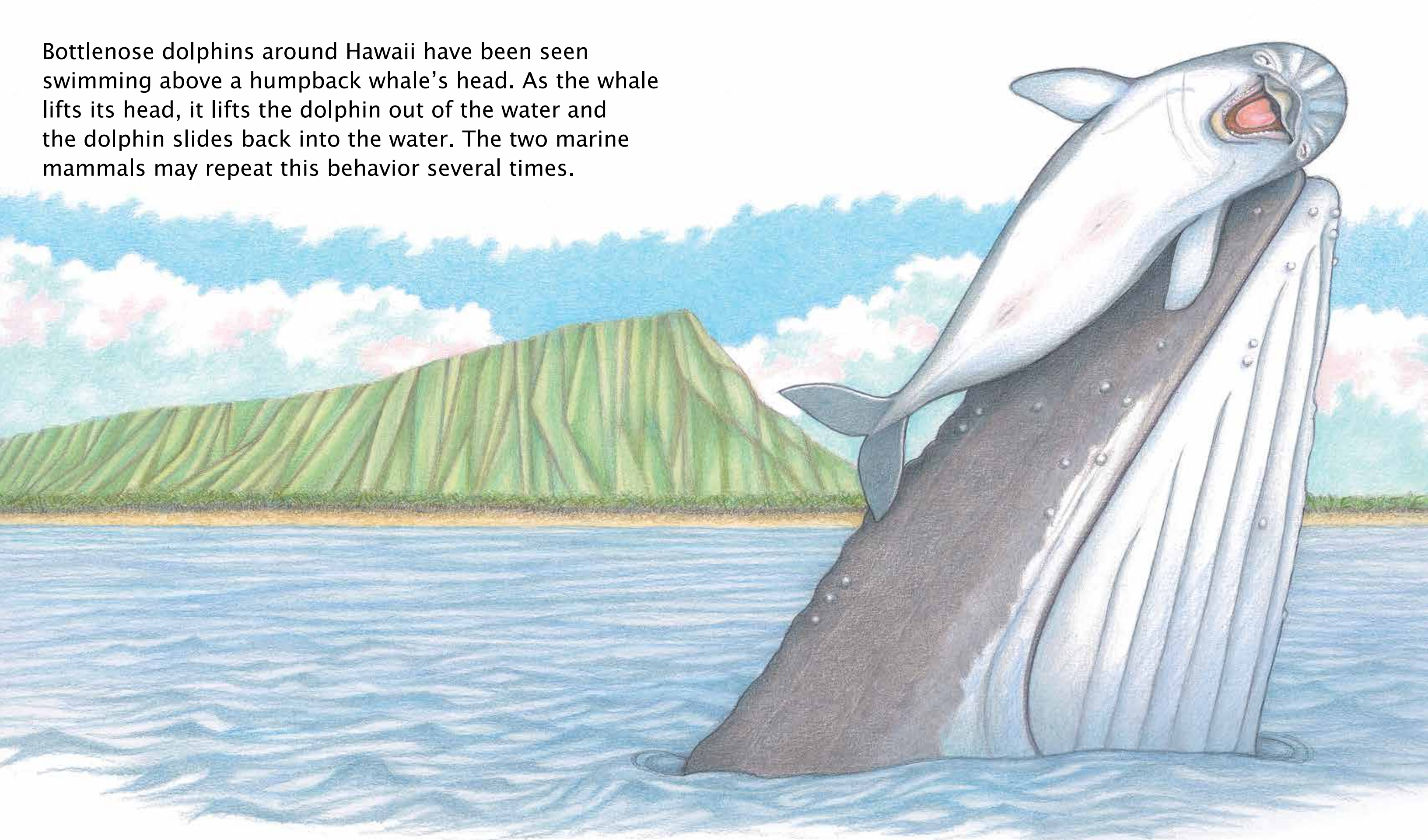
Just like many humans like to body surf, dolphins like to ride ocean waves, too. Just before the waves reach the shore, the dolphins will turn around and swim back to deeper water to catch another ride. They might even leap out of the water at the top of the wave crest.



In deep ocean water, dolphins will also play in the bow waves of ships or even in waves made by humpback and sperm whales as they swim by.



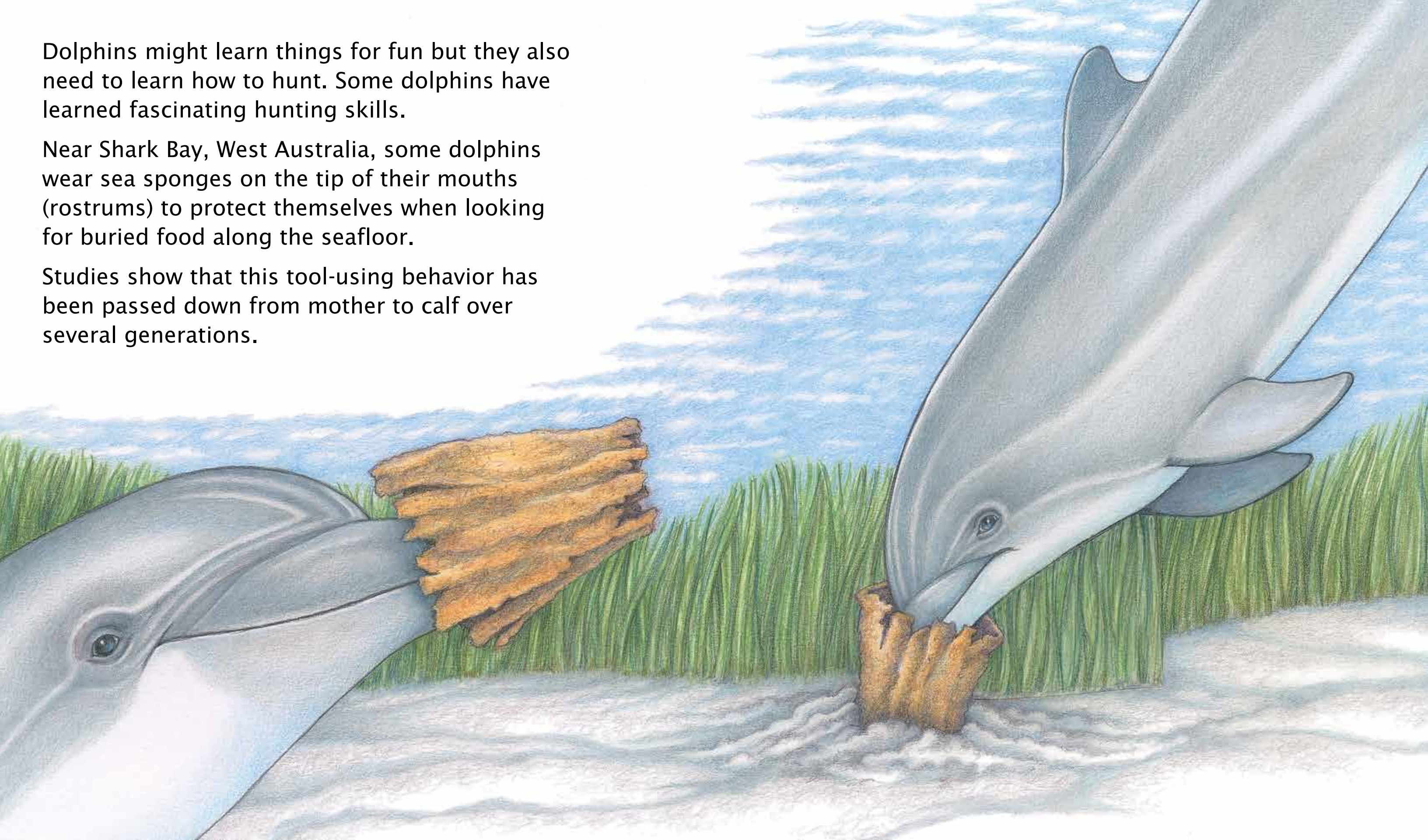
Bottlenose dolphins around Hawaii have been seen swimming above a humpback whale's head. As the whale lifts its head, it lifts the dolphin out of the water and the dolphin slides back into the water. The two marine mammals may repeat this behavior several times.



Dolphins might learn things for fun but they also need to learn how to hunt. Some dolphins have learned fascinating hunting skills.

Near Shark Bay, West Australia, some dolphins wear sea sponges on the tip of their mouths (rostrums) to protect themselves when looking for buried food along the sea floor.

Studies show that this tool-using behavior has been passed down from mother to calf over several generations.



# For Creative Minds

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## Thinking it Through

Some dolphin behaviors or use of tools are seen only in certain parts of the world. Why do you think the behaviors/tools are not used by dolphins all over the world?

What do you think might happen if a tool-using dolphin from one location was moved to another area in the world?

What are some tools dolphins use to help find or get food?  
What are some tools humans use to find or get food?

Can you think of something you learned just by watching someone else?

Some dolphins have learned to hunt together in teams. Can you think of any other animals that hunt together in groups (cooperative hunting)?

Do you think you could blow bubbles while swimming like dolphins do? Why or why not? If you play with bubbles, how do you make them?

## Match the Hunting Style

Match the learned hunting style to the image.

Crater Feeding

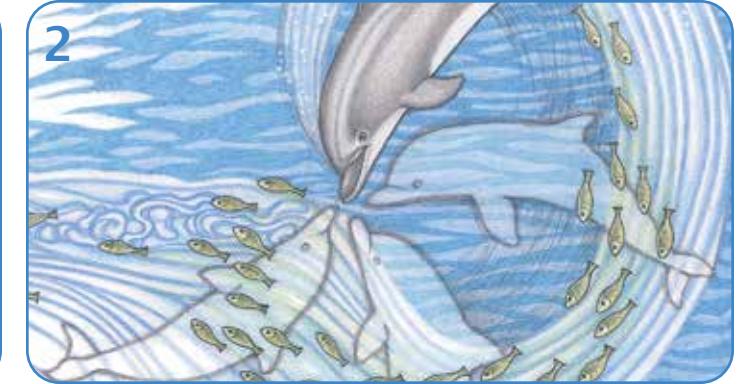
Kerplunking

Mud Ringing

Pin Wheeling

Stranding

Fish whacking



Answers: 1: Stranding; 2: Pin Wheeling; 3: Kerplunking; 4: Fish whacking; 5: Crater Feeding; 6: Mud Ringing



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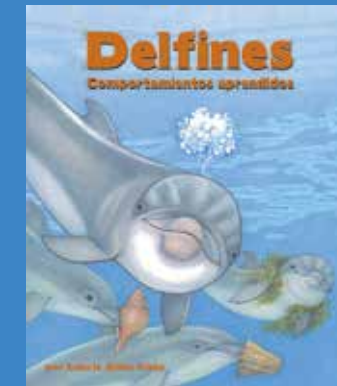
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