

# A Calming Manatee



Danielle Bruckert

**free kids  
Books**

Learn Sight Words

# A Calming Manatee

Free Kids Books Series

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I'm a manatee.  
I'm the most  
calming creature in  
the sea.

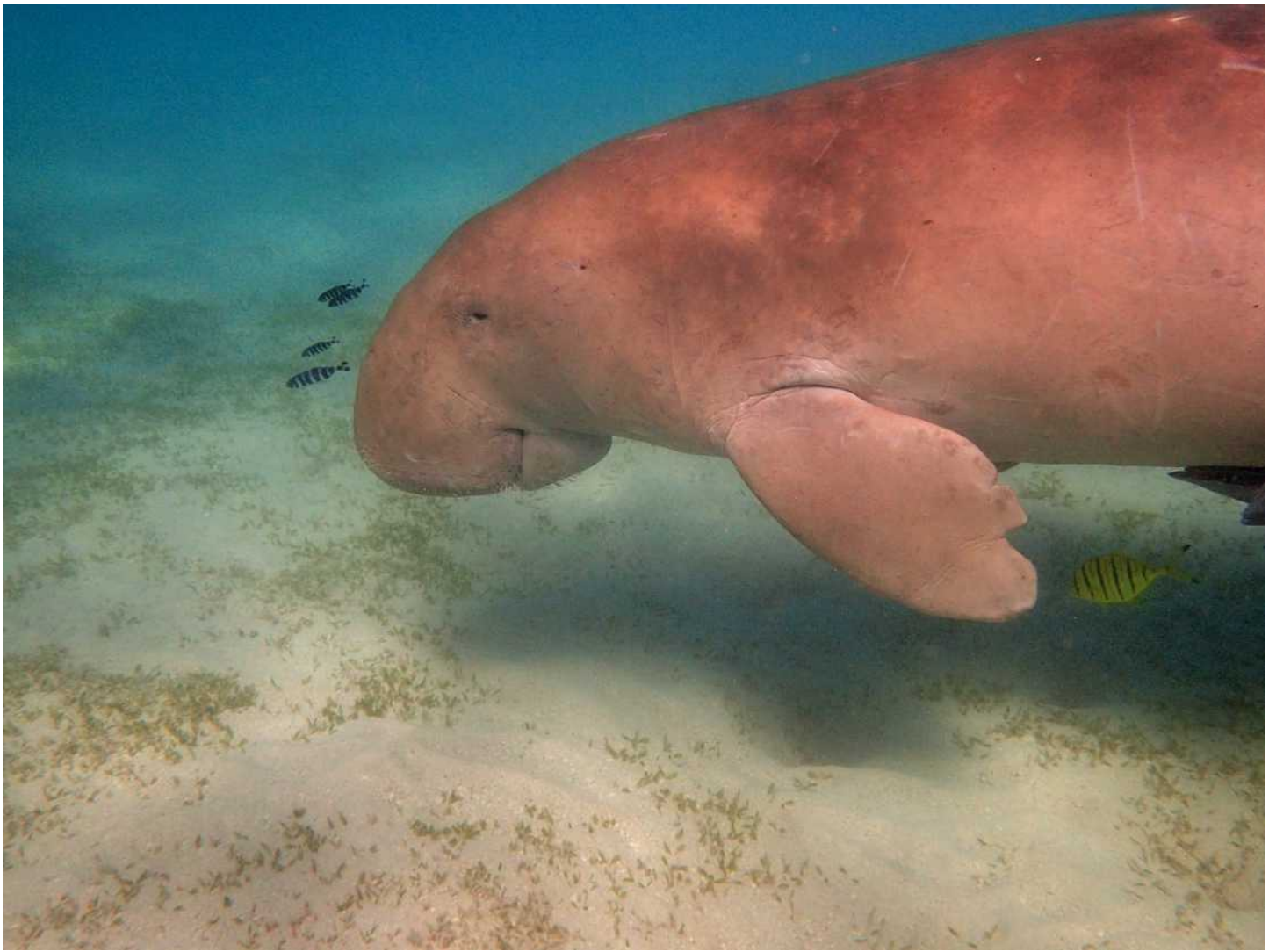


I've also been  
called the ugliest  
creature in the  
sea.\*





**But that depends...**  
**On who you**  
**talk to.**



I like the  
way I look  
just fine!





**And it's far more  
important how I  
feel about myself;**



**And how others  
feel about  
themselves;**





**Than how others  
feel about me!**

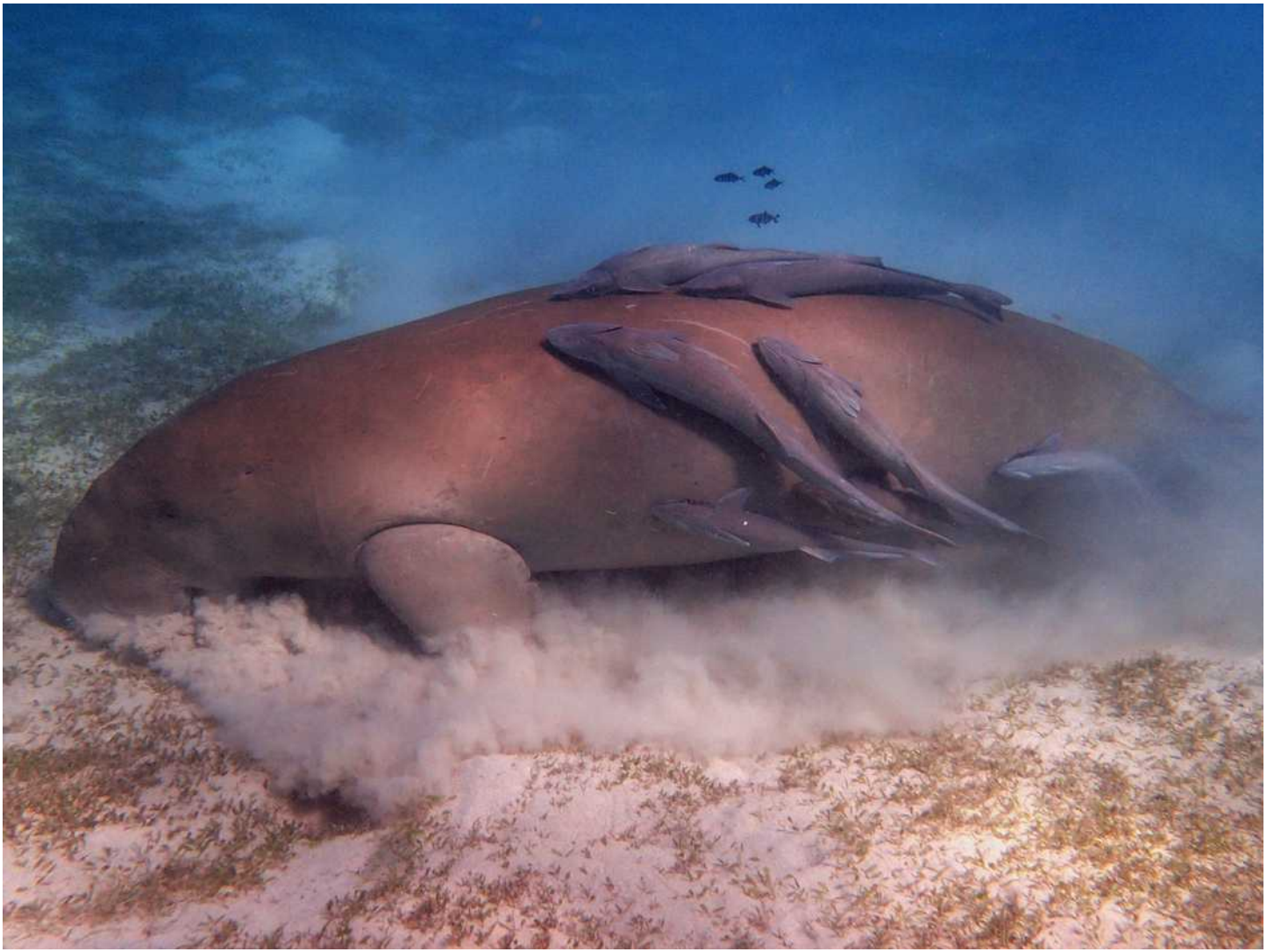


I know I'm a bit  
chubby. But I  
always have a  
true smile.



**And that  
makes me cute.**





I know I am calm  
and caring.  
And that's more  
important...



**Everyone has an  
opinion.  
Make sure yours  
counts!**





**Next time before  
you say something  
unkind about  
someone else;**





**Think about me,  
and say something  
kind instead.**

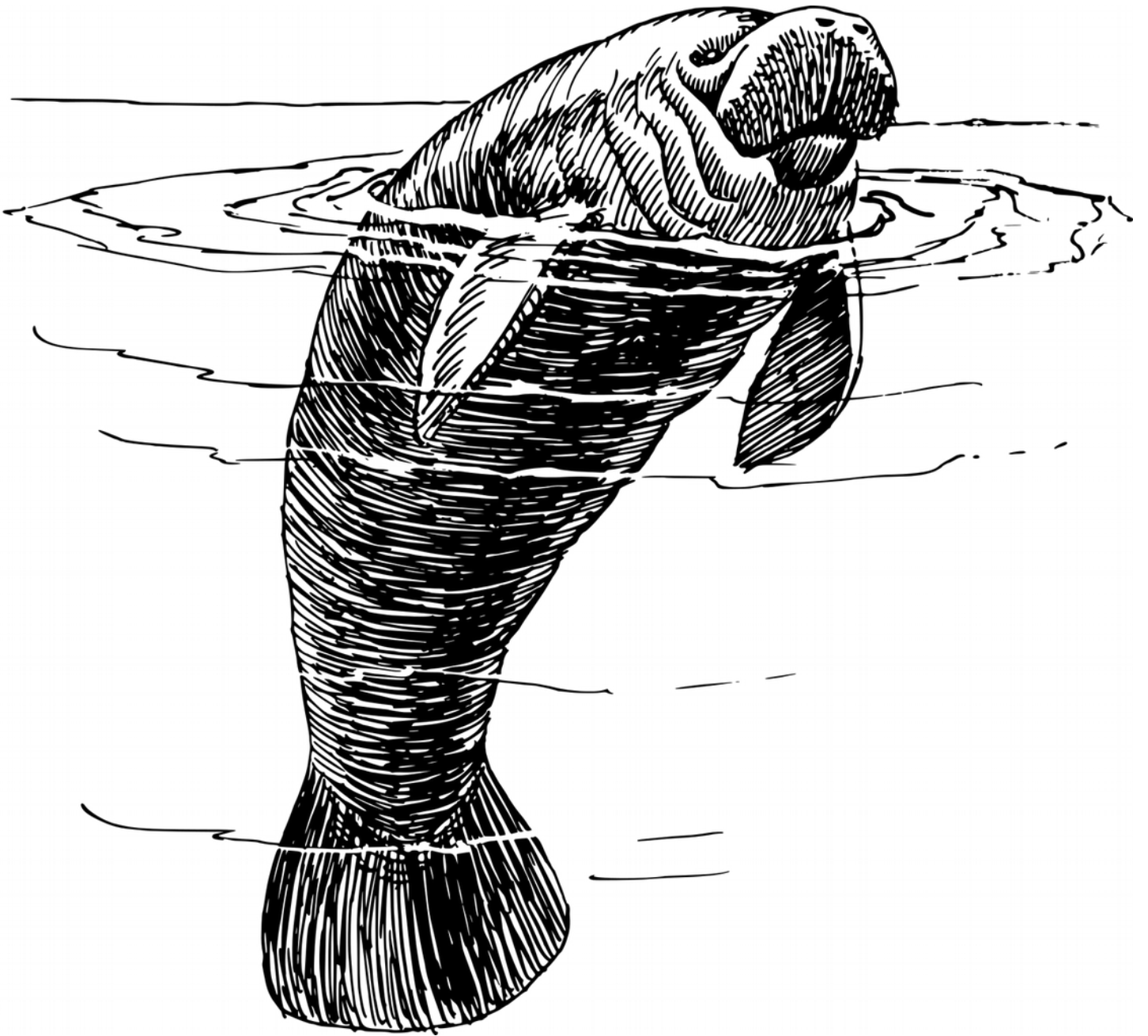


**I'm a calming  
Manatee,  
And I'm here,  
to help you see,**



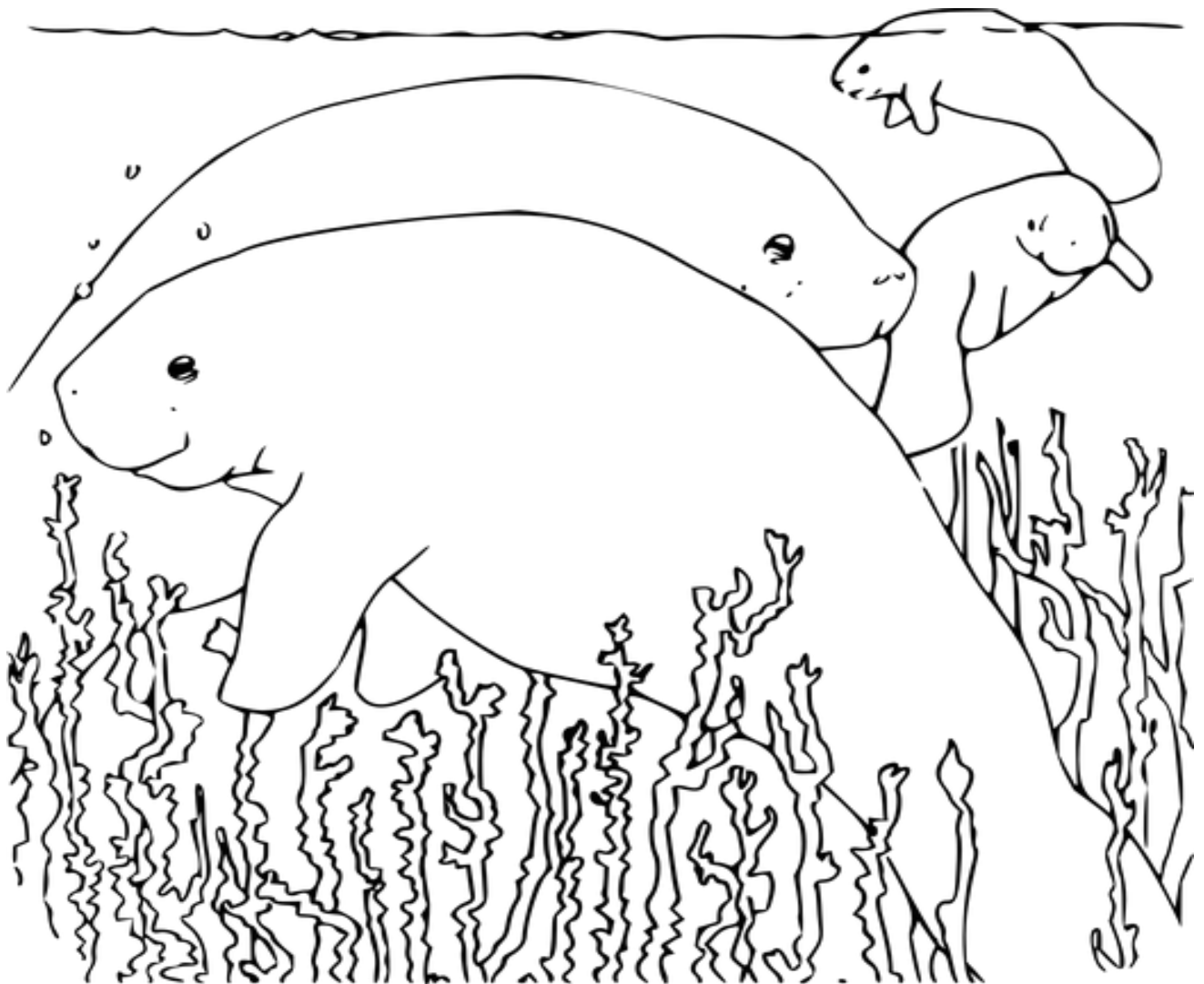
that you can be,  
as kind as me.  
...And it's free!





**THE END**

# Manatee Colouring



# Facts About Manatees



The species Sirenia, comprises of Manatees and Dugongs, and are commonly called **Sea Cows or Sirens**. They are the only known aquatic mammals that are Vegetarian (herbivore), they only eat plants.

Manatees and dugongs may be found in salt water or fresh water depending on the species.

The main difference between manatees and dugongs is **the tale**.

- A Manatee has a paddle shaped tale.
- A dugong has a tail more like a dolphin.

Dugongs and manatees closest relatives are the elephant and the hyrax (a small gineapig like animal).

The latin name Sirenia os derived from the greek myth about mermaids luring lonely sailors. Apparently some lonely sailors have mistaken sea cows as mermaids, perhaps because of the shape of the tail.

Rudyard Kipling features the Sea Cow in his book story The White Seal, from the Jungle Book. Kodek the seal is told the Sea Cow is the ugliest creature in the sea. But beauty, of course is relative. Both, in the eye of the beholder, and of course real beauty is inside!



## Project Ideas



1. Research and create a book of facts about Manatees and Dugongs, here are some suggested topic headings:

- a) Habitat (salt water, sea water);
- b) Areas where Manatees are found (continents, countries, oceans or seas)
- c) Species (different types of Manatee and Dugong)
- d) Differences (species differences)
- e) Genealogy (what species they are related to and why)
- f) Nature and habits

If you make a book Free Kids Books would love to hear from you!

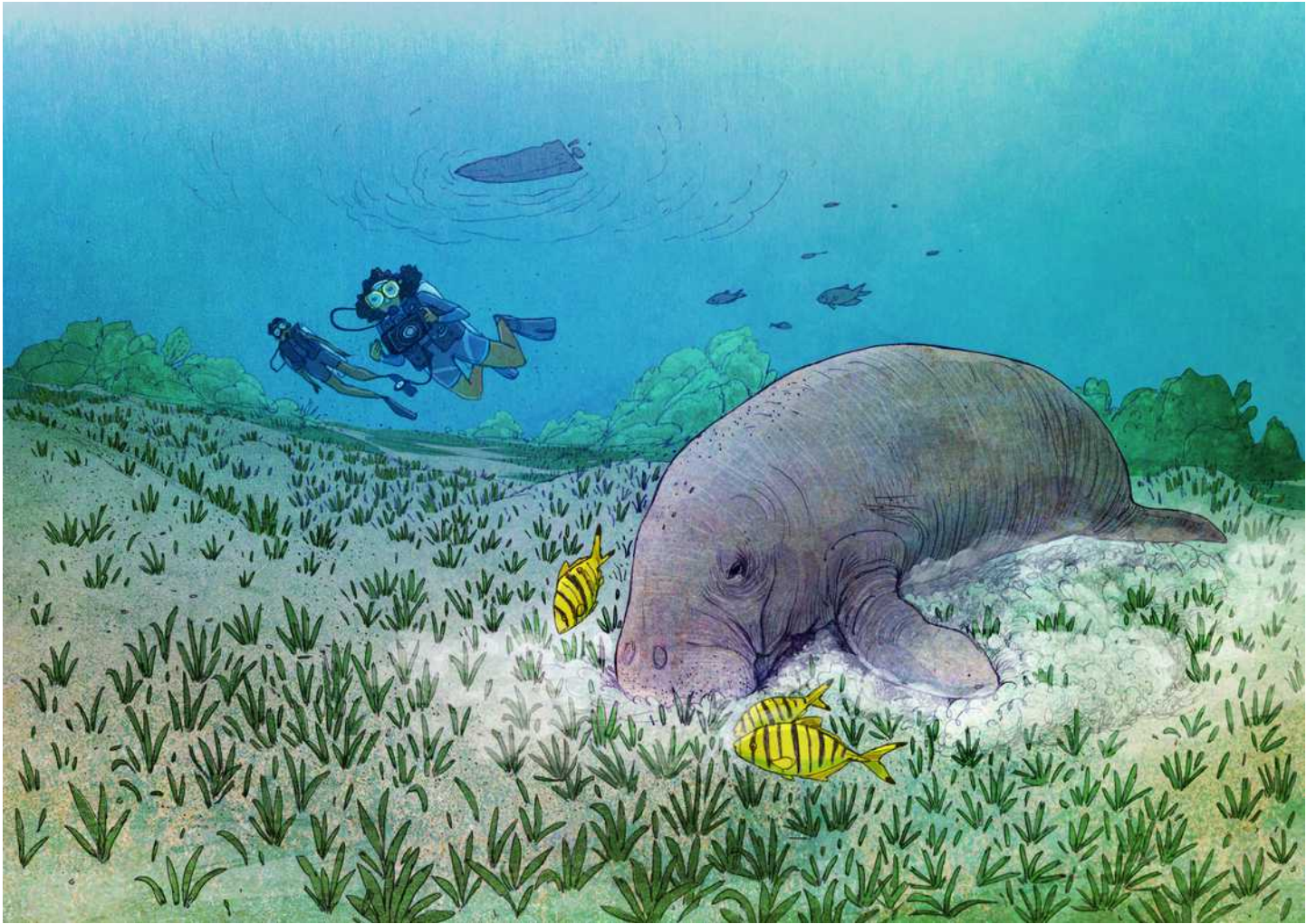
*Find more information about creating your own book and sending it to Free Kids Books for publication on our blog here:*

<https://freekidsbooks.org/blog/>

2. Create a drawing a dugong or manatee from the pictures in this book;

3. Start a project collecting money for Manatee conservation projects, and if you do, please share this with us too! We will love to help you promote the project on our website.

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Julien Williem – Page 13 CC-BY-SA A Dugong near Marsa Alam  
(Egypt).

Rajiv Eípe – Page 21, CC-BY-SA (Ex Storyweaver website)

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