REEFTOWN RANGERS

Jim Henson's
SPLASH AND BUBBLES

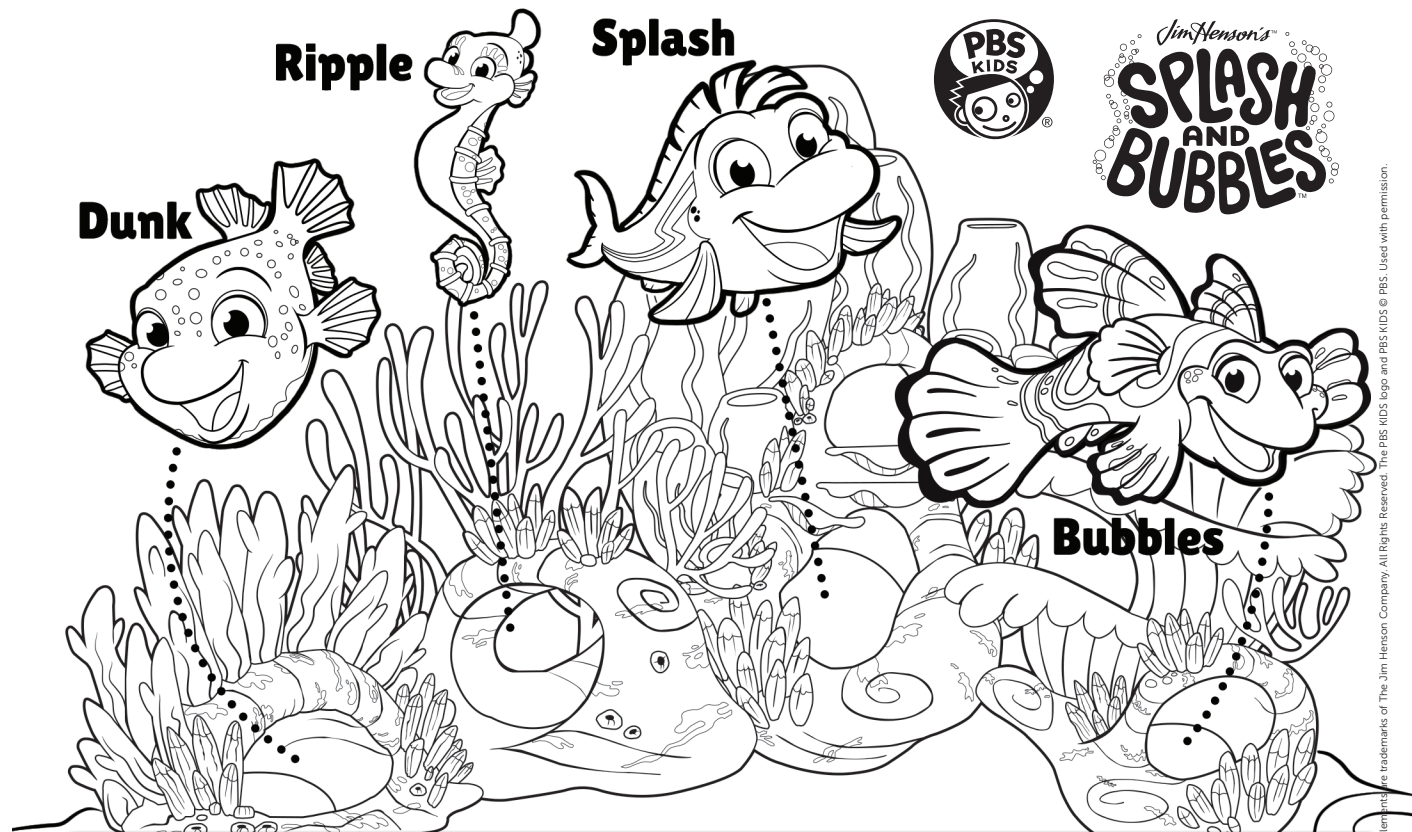**Ready to join Splash, Bubbles and their friends as they care for our ONE BIG OCEAN?**

Become a Reeftown Ranger!

Ripple

Splash

Dunk

Bubbles

PBS KIDS

Jim Henson's
SPLASH AND BUBBLES

Take the REEFTOWN RANGERS Pledge!

I [state your name] **pledge to be a REEFTOWN RANGER!**

From the coves to the caves
to the forests of kelp,
I'm on the case,
I'm ready to help!

No reef is too big,
no job is too small.
Let's protect the ocean
for one and for all!

Ocean Friends Forever!

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_____

is a REEFTOWN RANGER!

Try These Reeftown Rangers Challenges!
DIVE IN!

Salt Water and Fresh Water Are Different

Let's explore the differences between the two types of water on Earth: FRESH WATER, found in lakes, rivers and other places, and SALT WATER, found in our one big ocean.

- With help from a grown-up, fill two jars with one cup of warm water each.

- Add about ¼ cup of salt to one jar and stir. (Tip: Adding more salt helps heavier objects float!)

- Use a few drops of food coloring to dye the salt water a different color.

- Drop a few small objects like twigs, leaves or pebbles into the jars. (You can try an uncooked egg, too!)

What happens when you drop different objects into the fresh water? What happens to objects when they are in the water with salt? Why?

Wind Can Make a Current

The term "current" refers to the motion of water. They help to push water in certain directions faster than the surrounding water. There are lots of different forces which cause currents, like the Earth's rotation and water temperature. Wind is also one important cause, especially at the surface. Let's explore currents!

- Add water to a container.
- Float small found objects like leaves and twigs in the water.
- Using a biodegradable straw, blow over the surface of the water. (Tip: don't let the straw touch the water!)
- Experiment by blowing gently on the water and then more forcefully.

Do the items in the water move faster or slower? What happens when you blow the air over an area that has nothing in it?

What is a Gyre?

An ocean gyre (rhymes with 'wire') is an area of circulating currents where trash often collects and gets trapped. There are five major gyres in the Earth's ocean and many minor gyres that are naturally occurring circular currents. Let's create an ocean gyre!

- Fill a bucket or very large container about ¾ full with water.
- With a long spoon, quickly stir the water around the sides of the container until it is moving in a fast circle.
- Drop found objects like sticks, pebbles, and leaves into the water. Observe how they swirl around.

As the water slows, what happens to the objects? What happens to the bigger items compared to the smaller items? Did the floating objects move closer together?

Ocean Species Are Diverse

Only 5% of the ocean has been explored. Experts estimate there are 2 million marine species yet to be discovered! What kinds of species do you think we might find? Animals adapt to their environments and develop traits that are connected to where they live. For example, some fish have special markings to help them hide, or camouflage, in coral. Other fish use bioluminescence in the deep. Let's draw a new ocean species!

Use your imagination and draw a new ocean species! On a blank sheet of paper, use colored markers, pencils or crayons to create your own ocean species. Think about:

- Where in the world does this fish live? Is it cold or warm?
- Does it live close to the surface or way down deep?
- What kind of eyes does it have?
- How does it move?
- How and what does it eat?
- Is it big or small?
- What else makes it unique?

Be sure to give your new ocean species a name!

Send us the form below to receive your official

REEFTOWN RANGERS PIN!

Name: _____

Address: _____
_____

To receive updates and activities from the Henson Family Hub newsletter, please provide your **email address:** _____

Mail your completed form with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Reeftown Rangers
The Jim Henson Company
1416 N. La Brea Avenue
Hollywood, CA 90028

PBS KIDS

pbskids.org/splashandbubbles

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