

Name: _____

THE WAY I SEE IT

In “Golf Ball Cleanup” (p. 28), you learned about the problem of thousands of golf balls lying on the ocean floor off California’s Monterey Peninsula. Use this skills sheet to research the animals found in this region. Then write a short story told from the animal’s perspective about what it’s like to live in an area littered with golf balls.

STEP 1: RESEARCH A SPECIES FROM MONTEREY BAY Choose an animal that lives in the ocean near the Monterey Peninsula. Use the internet, textbooks, and your school library to gather information about your chosen species. Below are some helpful websites to start your research. Use what you find to fill in the table that follows.

MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM: www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals-and-exhibits/exhibits/life-on-the-bay
NOAA: <https://montereybay.noaa.gov/intro/welcome.html>
SIMoN (Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network):
<https://sanctuarysimon.org/2017/09/updated-number-of-marine-mammal-species/>

Species: _____

CONCEPTS TO RESEARCH	INFORMATION LEARNED
Describe your chosen species in detail. What does it look like? What does it eat?	
Describe the type of habitat where the species lives. Where in the ocean is it usually found?	
Is your species at risk? If so, what threats is it facing?	
Mention any other interesting facts about the species.	
Based on what you have learned about the species and what you read in the article, how do you think the species may be affected by golf balls in the ocean?	

STEP 2: WRITE A SHORT STORY Use the information you have collected to write a 250- to 300-word first-person story about your animal on a separate piece of paper. Your story should describe what happens to the animal over a period of time. Include details about its surroundings, what activities it does, and how you think it might be affected by golf balls on the ocean floor. Describe what your animal might be thinking or feeling.