

THE YOUNG WRITERS AND  
ILLUSTRATORS CONTEST

NAME : CAITLYN

GRADE : 2

TITLE : THE LONELY NURSE SHARK

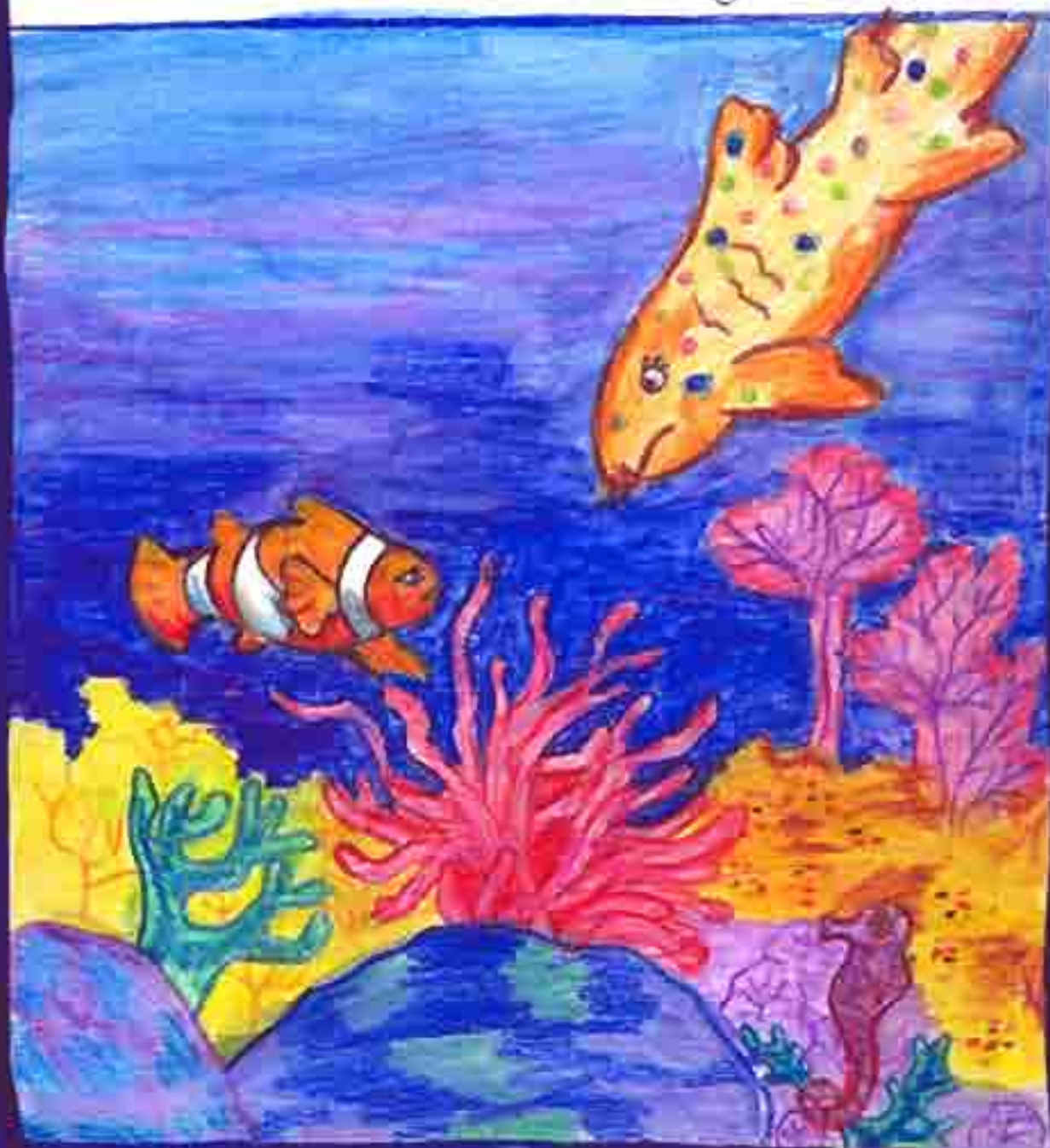
In the Caribbean coral reef, there lived a nurse shark named Nora. She was a kind and peaceful creature, but because she is from the shark family, the other sea creatures thought she was bloodthirsty and mean. The lonely nurse shark went in search of a friend.



She swam around until she found a sea turtle. "Hello! Will you be my friend?" asked Nora. The turtle glanced at Nora warily. "No, my sister's beautiful shell was cracked by a shark." said the turtle. "I'm sure it wasn't cracked by a nurse shark," said Nora, but the turtle quickly swam away.



She met a clownfish next. "Will you be my friend?" she asked politely. "No! A shark once trampled my anemone!" said the clownfish angrily and glared fiercely at Nora. Nora felt discouraged.



Nora tried asking an octopus to be her friend. "No! A shark bit off one of my arms and now, I only have seven arms!" said the furious octopus and waved its peg arm at Nora.



A school of rainbow colored fish swam by. Nora was mesmerized by their beauty. She would love to be their friend, but a little fish said to Nora, "Don't hurt our school! Our old school was half eaten by a shark!"



Sadly, the lonely nurse shark swam away. Suddenly, she heard distressed squeeking. Many fish were gathered around a dolphin caught in a fishing net. If the dolphin didn't breathe air soon, it would drown! Some fish called their friends on the shell phones for help, but time was running out!



Nora took out her lucky tiger shark's tooth, a gift from her cousin. She cut the net with the razor sharp tooth. The dolphin was saved! All the fish cheered for Nora. They realized that even a shark can be nice and helpful. Nora was never lonely again.

