

Kidz Explore Singapore is probably the first travel guide to be fully written by children who have chosen all the places to be featured in this book. They share their experiences and highlight what they like best in each place including useful tips to make your visits even more fulfilling.

This guide provides all the necessary information to plan your itinerary for an awesome day out in Singapore!

- Easy-to-read
- Striking illustrations
- Colourful photos
- Interactive activities such as puzzles, word search and many more
- Fun facts

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Gelyn Ong & Friends

Kidz Explore Singapore

Marshall Cavendish Editions



The background of the cover is a detailed black and white line drawing of various tropical plants. It includes large, heart-shaped leaves with holes (like Monstera), long, feathery fronds (like ferns), and broad, pointed leaves with distinct veins (like banana leaves). The plants are arranged in a dense, overlapping pattern around the central text.

Kidz Explore Singapore

Gelyn Ong & Friends



Marshall Cavendish
Editions



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Introduction

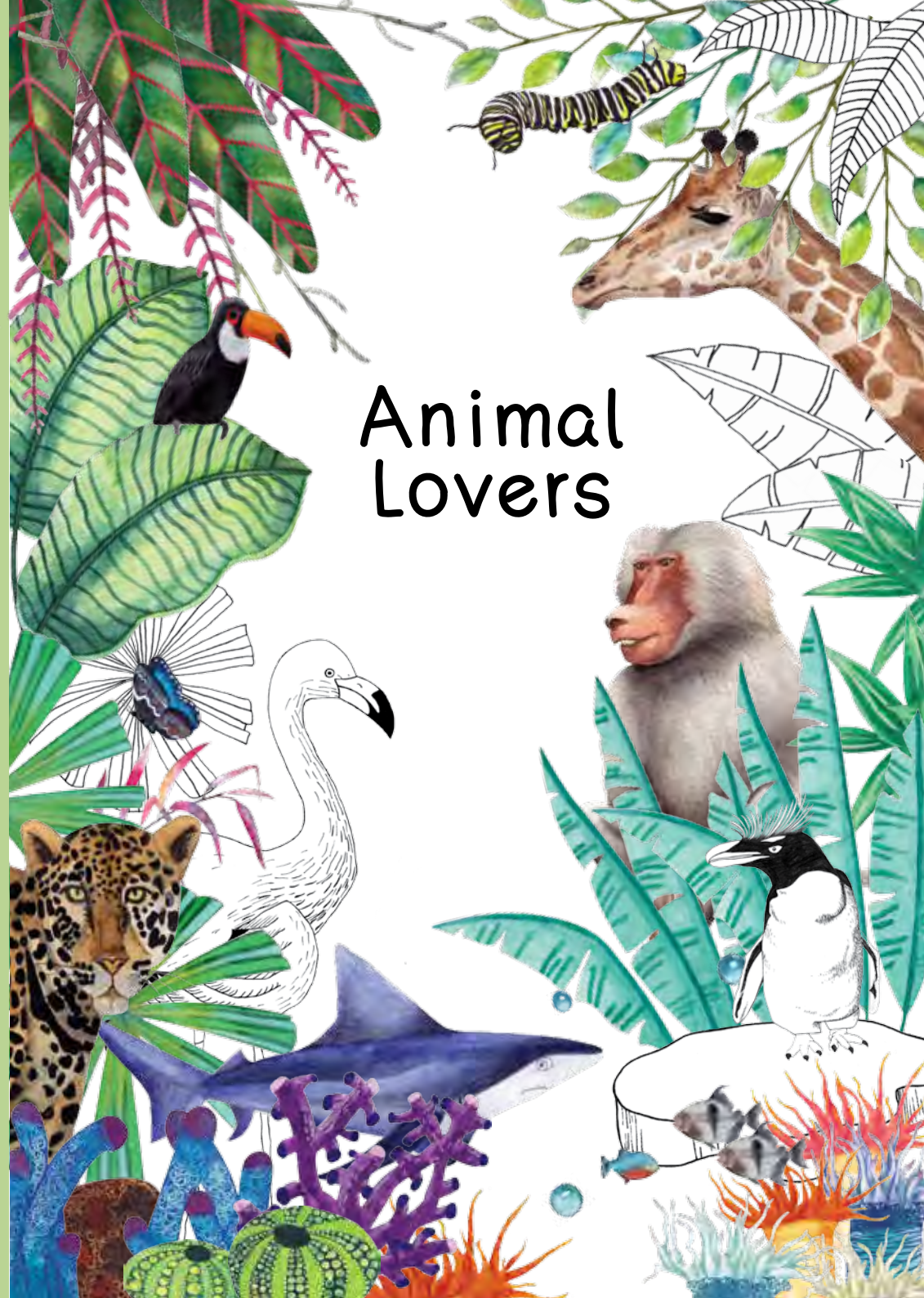
The idea for this travel guide came about when I was helping to plan a family vacation with my parents. I was supposed to suggest an itinerary that included kid-friendly attractions and places to visit.

However, when I did my research online and went through travel books in the book stores, I could not find enough information to be able to compile a good and interesting itinerary that was catered for kids. I thought to myself at that time, it would be awesome if there was a travel guide written solely with kids in mind. It would be even more interesting if the guide was written by their peers.

It is my hope that this travel guide for Singapore 'written by kids for kids' will help overseas visitors with young families plan an interesting and kids friendly visit to Singapore. For a small, sunny island that is often referred to as a 'tiny red dot', Singapore has many world class attractions that will appeal to both adult visitors and the kids.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has, in one way or another, contributed to the publication of this travel guide book.

Animal Lovers





The S.E.A. Aquarium houses more than 100,000 marine animals from over 800 species. It is one of the largest aquariums in the world! This aquarium even contains enough water to fill more than 17 Olympic-size swimming pools alone!



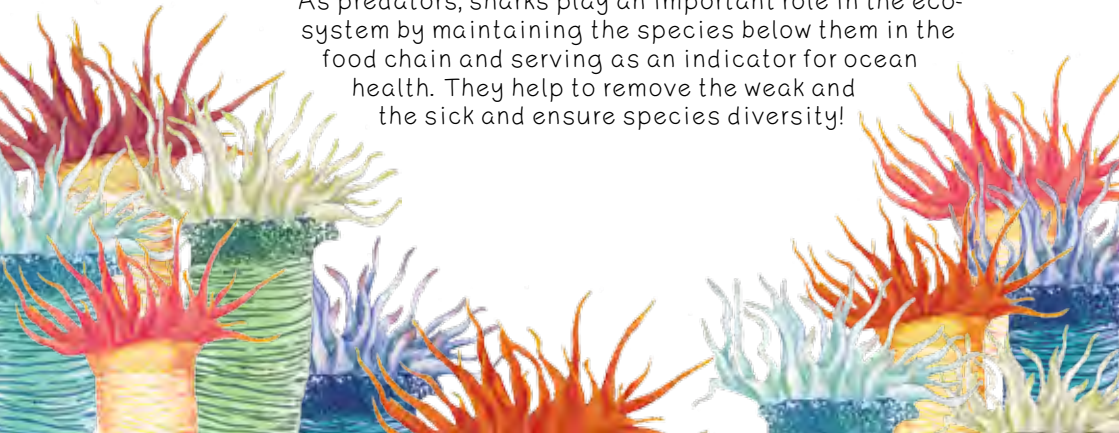
Image by Resorts World Sentosa Singapore



Shark Seas Habitat

We enter through an arch-shaped tunnel where we get to see some of the most majestic predators in the marine world. Some of the shark species here, such as the scalloped hammerhead shark, are endangered. Can you guess what shape its head is? If you answered “hammer”, you’re right!

As predators, sharks play an important role in the ecosystem by maintaining the species below them in the food chain and serving as an indicator for ocean health. They help to remove the weak and the sick and ensure species diversity!



ACTIVITY: FIND THE SHARKS

Identify these three types of sharks found in the Shark Seas Habitat.

Scalloped Hammerhead Shark

Black Tip Reef Shark

Tawny Nurse Shark







DO YOU KNOW

Do sharks eat humans?

Sharks evolved millions of years before humans existed. Therefore, humans are not part of the sharks’ normal diet. Instead, sharks primarily feed on fish or marine mammals.

Sharks have been known to attack humans only when they are confused or curious. If a shark sees a human splashing in the water, it may mistake the human for a seal, leading to an accidental attack. Often, they would release the human after the first bite because humans are too bony compared to seals that are fat and juicy. Unfortunately, the attacked humans are usually left with nasty and serious wounds or lose too much blood that can lead to death.

Movies such as *Jaws*, portraying sharks eating humans alive while swimming cause people to have this misconception about sharks.

Sharks attack and kill about 10 humans per year. Humans, in contrast, annually kill about 20 to 30 million sharks, according to the Florida Museum of Natural History’s Department of Ichthyology. Hence, sharks have more to fear from humans than we do of them.

ACTIVITY: WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words? Keep your eyes peeled!



S C A F M A N T A R A Y
 F L D E G S A R U W E P
 H E A C D S H A R K S U
 T W N R E C S E Y A B T
 S P Y L O P A H T C A E
 E S E L A C S A M T G N
 A R F G E I N E I H W T
 S A O M F C T B G S X A
 T D P R E D A T O R E C
 A G A T J H K E G F K L
 R T C F B N U A D L E E
 S E A U R C H I N R F S

CORALS
 HABITAT
 MANTA RAY
 PREDATOR
 SEA URCHIN
 SHARKS
 EEL
 HEART
 POLYPS
 SCALES
 SEASTARS
 TENTACLES



Discovery Touch Pool

At this interactive pool, you can learn about sea urchins, live sea stars and sea cucumbers.

Live Corals Habitat

As live corals need light to perform photosynthesis, most people consider them to be a part of the plant kingdom. However, they are actually a part of the animal kingdom!

DO YOU KNOW

Hard corals, also called reef-building corals, produce a rock-like skeleton made of the same material as classroom chalk (calcium carbonate).

Soft corals look like colourful plants or graceful trees and are not reef builders as they do not produce the hard calcified skeleton of many reef-building corals. One way to tell the difference between them is that soft coral polyps always have eight tentacles, while hard coral polyps have multiples of six tentacles.



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🌐 [www.rwsentosa.com/
 Homepage/Attractions/
 SEAAquarium](http://www.rwsentosa.com/Homepage/Attractions/SEAAquarium)



Pterosaurs or winged lizards are not dinosaurs, but flying reptiles. They were one of the first vertebrates to take to the skies during the Triassic Period (between 251-199 million years ago), and went extinct about 65 million years ago.

Look out for the Dinosaur light show that is on every half hour as it includes sound effects and flashing lights on the dinosaur itself. It was quite an experience to see the life size dinosaur displayed in such a manner.

Orangutan (Mammals Zone)

In Malay, orang means "person" while utan means "forest".

Shown below are the skeletons of the "orang-orang" (human) and the orangutan (man of the forest).



"Orang Orang" and Orang Utan (Mammals Zone)

DO YOU KNOW

Orangutans share about 97% of their DNA with humans. The difference between them is that the Bornean orangutan has longer arms and fingers than humans as these features help them move around in the arboreal (living in trees) environment. When they descend from their treetop homes, they are quadrupedal (move using four feet) on the ground.

Humans have comparatively longer thumbs that allow them to perform precision and power grip more effectively. These abilities are essential for finer tool making. However, the long human thumb would be a hindrance for orangutans, getting in the way of the hook-like grasp they need for swinging from the trees.

Singapore Sperm Whale (Mammals Zone)

The carcass of the 10.6-metre female Sperm Whale was found floating off Jurong Island in July 2015. This is the first sperm whale recorded in Singapore waters. Nine museum staff worked for more than two months to salvage the whale specimen, extract as much data as possible from the carcass, clean it up and preserve the skeleton.



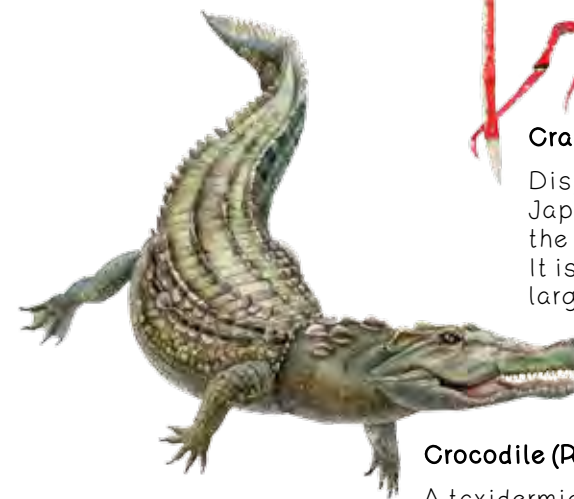
DID YOU KNOW

Sperm whales are the largest carnivores on earth. They have the largest brain of any creature and are easily recognisable by their massive heads and prominent round foreheads.



Crab (Arthropods zone)

Displayed here is the Japanese Spider Crab, the largest crab in the world. It is among the world's largest living arthropods.



Crocodile (Reptiles zone)

A taxidermied Estuarine Crocodile captured in Sungei Serangoon in 1888 was the largest living reptile in the world.

About the Author/Illustrator



Gelyn Ong is an artist whose creative efforts are inspired by her interest in and passion for the natural environment. She started dabbling with crayons and colour pencils at the tender age of two. Since then, her love for art has also led her to help the less fortunate, especially children.

She started on this book when she was 12 years old with contributions from her friends. She spent a further three years to complete the illustrations, while negotiating the hectic schedule of secondary school life.

From August 2010 until today, Gelyn's paintings and illustrations have helped to raise more than S\$800,000 for various charities through auctions and other forms of fund raising.

In addition, Gelyn was a WWF (World Wildlife Fund) Singapore Young Ambassador from 2012- 2015 when she helped to raise awareness on environmental conservation amongst her peers and hosted talks in public libraries. Combining her artistic talent and passion for the environment, Gelyn published her first illustrated book, *The Forest Fable*, in June 2013; the book won several awards including the Popular Readers' Choice Award 2013 and the Samsung KidsTime Authors' Award 2015. The book has been translated into other languages such as Chinese and Vietnamese.

Gelyn has pledged to donate 100% of her royalties from the sale of this book to fund the Children For Children (CFC) event, which is organised annually for underprivileged children to celebrate Children's Day at Singapore's key attractions. Please refer to page 143 for more information on CFC.

