

Laumei Sami

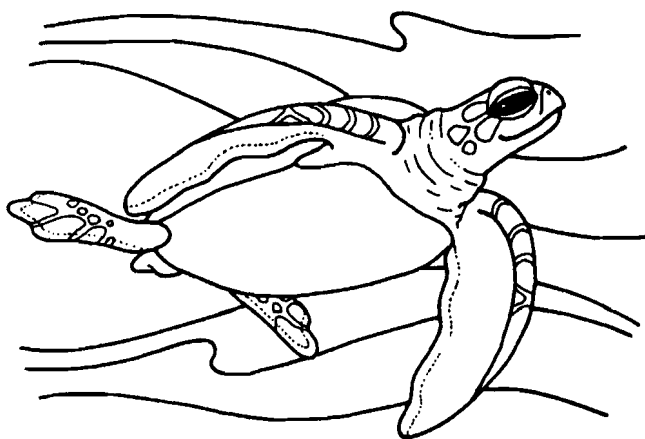
Sea Turtles

Tusi ata valivali i le gagana Samoa ma Fa`aperetania
A coloring book in English and Samoan

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Laumei Sami *Sea Turtles*

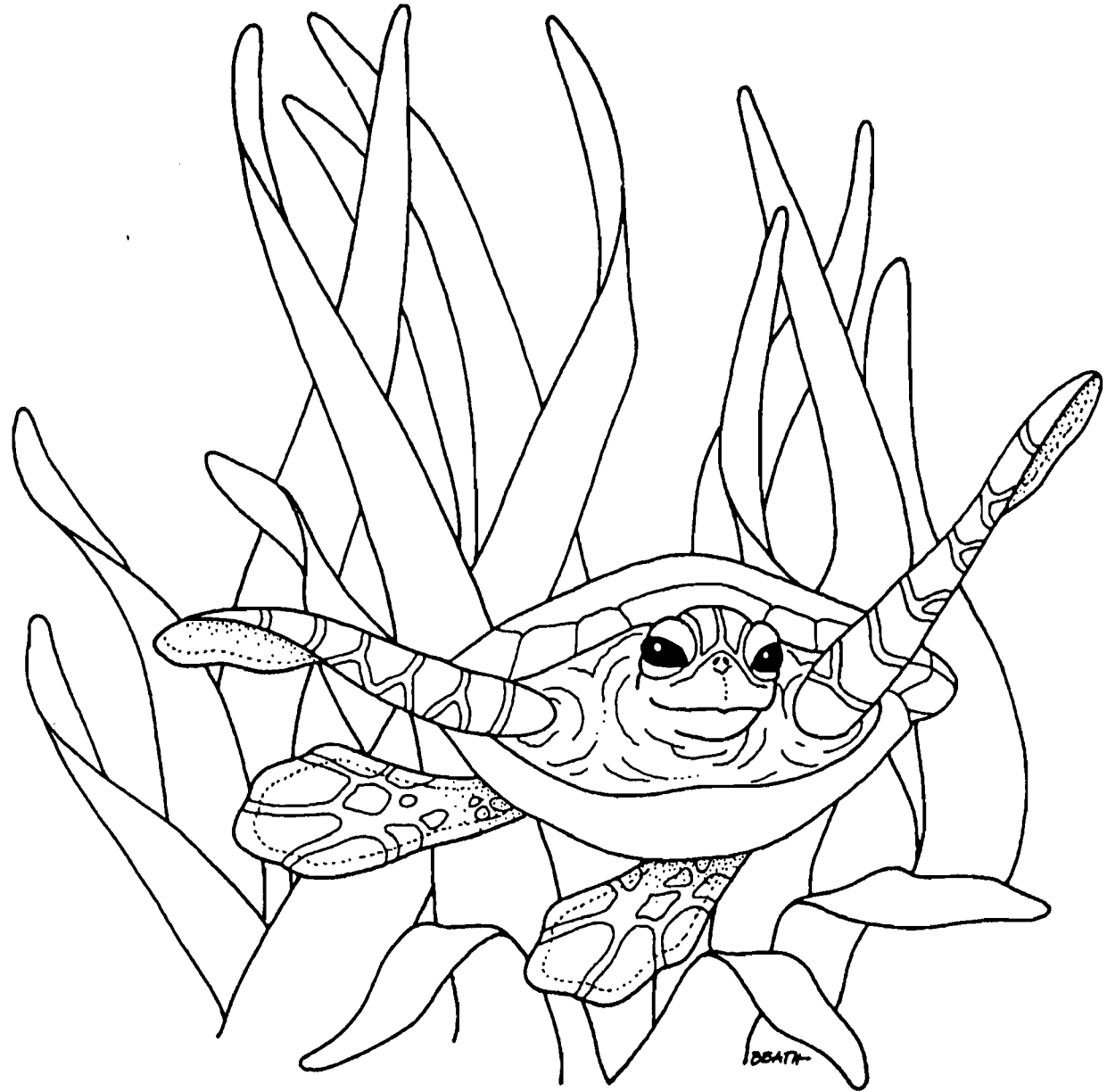
Tusi ata valivali i le gagana Samoa ma Fa`aperetania
A coloring book in English and Samoan

Januari, 1995

Saunia e Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary
i le fa`atagana mai le Center for Marine Conservation.

January, 1995

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Laumei

O laumei e i le aiga meaola repitilia, e a'afia ai pili, mo'o ma gata. E pei o repitilia uma lava, o laumei e una ma mamago o latou tino. E leai ni o latou nifo pei o le gata ma le kolokokaila. O le atigi o le laumei e taua o le karapase, e puipuia mai ai ona fili. E mafai e le tele o laumei ona fa'amoe mai o latou tino i totonu o le atigi ina ia le mafai ai ona fa'atamaia e ona fili. O le tele lava o laumei e nonofo latalata i le lau'ele'ele. A e tasi lava le ituaiga laumei e nofo lava i le vasa i lona olaga atoa: o le laumei sami lea. O le laumei sami e 'ese'ese mai i laumei fanua ona e le mafai ona fa'amoe mai lona tino i totonu o lona atigi, ma o ona vae foi ua pei o 'apa'apa o 'ia. O le faitauina ma valivalia ata o lenei tusi o le a e maua ai se malamalama'aga i o tatou laumei sami. Ia Fiafia ma e Manuia.

Turtles

Turtles belong to the reptile family, the same family as lizards, geckoes and snakes. Like all reptiles, turtles have scaly, dry skin, but unlike their crocodile and snake relatives, turtles have no teeth. Turtles have a shell, called a carapace, that protects it from its enemies. Many turtles can pull their bodies into the shell making it impossible for predators to harm it. Most turtles spend their lives on or near the land. There is one group of turtles, however, that spends almost all of its life in the ocean: the sea turtle. The sea turtle, unlike many land turtles cannot pull its body into its shell and its legs have changed to become more like a fish's fins. You can learn more about our sea turtles by reading this book and coloring the pictures. Have fun!



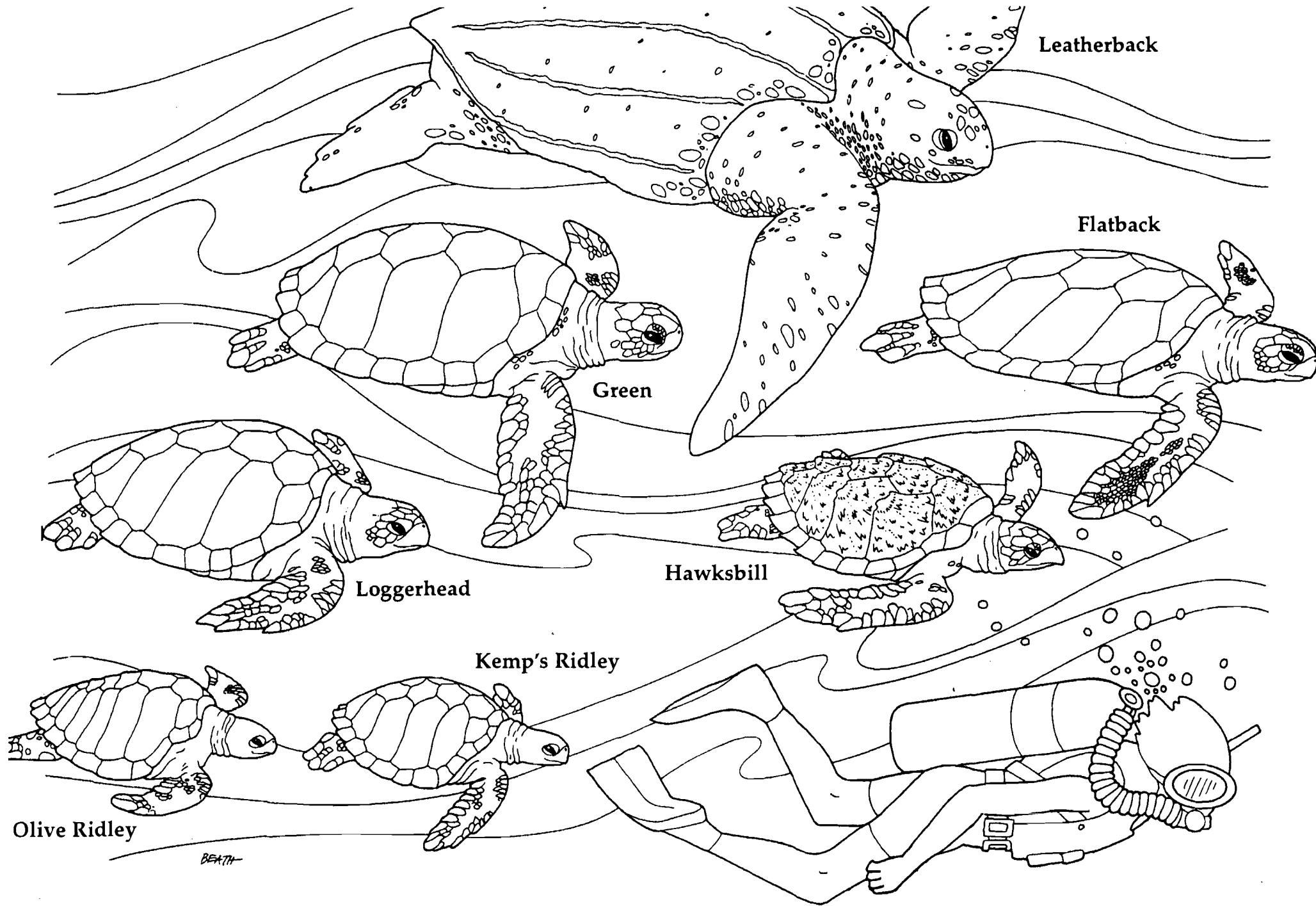
Laumei o le Sami

Ua 150 miliona tausaga o ola laumei sami, ma ua i ai talitonuga na tupuga mai nei laumei i laumei fanua tetele na ola faatasi ma dinosaurs, ma na latou faasolosolo atu ai i le sami ma ola ai. O laumei sami o lo'o vaaia i aso nei e fai sina ese'ese ma laumei na muamua ola i le sami. Na faitau miliona tausaga na fai ai suiga tele i vae o laumei na faaaoga i luga o le lau'eleele ma avea lea ma saga, faapea foi tino mamafa ma le lapopo'a na i ai ua mafai ona fa'aiti'itia ma fa'asalafalafa e fa'afaigofie ai ona fealua'i i le sami. O dinosaurs ma laumei fanua tetele ua le o toe ola mai, sei vagana ai o latou `auivi o loo vaaia i falemata`aga, a`o laumei sami o lo'o ola pea mai. E fitu itu`aiga laumei ese'ese o lo'o ola ma feoa'i i ogasami mafanafana o le lalolagi. E nonofo i latou i le sami sei vagana ai se taimi pu`upu`u e o mai ai laumei fafine i uta i matafaga e tu`u ai o latou fua. O le sami o se nofoaga e le gata na o laumei sami o ola ai, ae ua mafai ona faatasia ai foi i`a, figota, ma isi meaola o le sami ae maise ai tagata soifua.

Sea Turtles

Sea turtles have been around for 150 million years. Their ancestors were giant land turtles that entered the sea ages ago when the first dinosaurs lived. The first sea turtles didn't look like those of today. It took millions of years for sea turtles to change, for legs to become flippers and for big bodies to flatten into streamlined shapes. The dinosaurs and the giant land turtles are gone forever; we can see only their fossil bones in museums. But somehow, sea turtles have lived on. Seven different kinds still swim in warm and temperate oceans around the world. They spend their whole lives in the water except for the short times the females come onto land to nest and lay their eggs. The sea turtles share the sea with fish, whales, other sea creatures and with you and me.





Leatherback

Flatback

Green

Loggerhead

Hawksbill

Kemp's Ridley

Olive Ridley

BEACH

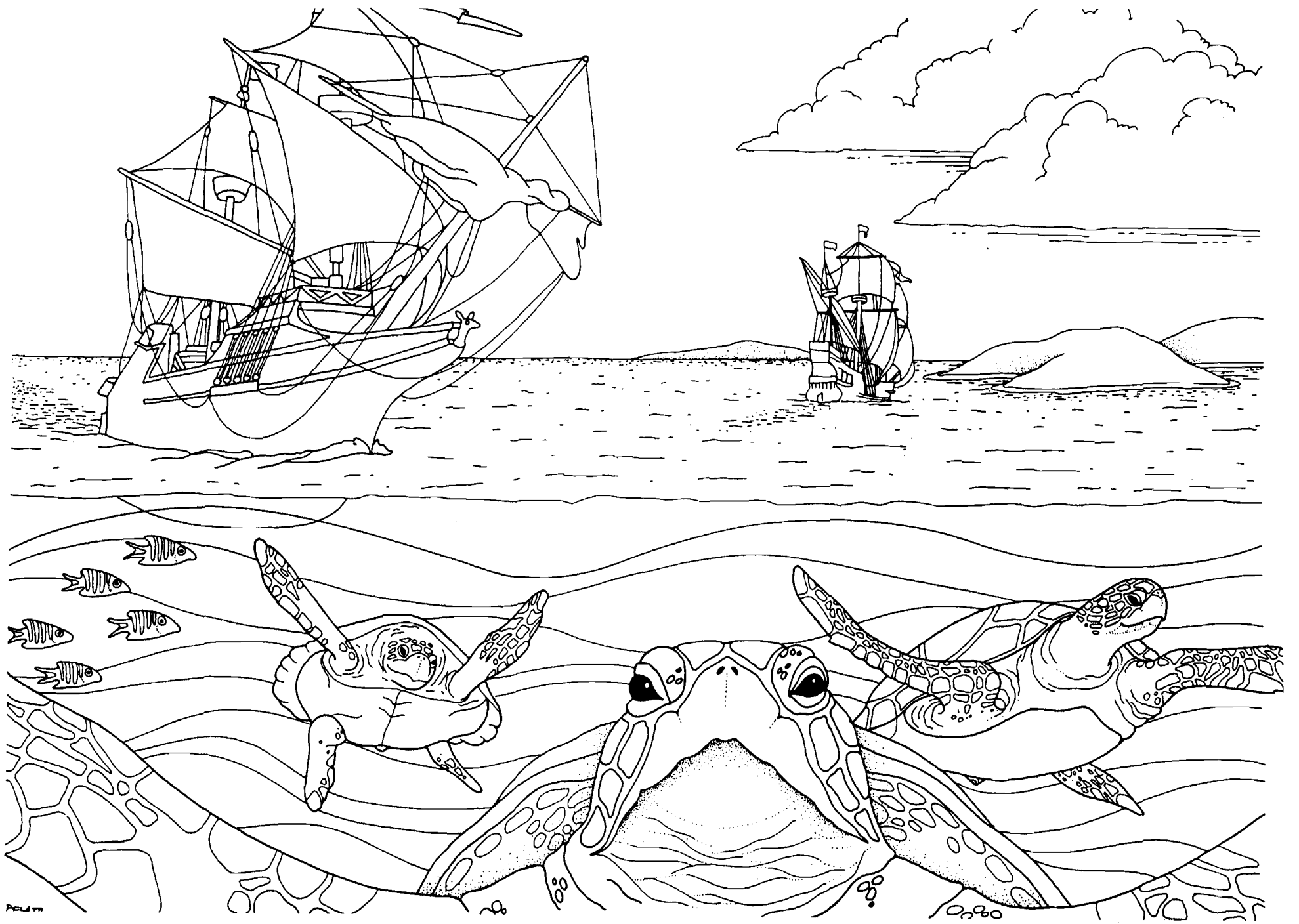
Laumei Lanumeamata

I le faatoa aina` o motu o le Pasefika na faitau miliona ma miliona laumei sami na i ai i ona ogasami. Sa tau leai ni tagata na ola i lena pito o le lalolagi. E ui lava na fasia laumei ma faaaoga e tagata o motu o le Pasefika e i ai Polonesia, ae sa tele ma tele pea laumei na ola i lena vaitaimi. E o`o lava ina amata ona fai malaga mai tagata folau su`esu`e i Amerika ma le Pasefika na faitau miliona laumei sami na i ai. Ina ua amata ona o mai tagata fa`atau`oloa na iloa ai e i latou e tasi lava le ituaiga laumei sami e manaia lona `aano i le `ai. E lanu enaena atoa lona tino, e o`o atu i le tolu futu lona umi, ma lona mamafa i le 300 pauna. O nei laumei e tata`a i mea papa`u e i ai faaputuga mutiasami e `aai ai. Na faigofie ona pu`eina e alii folau nei laumei ona o le filemu tele. A maua nei laumei ona nonoa lea o saga po`o vae ma tu`u i luga o va`a mo a latou mea`ai. O le ga`o i totonu o le tino o lenei laumei e lanu meamata ona o vao a latou mea`ai tumau. O le ala foi lea ua faaigoa ai o le laumei lanumeamata. Pau foi lea o le laumei sami na`o vao lava nei e maua i le sami lana mea`ai tumau. E o`o mai lava i aso nei o lo`o pueina ma fasia nei laumei sami e tagata, ua ala ai ona faaiti`itia pea lo latou fuainumera.

The Green Turtle

Polynesians and other Pacific islanders hunted turtles, but because there were not many people in this part of the world, turtles were plentiful. When western explorers began traveling to America and the Pacific, there were millions of sea turtles in the seas. Traders, settlers and pirates who followed the first European explorers found that one kind of sea turtle had especially tasty meat. This turtle was brown all over, grew to about three feet in length and often weighed some 300 pounds. It grazed in shallow beds of seaweed, or turtle grass, near the shore. Sailors could easily capture the gentle animal. They could turn the turtle over onto its back so it was helpless, tie its flippers, and keep it aboard their ships to slaughter when they needed fresh meat. The fat inside this turtle's body was green from the grass it ate, so it was named the green turtle. It is the only sea turtle that lives only on plants. Today, hundreds of years later, green turtles are still hunted and taken. Fewer and fewer remain.





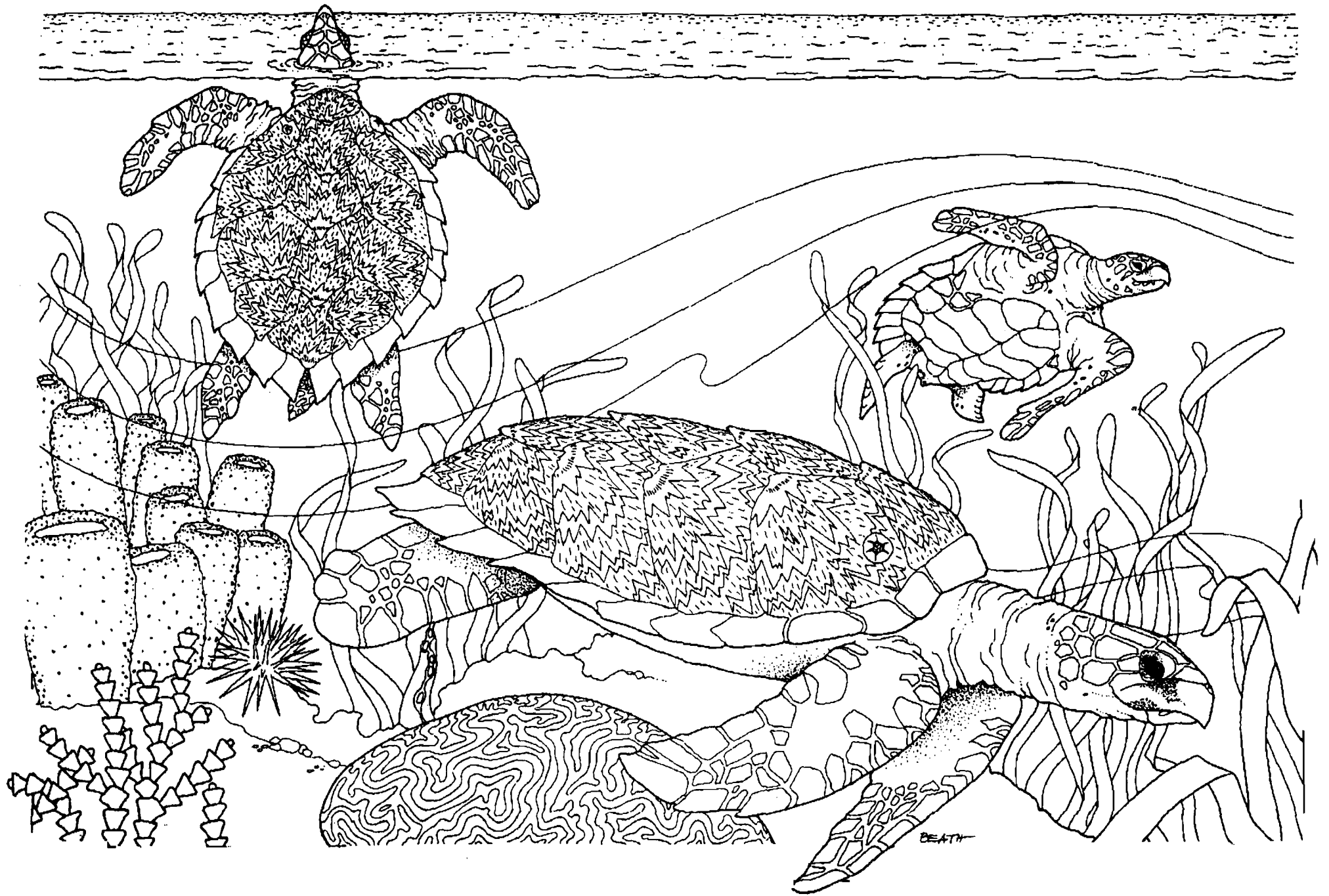
Laumei Una

O le laumei una e foliga lona gutu e pei o le manulele o le hawk e pi`o agai i lalo ma o le mea foi lea na maua mai ai lona igoa. O le laumei lenei e pito sili lona manaia i laumei sami uma lava. O lona atigi`pito i luga e faia i una lanu enaena malosi tau samasama. O una nei e pipii le isi una i luga a`e o le isi e pei o le atoga o apa o le fale. O le atigi pito i lalo e lanu samasama. O le pa`u o lona ulu ma ona saga ei ai togitogi e`ena ma alu ai le lanu samasam i le pito i fafo. E laititi ifo lava i le tolu futu lona umi, ae silia atu i le 200 pauna lona mamafa. O le laumei una ma isi laumei sami e lavea i le itu-aiga meaola o repitilia, e tu`ufua i latou ma manava i le okesene i le ea. E ui lava e mafai ona taofi a latou manava i lalo o le vai ae tatau lava ona manu a`e i luga e manava. O laumei nei e tata`a latalata i `aau amu e maua ai `alu`alu ma omomi sami e fiafia latou e `ai.

The Hawksbill

The hawksbill is the most beautiful sea turtle. Its hard, top shell, called the carapace, is made up of dark brown or yellow and brown scales. These scales overlap like shingles on a roof. The hawksbill's bottom shell is called the plastron. It is yellow. The skin of its head and flippers has brown patches rimmed in yellow. The hawksbill gets its name from its beak because the top of it hooks down much like the bill of a hawk. This sea turtle can grow as large as three feet long and weigh over two hundred pounds. Hawksbills and other sea turtles are reptiles like turtles that live on land. They have lungs and breathe air. Even though sea turtles can hold their breath for many minutes they must come up to breathe. Hawksbills swim near coral reefs where they feed mostly on sponges.



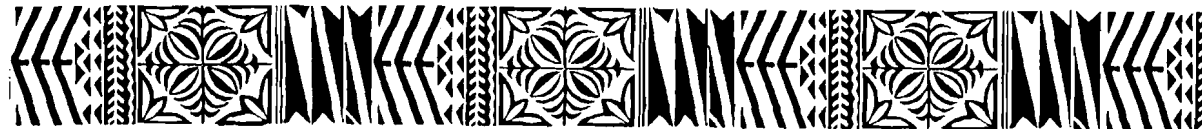


Laumei Loggerhead

O loggerhead e fai sina laititi ifo lava mai le laumei lanumeamata, ma o lona mamafa e i le va o le 300 ma le 400 pauna. O ana mea`ai e aafia ai tama`i pa`a, figota ma isi lava meaola o le sami e maua i luga o a`au. E iloa gofie lenei laumei ona o lona ulu e lapoa ma lona ua e pu`upu`u lautele. O le mea foi lea e le mafai ai ona faamoe mai lona ulu i totonu o long atigi e pei o laumei fanua. O le atigi o le loggerhead o lona ofu tau lea, aua o lona ulu ma ona saga e le puipuia. O malie ma tafola fe`ai e masani ona osofa`ia nei laumei, ae peitai e fai sina tele ma televave tele o i latou ma e to`a laititi o latou fili. O lona atigi pito i luga e lanu enaena malosi ma le pito i lalo e lanu samasama.

The Loggerhead

The loggerhead turtle is slightly smaller than the green. A loggerhead may weigh between 300 and 400 pounds. It eats snails, clams, crabs and other sea animals. The loggerhead hunts near coral reefs and rocks. You can recognize it by its large, thick head and broad, short neck. The loggerhead, like other sea turtles, cannot pull its head into its shell the way land turtles can. Its shell is like a suit of armor, but its head and flippers are unprotected. Certain sharks and killer whales may attack these parts, but the loggerhead is big and fast and has few natural enemies. Color its carapace and skin reddish-brown and the plastron yellow.





BEATH

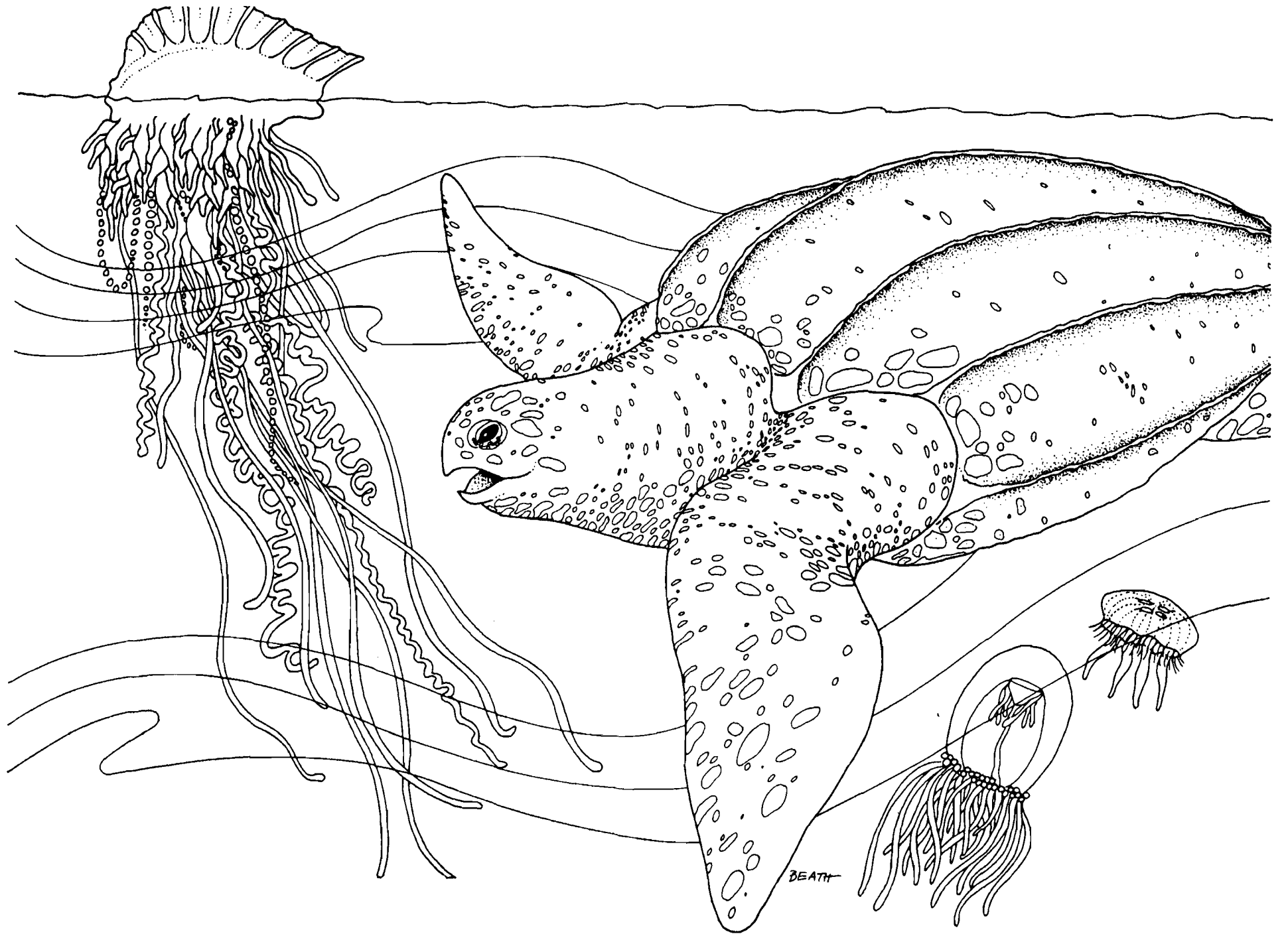
Laumei Leatherback

O le leatherback o le laumei sami pito sili ona tele lea. E o'o atu lona mamafa i le 2,000 pauna a'o lona umi i le valu futu. E lanu uliuli lona tino atoa ma nai togitogi laiti e alu ai. Pau lea o le laumei sami e leai sona atigi malo, a e puipuia lea e pa'u mafiafia e i ai tuasivi uumi e fitu. E malosi lenei laumei e fai malaga i ogasami i le afe ma afe o maila. O le ma'oi o lenei laumei o se tasi ituaiga `alu`alu (Portuguese man-of-war) e taumafai isi meaola o le sami e `alo `ese mai ai ona o lona `oona. O le leatherback e leai ni ona nifo pei lava o isi laumei sami ae faaaogaina lona gutu ma'ai e pu'e ai ana mea'ai.

The Leatherback

The leatherback (or trunkback) is the largest sea turtle living today. It may grow to be eight feet long and weigh 2,000 pounds. Its overall color is black. The leatherback is the only sea turtle that does not have a hard top shell. It is protected instead by thick skin with seven long ridges. Its leathery back gives the turtle its name. The leatherback is a great wanderer. Its huge front flippers take it thousands of miles. The leatherback's favorite food is a jellyfish most sea animals avoid—the poisonous Portuguese man-of-war. Like all sea turtles, the leatherback has no teeth and uses its strong, sharp beak to catch food.





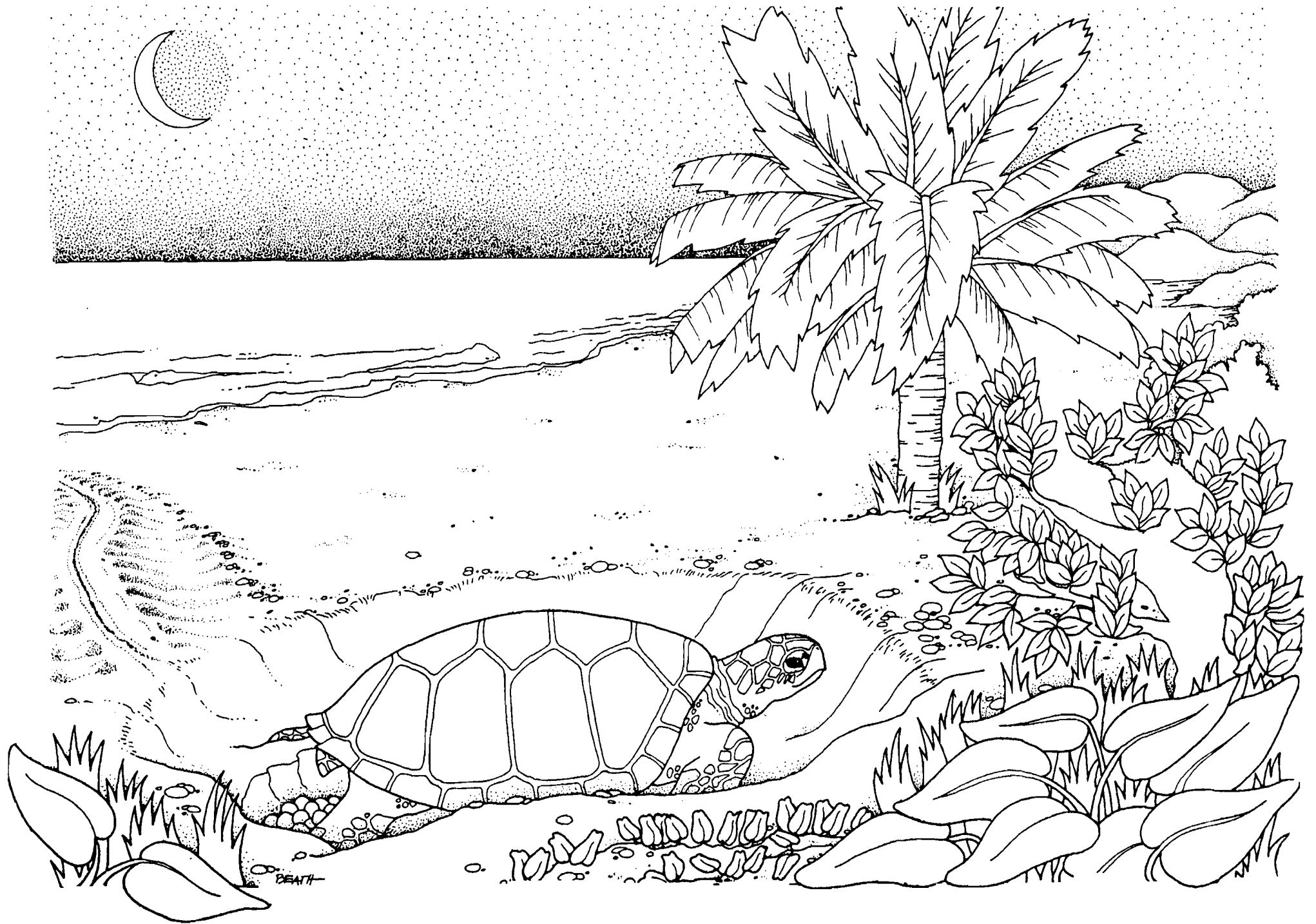
Ofaga Laumei Lanumeamata

O le laumei lanumeamata ua taunu`u nei i le matafaga e sauni e tu`u ona fua. Ua faatoa uma ona ofi ma le laumei po`a i le sami latalata ane. Ua o`o mai le taimi e tu`u ai ona fua. E faatolu pe faafa ona tu`u ona fua i le vaitau e tasi. E ui ina saoa`soa lenei laumei ma televave i le vai, ae telegese ma vasivasi i luga o le oneone. E tolotolo lemu lava o ia agai i uta i le matafaga, ona `eli lea o le pu e mafai ona ofi ai lona tino. A ofi uma loa lona tino ona fa`aaoga lea o ona sagamuli e sali ai oneone ma fai ai se pu e fa`afoliga o se fagu. A mae`a nei gaoioiga ona tu`u lemu ifo lea o ona fua papa`e lamolemole pei ni polo ping pong e faitau selau le aofa`i. A uma ona tu`u ona fua ona tanu lea i le oneone ma toe foi atu i le sami. A`o foi atu o ia i le sami e masani ona iloa ai tulagavae o lona tino i luga o le oneone. E masani ona mulimuli atu ai tagata i nei tulaga ala ma ave fua o laumei e `ai, ae maise foi meaola e i ai taifau e fiafia tele e `ai nei fua.

The Green Turtle Nesting

A female green turtle arrived offshore at her nesting beach alone at night. She mated earlier with a male green turtle nearby in the water. It is time for her to lay her eggs. She might nest three or four times during a single nesting season. Though she is fast and well suited to the water, she is slow and in danger on land. The female dragged herself out of the sea and onto the beach up beyond the reach of high tide. She dug a pit for her body with her flippers. She nested in it and used her back flippers, like shovels, to scoop out a bottle-shaped hole. Now she drops about one-hundred white, leathery eggs that look like ping pong balls into this hole. When she finishes, she will cover the nest with sand and slowly go back to the sea, leaving a trail behind her. After she is gone, poachers may follow this trail and steal her eggs...or a hungry dog may feast on them.





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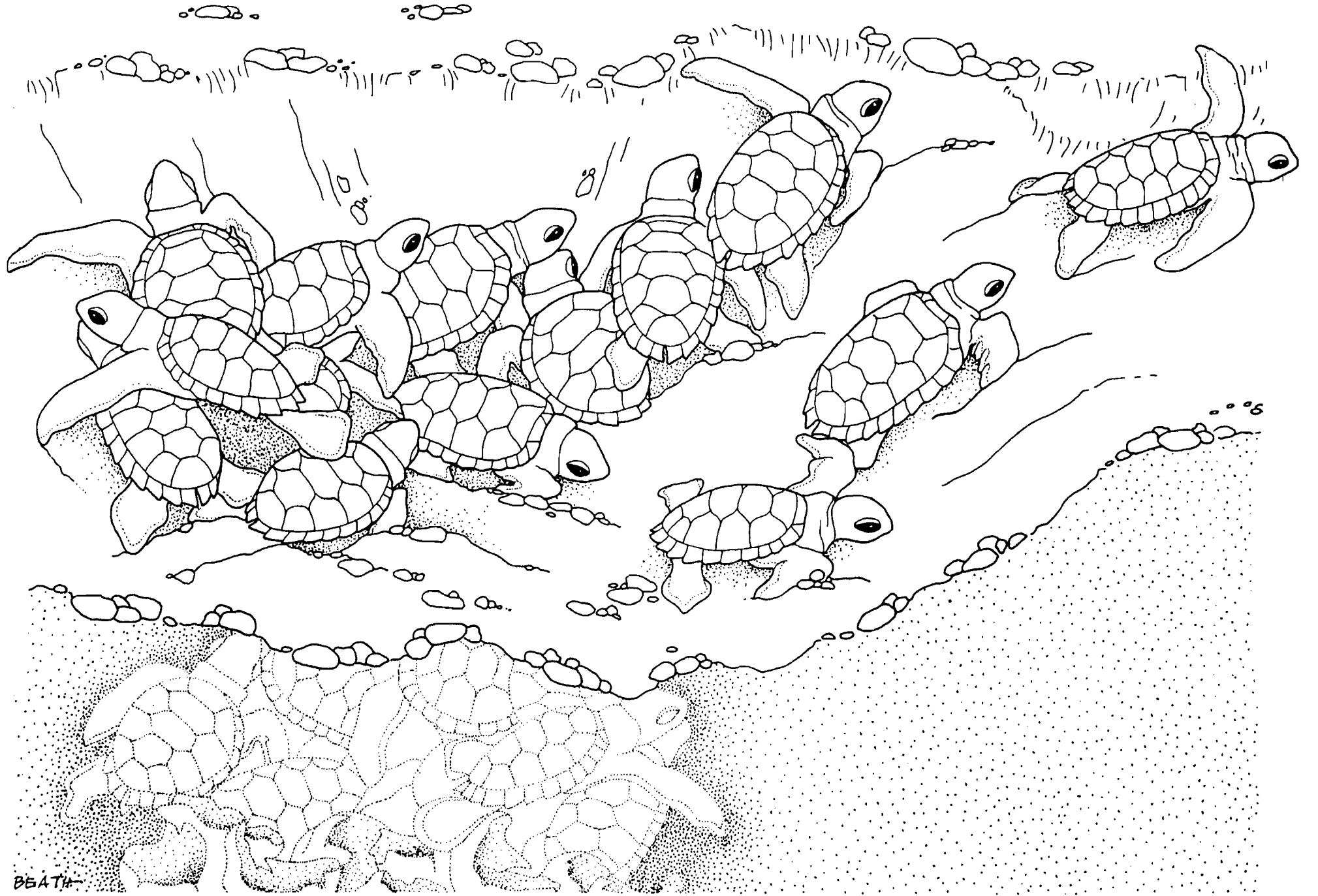
Fofoa fua o laumei

O le susulu manaia ifo o `ave o le la i luga o le matafaga, ua fa`amafanafana ai fua o laumei o lo`o tanu i le oneone. Ua amata ona tuputupu a`e tama`i laumei i le fa`amoega ma toe itiiti lava ona fofoa lea. I totonu o fua ua amata ona tuitui mai le atigi fua i le mea ma`ai o le muagutu o le tamai laumei e sauni ai e sau i fafo. E tusa o le atoa o le lua masina ona fofoa uma fa`atasi lea o nei fua. E tatau lava ona fofoa uma i le taimi e tasi e fa`afaigofie ai ona latou sosola mai le faamoega ma fai malaga atu i le sami. E mavae aso e lua, ona mafai lea ona latou o`o ifo i luga o le oneone. Mulimuli ane, i le po po`o le vaveao foi, o lea vaaia ai ni tama`i laumei pe tusa o le lua inisi le uumi ua amata fetolofi atu agai i le sami.

The Hatchlings

The rays of the sun heat the beach, warming the turtle's eggs buried in the sand. The eggs develop in the nest. They are ready to hatch in about two months. The hatchlings pick at their shells with a small, sharp point at the front of their snout—this special part will disappear after hatching. The hatchlings crack their shells. All must hatch at almost the same time, for all must share the work to escape from the nest. The baby turtles scrape away at the sand overhead. The sand falls upon their empty shells, forming a platform that allows the hatchlings to rise. In a few days, they have scraped their way to the roof of the nest. Then, at night, or in the early morning, little dark heads and flippers wriggle out onto the beach. Two-inch long hatchlings crawl away and look for the sea.





BEATH-

Tautu`uga Agai i le Sami

Ua lagona i le tino o le tama`i laumei le itu o lo`o i ai le sami. O le malosi o le malamalma mai o luga o le sami ua faatosina mai lava. Ua atili ai ona fa`atopetope le tolotolo a le tama`i laumei agai i le sami. E molemole o latou atigi e le mafai ai ona puipuia mai mala ma puapuaga. O manufelelei ma pa`a e tata`a i le matafaga e tele ona faaumatia ma `ai nei tama`i laumei. A fai foi e taunu`u atu nisi o tamai laumei i le sami, o le tele lava e `ai e i`a e i ai malie, taiva, gatala, sapatu ma malau. E i`u lava ina totoe na`o se tasi pe lua foi tamai laumei i le faitau selau lea na fofoa mai. E le o iloa tonu po`o fea e o i ai nei laumei mo le tausaga atoa pea taunu`u i le sami. O isi laumei pei o le laumei lanumea-mata, e faatoa toe vaaia i luga o a`au o `aai i faaputuga vao pea atoa le tausaga ma ua fai sina tele pei se ipu `ai mafolafola.

Race to the Sea

The hatchlings go towards the sea. The brightness over the water attracts them. They crawl from the nest and begin their race to the sea. Full of life, but defenseless, they scramble across the beach. Their shells are soft and offer little protection. In some places, lizards, crabs and sea birds catch the tiny turtles and eat them. Many of the hatchlings that make it to the water may be eaten by fish: sharks, snappers, groupers, jacks and sharp-toothed barracuda. Only one or two of the hatchlings may live to reach adulthood. Where they go to spend their first years is a mystery. It is one of nature's great secrets. Green turtles, for example, are not seen again until they are several years old when they are found feeding off-shore of some islands in turtle grass beds. They are then as big as a dinner plate.





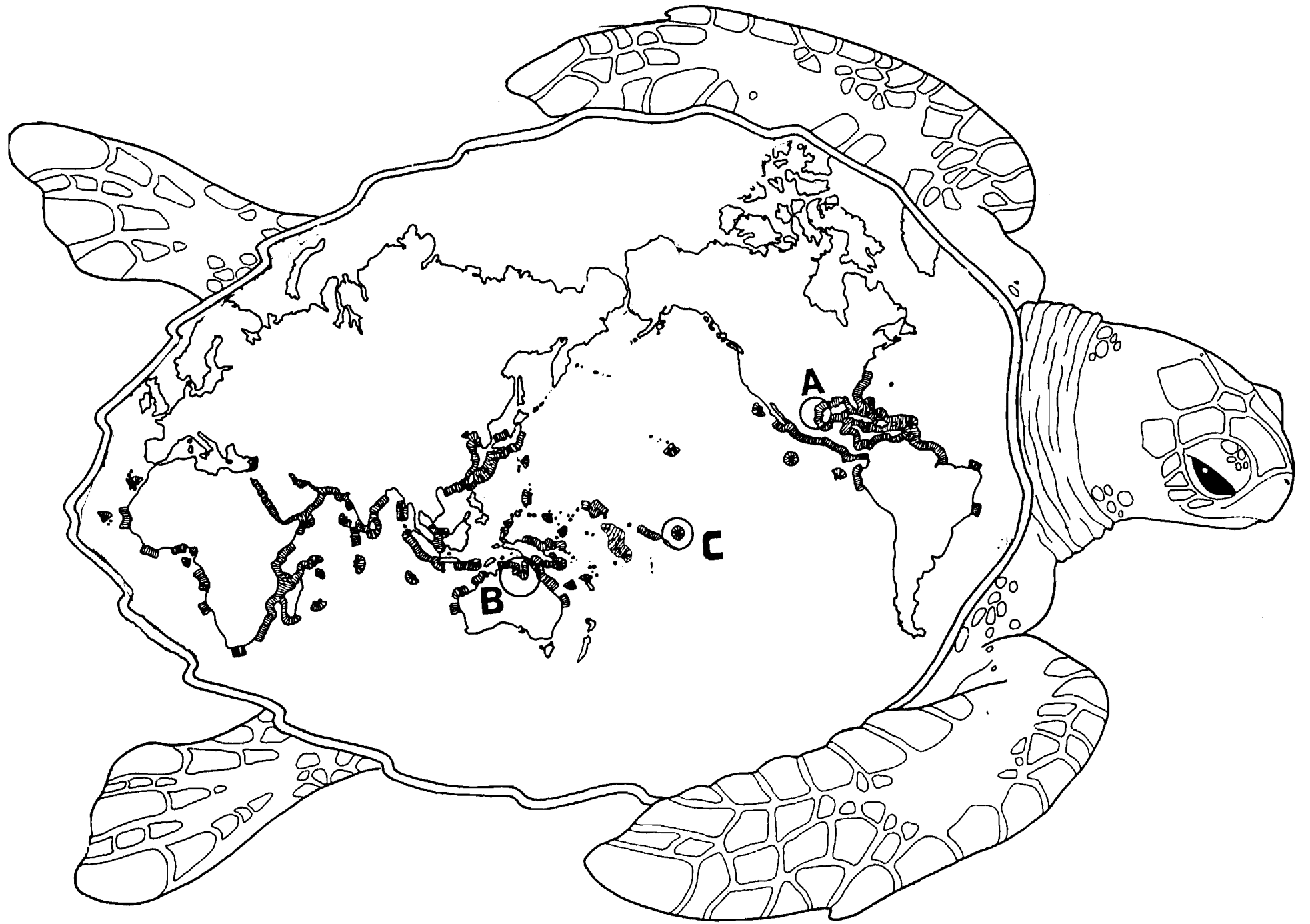
O Fea e Tu`ufua ai Laumei Sami?

O laumei sami e ofaga ma tu'ufua i atunu'u vevela. A o'o i le taimi o le a tu'ufua ai, e iloa lelei lava e laumei le matafaga na fofoa mai ai. O le nofoaga tonu foi lava lea e toe fo`i i ai e tu`u ai ona fua. Mo isi ituaiga laumei e tasi lava le pito nu`u e o uma e tu`ufua ai. Mo faataitaiga, o le laumei Atlantic ridley e tasi lava le matafaga i le gataifale o Mexico (A) e ofaga ma tu`ufua uma ai. O le laumei o le flatback e na`o le gataifale lava o le itu i matu o Ausetalia (B) e tu`u ai ona fua. O laumei lanumeamata e tele nofoaga e o i ai. O isi e fai malaga mai i le afe o maila mai Fiti po`o Vanuatu agai mai i le motu o Rose (C), i Amerika Samoa e ofaga ma tu`ufua ai. O se mea ofoofogia pe faapefea ona manatua e nei laumei le nofoaga tonu lava na latou fananau ai, ma toe foi mai e tu`ufua ai.

Where Sea Turtles Nest

Sea turtles nest in a wide, warm belt around the world. They all return to the same beaches where they themselves hatched. Each kind of sea turtle has its own special places. For some, only one particular place will do. The Atlantic ridley nests only on one beach on the northeast coast of Mexico (A). The flat-back lays its eggs only on the coast of northern Australia (B). Although green turtles are found nesting in many places, only small numbers of turtles will nest in one year. Some green turtles migrate thousands of miles to nest. Greens that feed in grassy beds off Fiji or Vanuatu may travel over 1,000 miles. They cross the western Pacific Ocean to return to tiny Rose Atoll (C), in American Samoa, where they were hatched. It is a wonder that sea turtles seem to remember where they were born and that they can find these places again.





Laumei Sami?

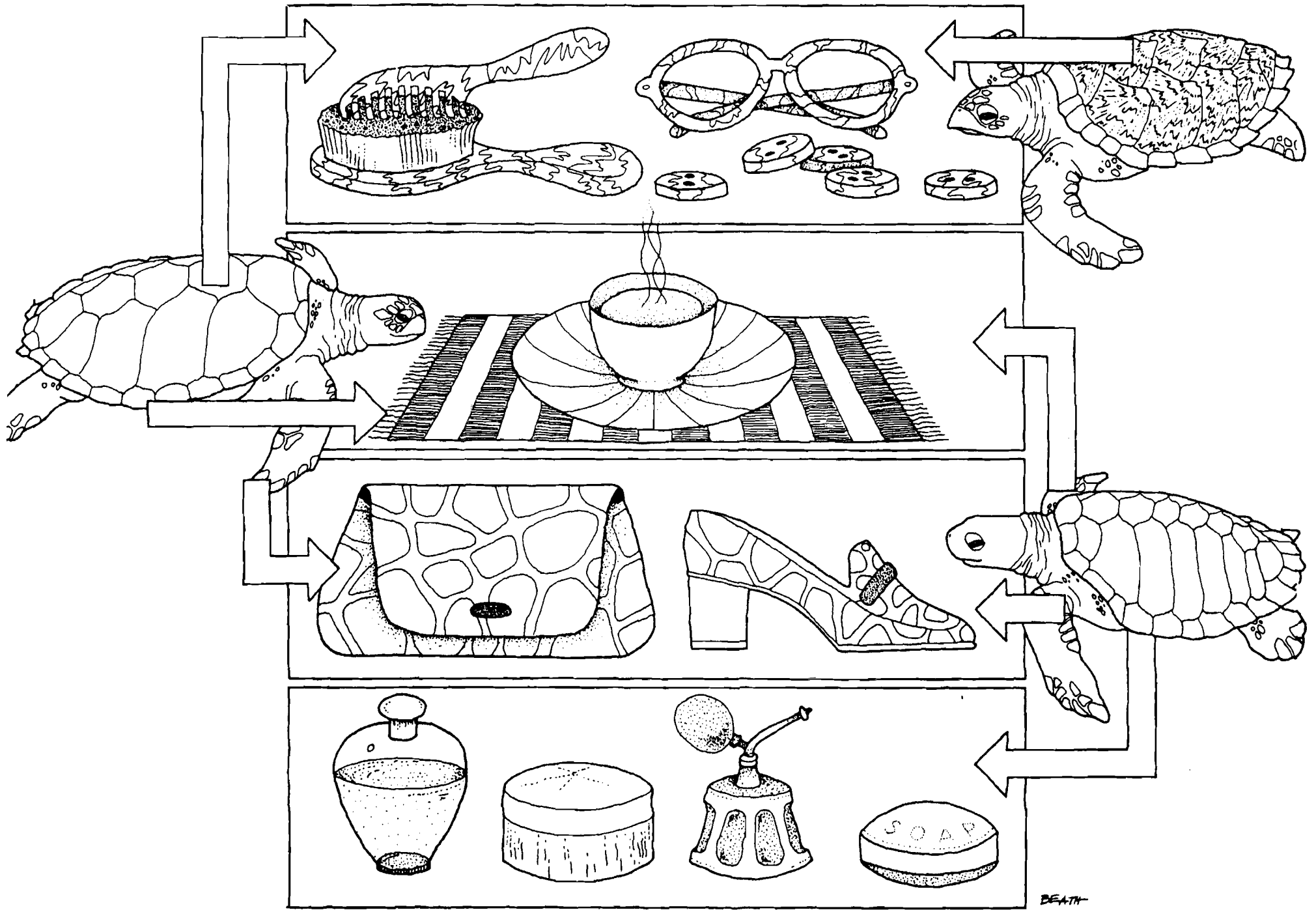
Po`o Mea e gaosia mai ai?

O lo`o faaiti`itia pea ma atonu e le toe pine ona leai lea o ni laumei sami. O le pogai o lenei faafitauli ona o le faa`aogaina e tagata le tele o laumei mo mea taumafa ae maise ona itutino e gaosia ai ituaiga mea `eseese. O le atigi o le laumei una ua fa`aaoga e fai ai selu, faamau, mea fai ulu ma isi lava teuteuga. O isi tagata ua faaaogaina tino o laumei e teuteu ai o latou fale. O laumei lanumeamata o lo`o faaumatia pea mo lona `aano ma fai ai supo laumei. O fusipa`u, seevae ma ato ta`ita`i ua faia lea mai le pa`u o le ua ma saga o isi laumei. Ua fa`aaoga foi le ga`o mai o latou tino e fai ai fasimoli ma kulimi mo foliga o tagata. E tele lava isi alananuia ma isi auala e mafai ona gaosia ai nei mea, ae peitai o lo`o fasia pea ma faaaoga a tatou laumei sami o lo`o totote. O le Unaite Setete ma isi malo e i ai Amerika Samoa ua i ai tulafono e faasa ai ona fasimatea pe faatamai`a ai laumei sami. A faapea e galulue faatasi uma malo o le lalolagi e puipuia laumei sami ona tumau lea ma olaola pea i latou.

Sea Turtles? Or Sea Products?

The sea turtle is disappearing. And once it is gone, it will be gone forever. One reason it is disappearing is because people use parts of turtles for food or to make different products. The hawksbill is prized for its shell to make tortoiseshell combs, brush handles, eyeglass frames, buttons, hair clips and jewelry. Hawksbill and green turtles are killed so they can be stuffed and hung on walls as decorations. Green turtles are slaughtered for their meat and to make turtle soup. The skin from the neck and flippers of greens and olive ridleys is made into leather for purses and shoes. Fat from turtle bodies is used in soaps and makeup creams. Instead of using other more plentiful resources for these products, the world's remaining sea turtles are killed. In the United States, American Samoa, and some other countries, it is now against the law to kill or harm a sea turtle. Maybe if more countries begin to protect sea turtles they will not disappear.





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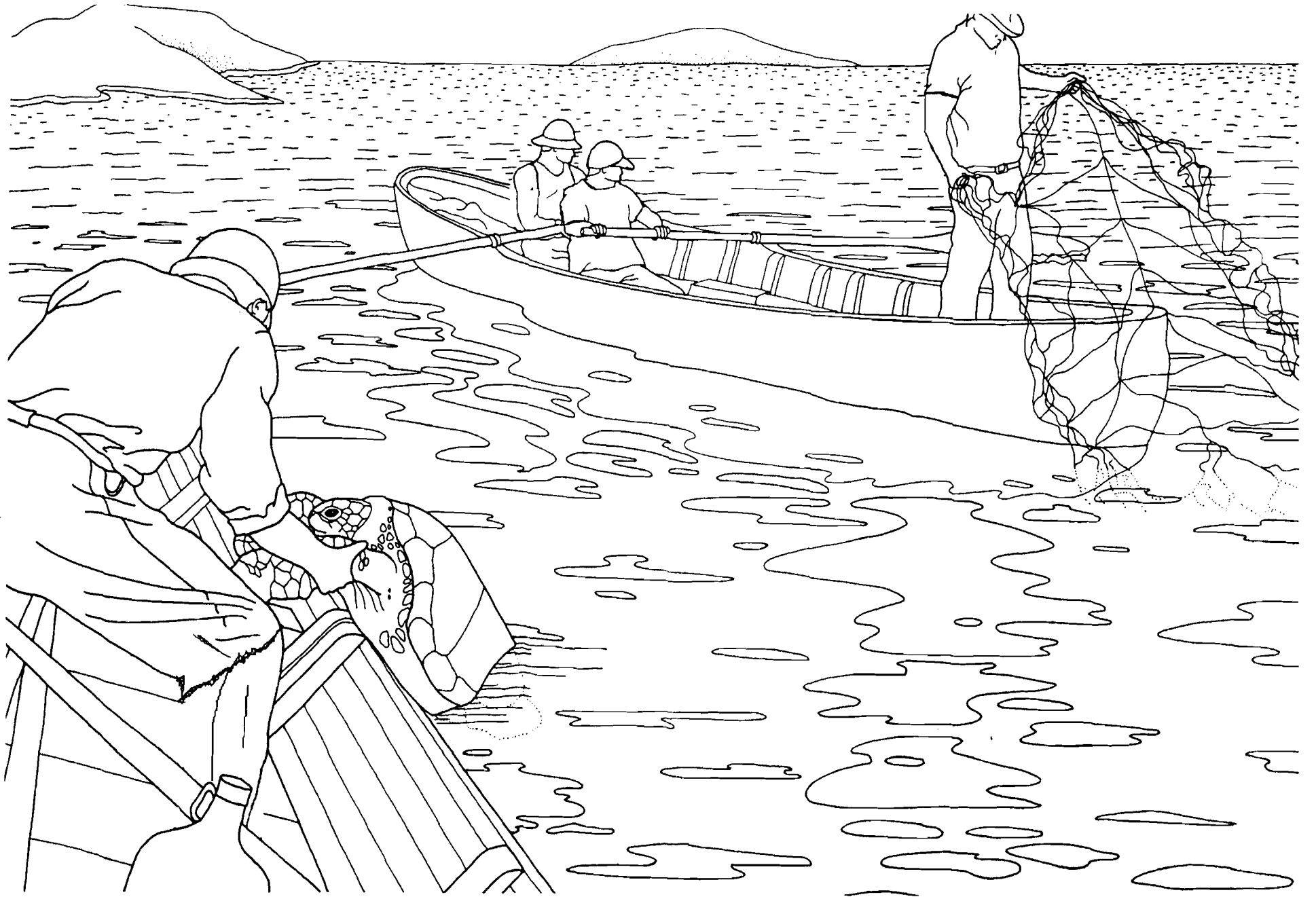
Pu`eina ma Fasia o laumei

O tagata e nonofo latalata i le matafaga e masani ona pu`eina ma faaaoga laumei o le sami e fafaga ai o latou aiga. O tautai na masani ona faaaoga tao fagota e fasia ai laumei ma ave e `ai. O isi taimi e o tamaloloa o le nu`u ma faaaoga upega e pu`e ai laumei i le taimi e o mai ai i luga e manava. Sa laititi le fuainumera o laumei na afaina i nei ituaiga fagotaga. Ae peitai sa faateleina pea le mana`omia o laumei mo mea`ai ma isi lava mea. Na mafai ona maua ai tupe i le fa`atauina atu o laumei, ae maise mea taulima na gaosia ai. Sa tele le manuia na maua mai i le fasiina ma fa`atau atu o laumei sami. Na atoa le selau ma selau laumei o le sami na fa`atama`ia e tagata tulimanu, e o`o lava i laumei o tau tu`ufua. Ma na fai ma mea ua fa`a`itiitia ai fuainumera o laumei sami, e o`o lava ina ua seasea ona toe maua. O le ala foi lea ua i ai nei tulafono e puipuia ai laumei sami ma ua le toe faatagaina ona toe fai ni fefa`ataua`iga i so`o se ituaiga mea e fai i laumei. E ui lava ua i ai tulafono, ae toatele lava tagata e leo usiusitai i ai.

Turtle Hunting

People who live near the shore have always hunted sea turtles to help feed their families. A fisherman might spear a sea turtle and take it home to eat. Groups of hunters netted sea turtles when they rose to breathe and brought them back to their villages for food. For years, when there were many sea turtles, such hunting seemed to have little affect on their numbers. But more and more turtles were hunted. Money could be made selling sea turtles. So hunters took hundreds of turtles in the sea and even on the land, when they were nesting. Fewer and fewer sea turtles were left until they were almost gone. Laws now protect sea turtles and forbid trade in turtle products. But not every country has these laws and not everyone obeys them.





Fa`amoemoega o Laumei Sami

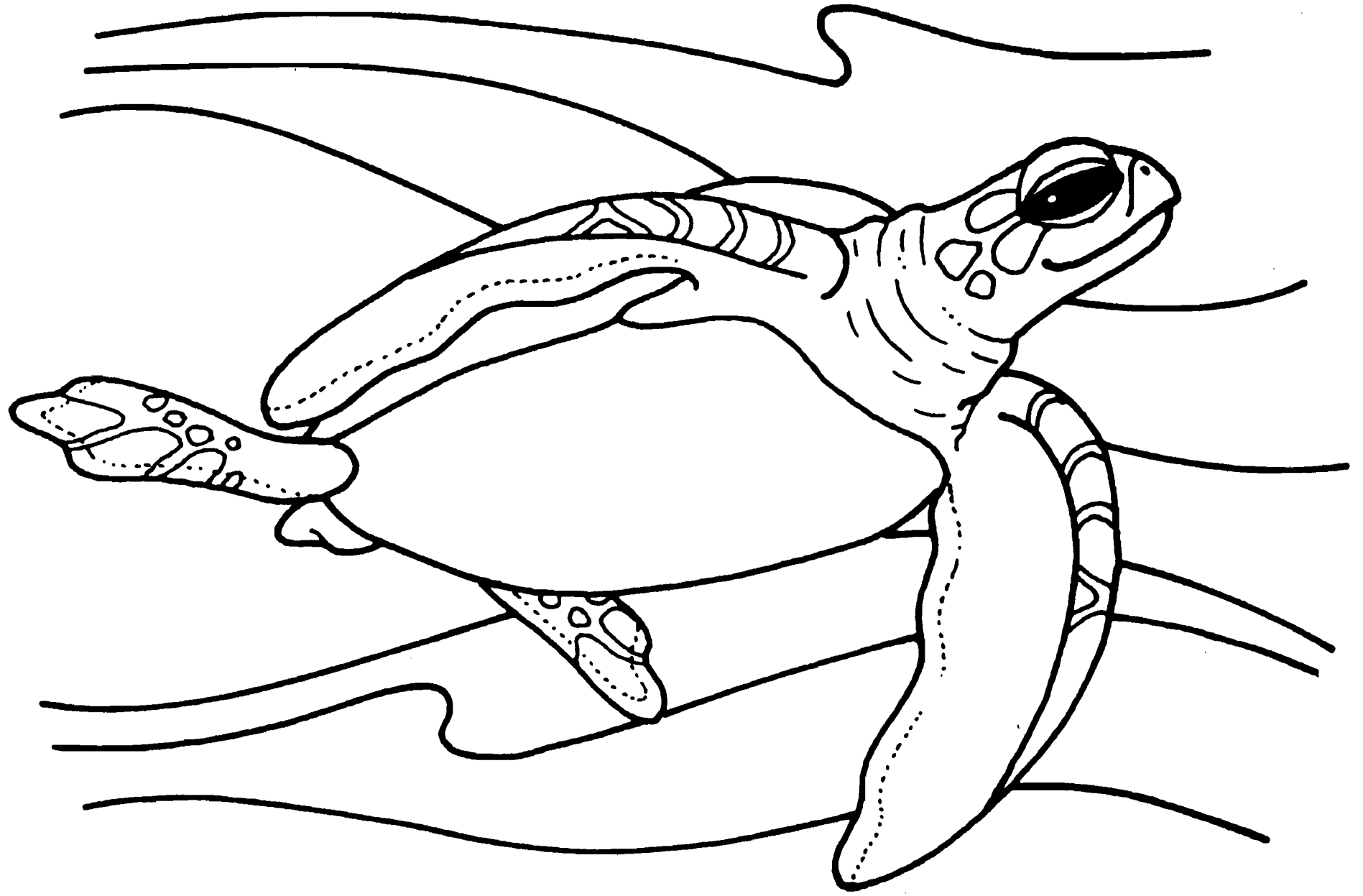
E mafai e tatou ona fa'asaoina laumei sami e ui ina feagai pea i latou ma le tele o faafitauli. Afai e galulue faatasi malo ma ona tagata e puipuia ma faasao laumei sami, o le a olaola pea i latou. O lo'o i ai foi tagata su'esu'e o lo'o vaai toto'a i faafitauli o manu ma meaola ua tau le maua ma ua toe`itiiti mou atu. I le Pasefika, e i ai fuafuaga o lo'o fai nei i laumei lanumeamata. I le tausaga 1993, e tolu laumei na vaaia i Rose Atoll, i Amerika Samoa o tu`ufua ai ma na mafai ai ona fa`apipi`i ai ni tama`i masini. O nei "turtle tags" ua mafai ai e alii su'esu'e ona iloa e ala i satellite le mea e o i ai nei laumei pe a uma ona tu`ufua. Na o le toatolu o laumei i Fiti ae tasi na o`o i Vanuatu. O le nofoaga lea o le a nonofo ai mo se vaitaimi umi e `aai ai ona toe foi mai lea i Rose e tu`ufua ai pe a fai e olaola pea i latou.

Afai e le toe pu`eina ma fasia e tatou laumei ma `ai ona fua, o le fesoasoani tele lea ile fa`asaoina o laumei sami. O laumei sami e silia atu i le 20 tausaga ona amata lea ona tu`ufua. Afai e fa`aola pea laumei sami e mafai ai ona tu`ufua i latou, o le fesoasoani sili lea e mafai ona fa`ateleina ai laumei mo tupulaga o aso o i luma.

Hope For the Sea Turtle

Sea Turtles can be saved in spite of all the dangers they face. If enough people care, if governments help, and if the efforts of conservationists succeed, sea turtles will live. Conservationists are people who study the problems of endangered animals, or plants, and try to solve them. The Pacific green turtle is the target of one important conservation experiment. In this project, female turtles are tagged with small electronic "turtle tags" and satellites in space track their movements for the next 3 or 4 months. In 1993, three female turtles were tagged at Rose Atoll in American Samoa. All three swam to Fiji. Another turtle went all the way to Vanuatu. They will spend the next few years there feeding on sea grass beds. Then these turtles will return to Rose Atoll to lay more eggs, if they are still alive. We Pacific islanders can help our sea turtle populations by stopping the hunting for eggs or adults. It can take more than 20 years for a sea turtle to begin laying eggs. If they are allowed to live so that they can mate and lay eggs for the next generations, there will be more turtles in the future.





The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary (FBNMS) thank the Center for Marine Conservation (CMC) for permission to modify its popular coloring book Sea Turtles for use in the Pacific. The drawings were created by Mary Beath; the original text was written by Francine Jacobs. Text and drawings were modified by Nancy Daschbach, FBNMS coordinator, and translated by Punipua Lagai, education coordinator for FBNMS. Cover art and tapa design are the work of American Samoan artist Sau Ueligitone.

Mary Beath has always been interested in both science and art. She received her B.A. degree in zoology from Duke University and later a B.F.A. from the Rhode Island School of Design. She is also a printmaker, using natural forms, rhythms, and colors in her abstract prints.

Francine Jacobs is the author of dozens of books for young readers including Sea Turtles (William Morrow & Co.). A former teacher, many of her books are on nature-science subjects. Ms. Jacobs grew up in a small, oceanside community on Long Island, New York, and the sea and its creatures have always fascinated her. She is an avid conservationist.



The Center for Marine Conservation was formed in 1972 as a private, non-profit organization to increase public awareness and understanding of the relationship between ourselves and our planet. In response to growing human population and demand for marine resources, the Center has become a leading advocate for the protection of the oceans and their wealth of life. The Center works to maintain biological diversity and the integrity of ocean ecosystems.

Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary is located on the island of Tutuila in American Samoa. FBNMS protects a small embayment that includes a thriving coral reef ecosystem. FBNMS operates through a cooperative agreement between the American Samoa Government's Economic Development Planning Office and NOAA.



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