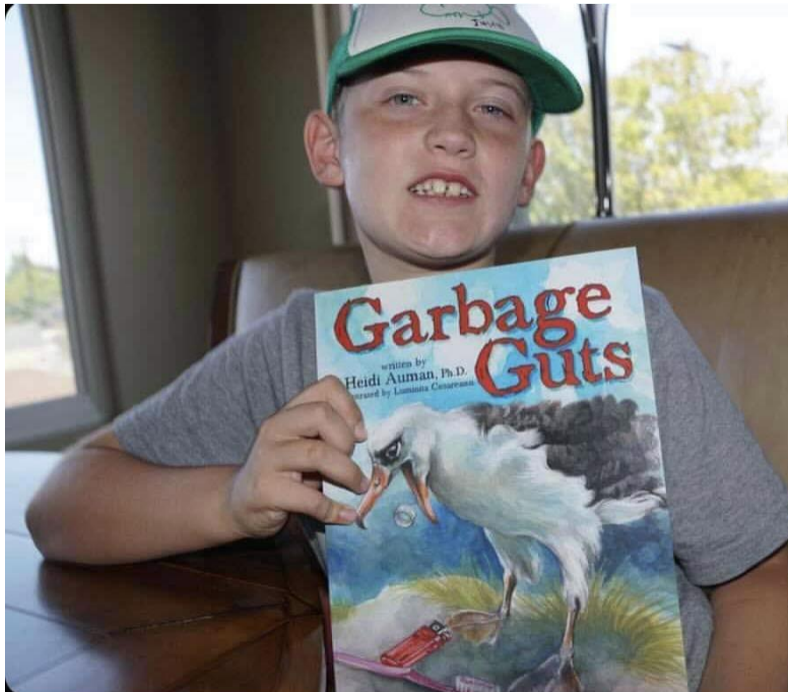


PARALLEL PROJECTS LESSON 2- GARBAGE GUTS

Teachers will get the book **Garbage Guts** to teach the impacts plastic pollution has on animals.



The author of *Garbage Guts*, Dr. Heidi Auman, studied human impacts on seabirds over twenty years. She did research on plastic ingestion and studied the effects of marine debris and contaminants on Laysan albatross. Heidi also studied plastic ingestion in subantarctic and Tasmanian seabirds and chemical pollutants in Great Lakes birds and she learned our ecological footprint has reached the farthest corners of the earth, often with disturbing consequences.

Heidi studied the amounts and effects of our garbage in their guts. Sadly, she found that over 97% of these birds contained marine debris (mainly plastic) and most of it could be measured in multiple handfuls.

Heidi is passionate about sharing her research discoveries from remote islands. Although she has published numerous scientific articles, she feels that few people other than academics will ever read these. As a world trailblazer on plastic ingestion in seabirds, she was compelled to write a book for a wider audience. Heidi hopes to send an important message aimed at younger readers who can champion solutions to this serious global issue.

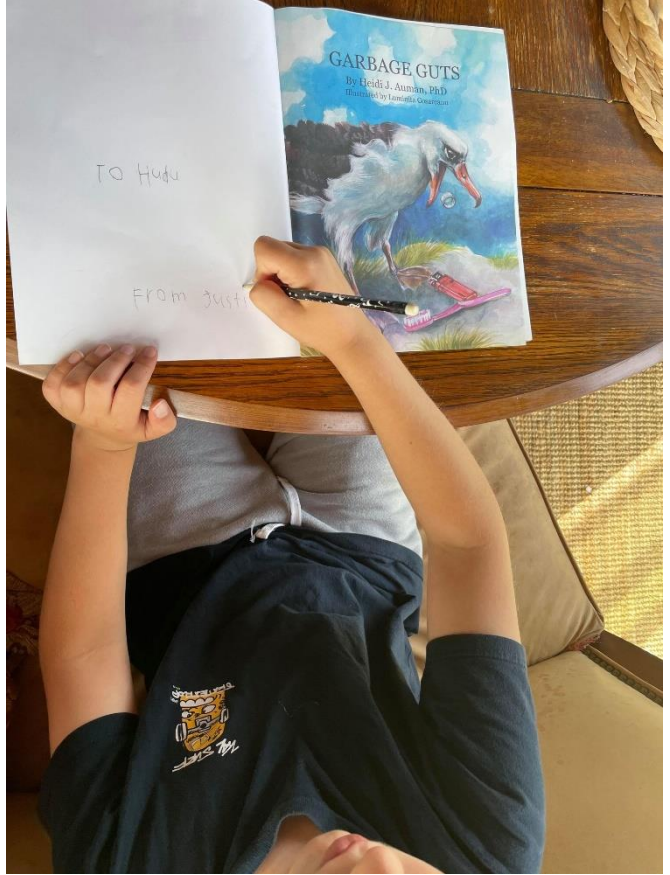
What are some things you learned from the story Garbage Guts?

Plastic Looks Like Food To Many Marine Animals

Ocean plastics are affecting yet unknown numbers of marine species. A recent study shows that at least forty percent of marine mammals and seabird species are affected by ingestion of inorganic plastics. Plastic waste kills up to one million seabirds, 100,000 sea mammals, marine turtles and countless fish each year. Plastic remains in our ecosystem for years, harming thousands of sea creatures every day (United Nations Marine Conference, 2017).

Plastic doesn't break down like other organic waste but turns into microplastics which is then easily mistaken by fish and invertebrates as plankton.

The consumption of plastics by fish, caught for food for humans, allows plastics to travel up our food chain.



FOR THE LOVE OF FROGS

1) Who is Justin Sather?

Justin is a little boy that is 10 year old and lives in the United States. He learned that frogs around the world are becoming endangered and going extinct. This made him sad because he really likes frogs.

Definition:

endangered-used to describe a type of animal or plant that has become very rare and that could die out completely

extinct - no longer in existence; lost or especially having died out leaving no living representatives;

2) Why are Frogs Going Extinct?

Justin found out that the frogs were dying because people were cutting down the rainforests where they lived and that pollution and chemicals getting into the water were making them sick.

Frogs breath and drink through their skin so they are sensitive to pollution. Chemicals that get into the water....then get into the frogs body and make them sick.

3) Frogs are Indicator Species.

If frogs are getting sick it is indicating that the planet is polluted. And if the frogs are getting sick it is an indication that the environment is not clean. This could means that people could be getting sick from pollution too.

4) Justin wants you to take care of the planet for the frogs and your favorite animal. And think of ways we can help.

He wants you to promise that you will take care of the planet for animals and people for the next generations. Together we can make a healthier world. See Lesson 3.