

Forward

This storybook was created by the Outer Banks Coastal Conservation (OBCC), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to foster environmental stewardship and a deeper connection to the Outer Banks of North Carolina through outreach, education, and conservation efforts.

We believe that small stories can spark big change. That is why we have made this book available as a free resource for parents, teachers, and community members.

All materials in this book may be freely downloaded, shared, printed and used for educational or nonprofit purposes.

To learn more, access additional resources at: www.theobcc.org.



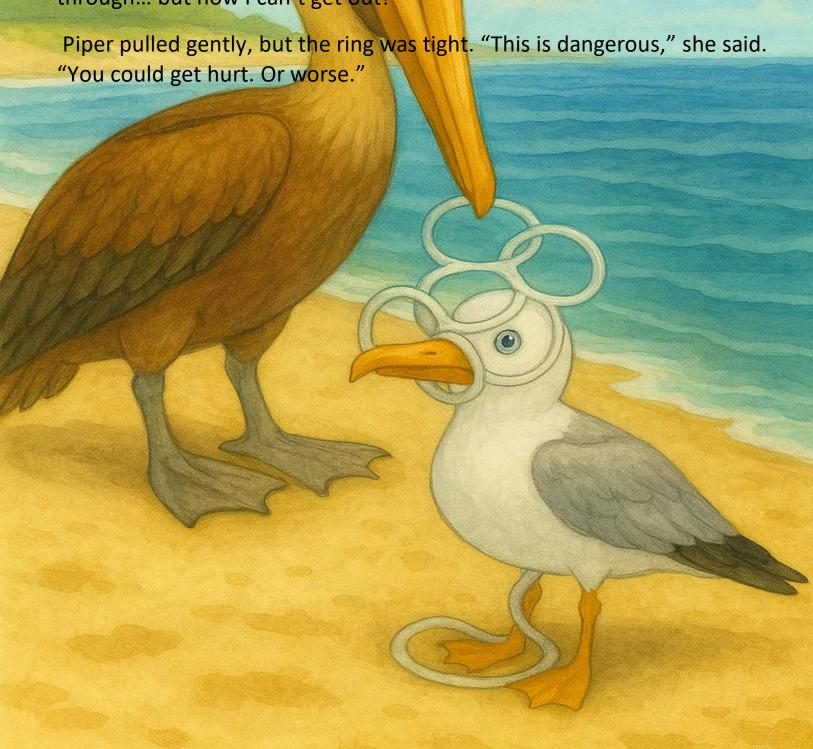
On a sunny afternoon by the shore, Piper the pelican soared high over the waves. She loved gliding on the wind and diving for fish.

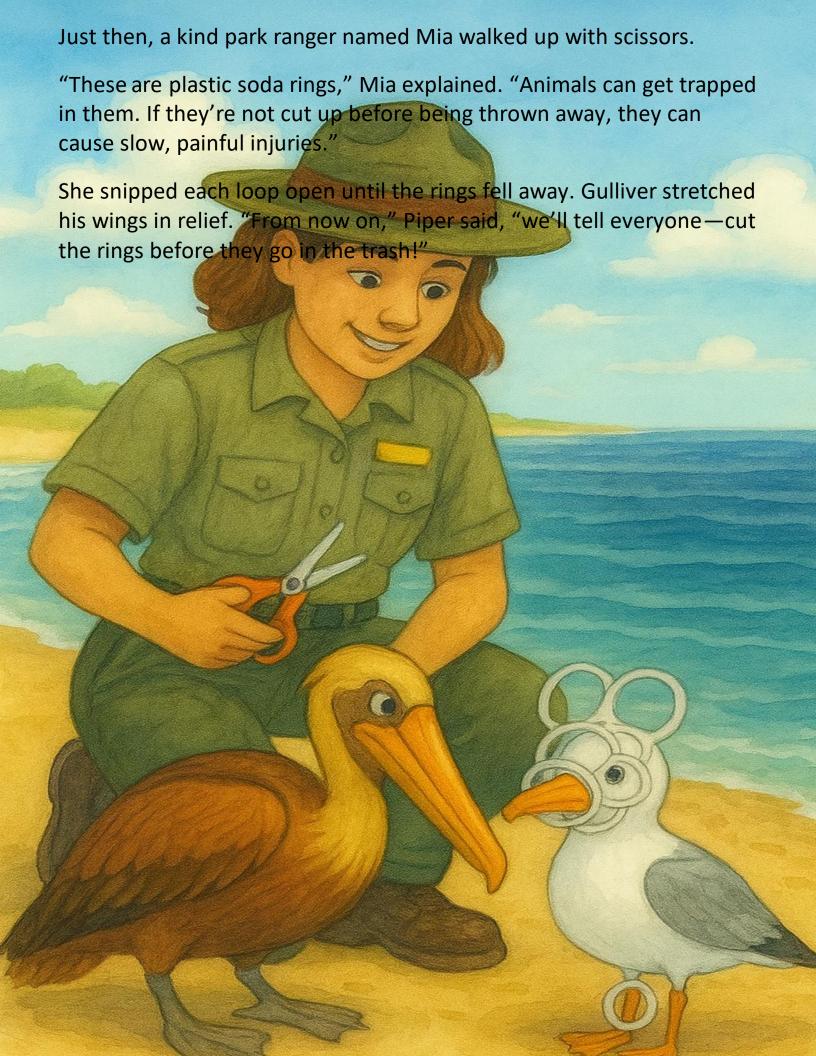
But today, something strange caught her eye.

"Help! Over here!" squawked her friend Gulliver the gull.

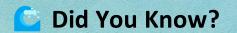
Piper landed on the sand. Gulliver's head was stuck inside a strange plastic loop—it looked like a chain of rings.

"I found it floating in the water," Gulliver said, "and poked my head through... but now I can't get out!"





That afternoon, they put up a bright sign: "Cut the Rings - Save a Wing!" And from then on, everyone at the shore made sure no animal would be trapped again. CUT THE RINGS-SAVE A WING!



Plastic soda rings—the loops that hold cans together—can be very dangerous for wildlife.

Birds crabs, sea turtles, and even fish can get their heads, beaks, or flippers stuck in the rings. Once trapped, they can't move or eat properly.

Scientists estimate that thousands of animals around the world are hurt or die each year because of plastic soda rings and other looped litter.

The good news?

Before you throw them away, cut every ring so no animal can get caught.

Snip, snip—and you've just saved a life!