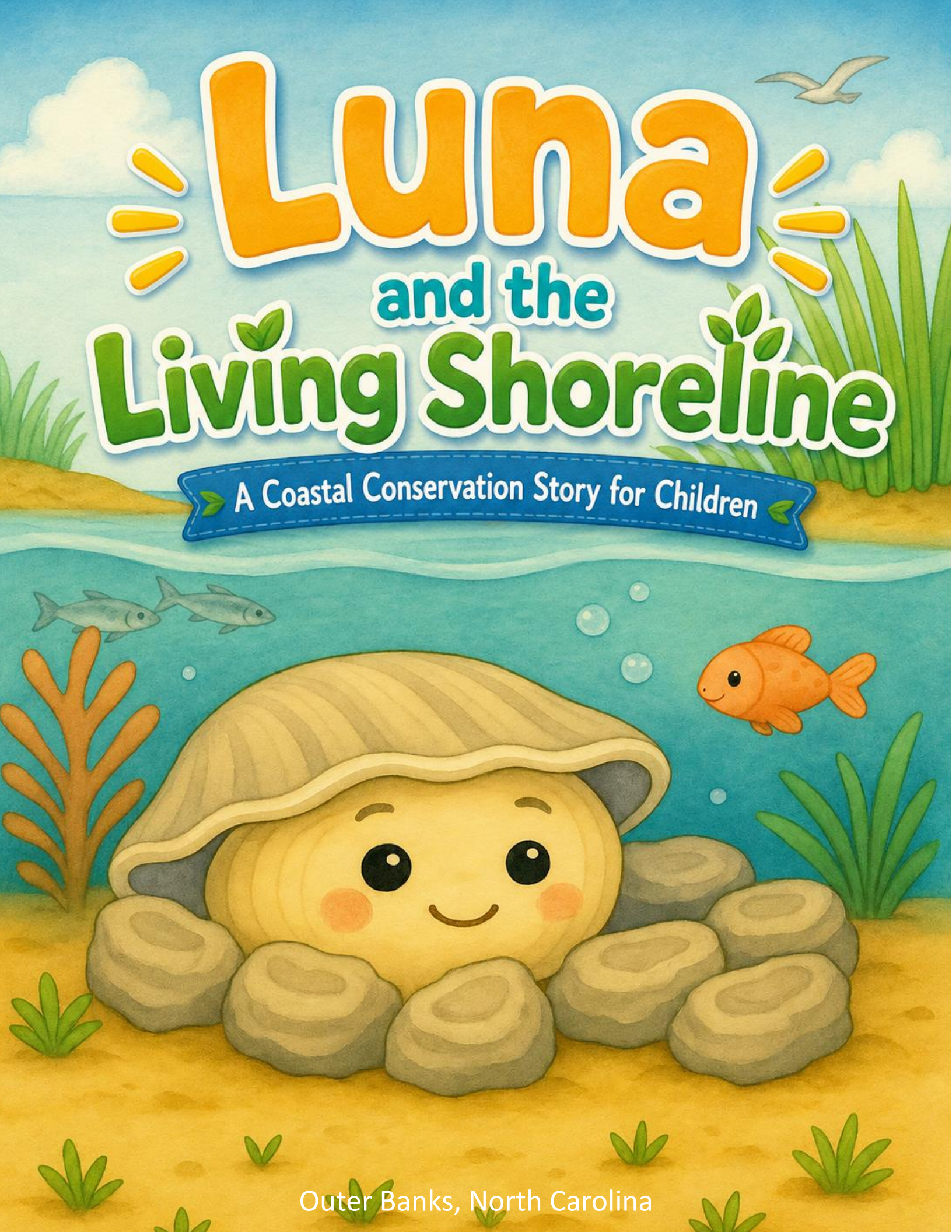


The book cover features a vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a coastal scene. At the top, the title 'Luna and the Living Shoreline' is written in large, playful, rounded letters. 'Luna' is orange with a white outline and radiating lines, while 'and the' is in smaller blue letters, and 'Living Shoreline' is green with a white outline and small leaf accents. Below the title, a blue banner with a dashed border contains the subtitle 'A Coastal Conservation Story for Children' in white text, flanked by green leaf icons. The background shows a blue sky with a white cloud and a seagull, a sandy beach with green grass, and a body of water. In the water, there are two grey fish, an orange fish, bubbles, and green seaweed. On the sandy bottom, there is a large, smiling clam with a yellow face, orange cheeks, and a brown shell, surrounded by several grey rocks and small green plants.

Luna and the Living Shoreline

➤ A Coastal Conservation Story for Children ➤

Outer Banks, North Carolina

Luna and the Living Shoreline: A Coastal Conservation Story for Children

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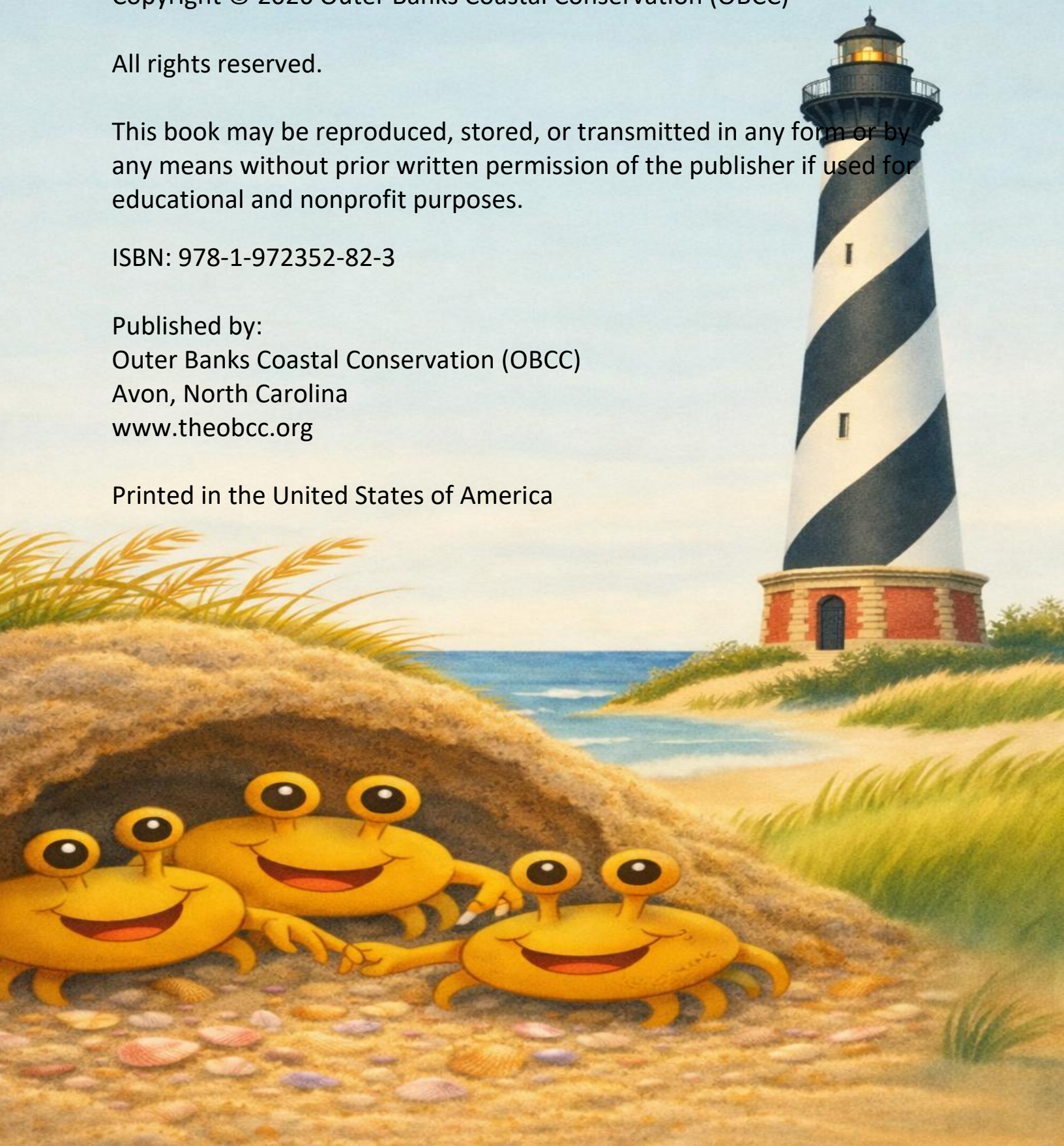
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About This Book

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 the breezy shores of the Outer Banks, North Carolina, lived a curious little clam named Luna. She loved peeking out of the soft sand to watch the waves roll in and the ghost crabs do their silly sideways dance.



But lately, Luna noticed something strange.

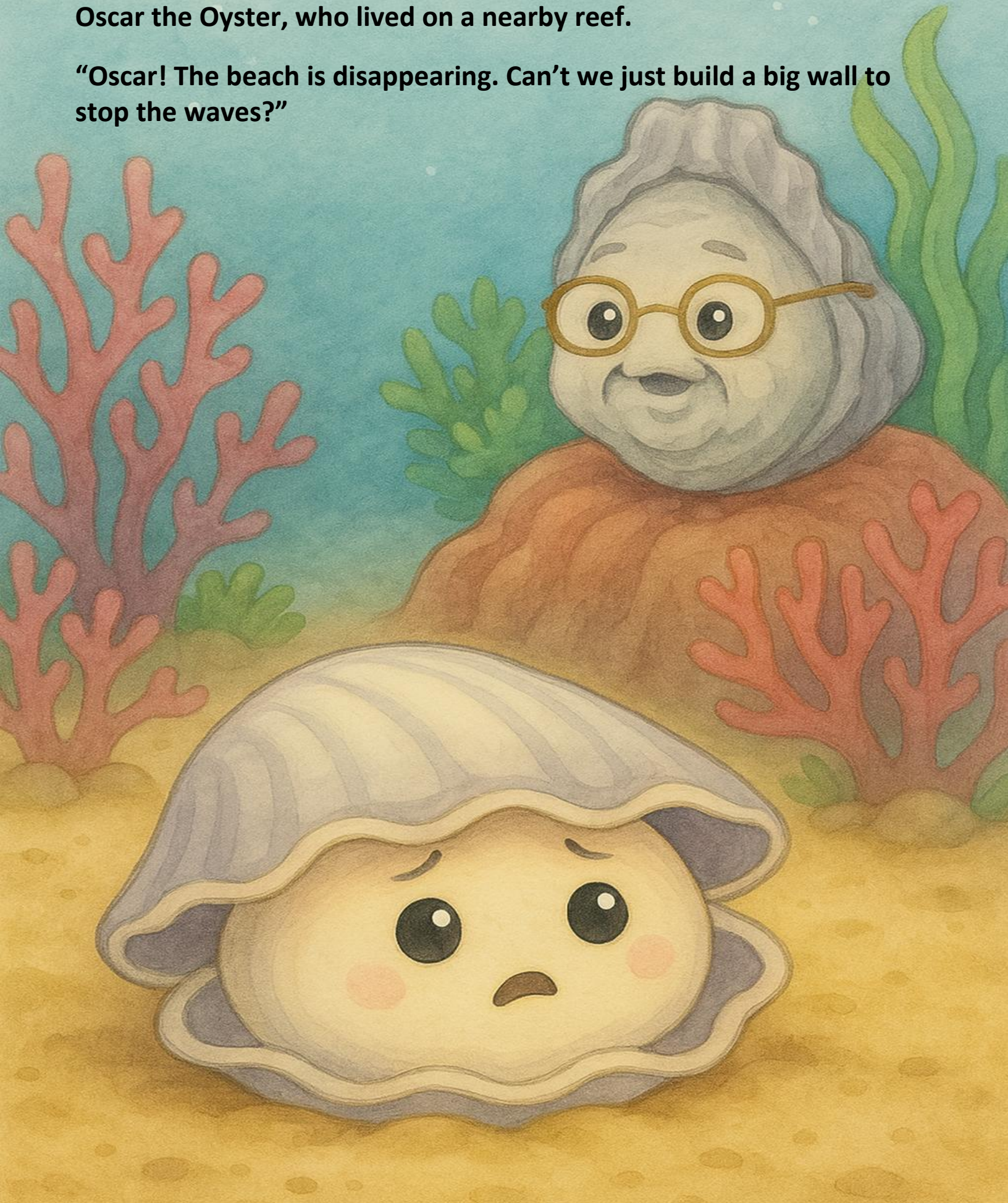
The waves were stronger... and the shoreline was shrinking!

“Oh no,” Luna said, “If this keeps up, we’ll all be washed away!”



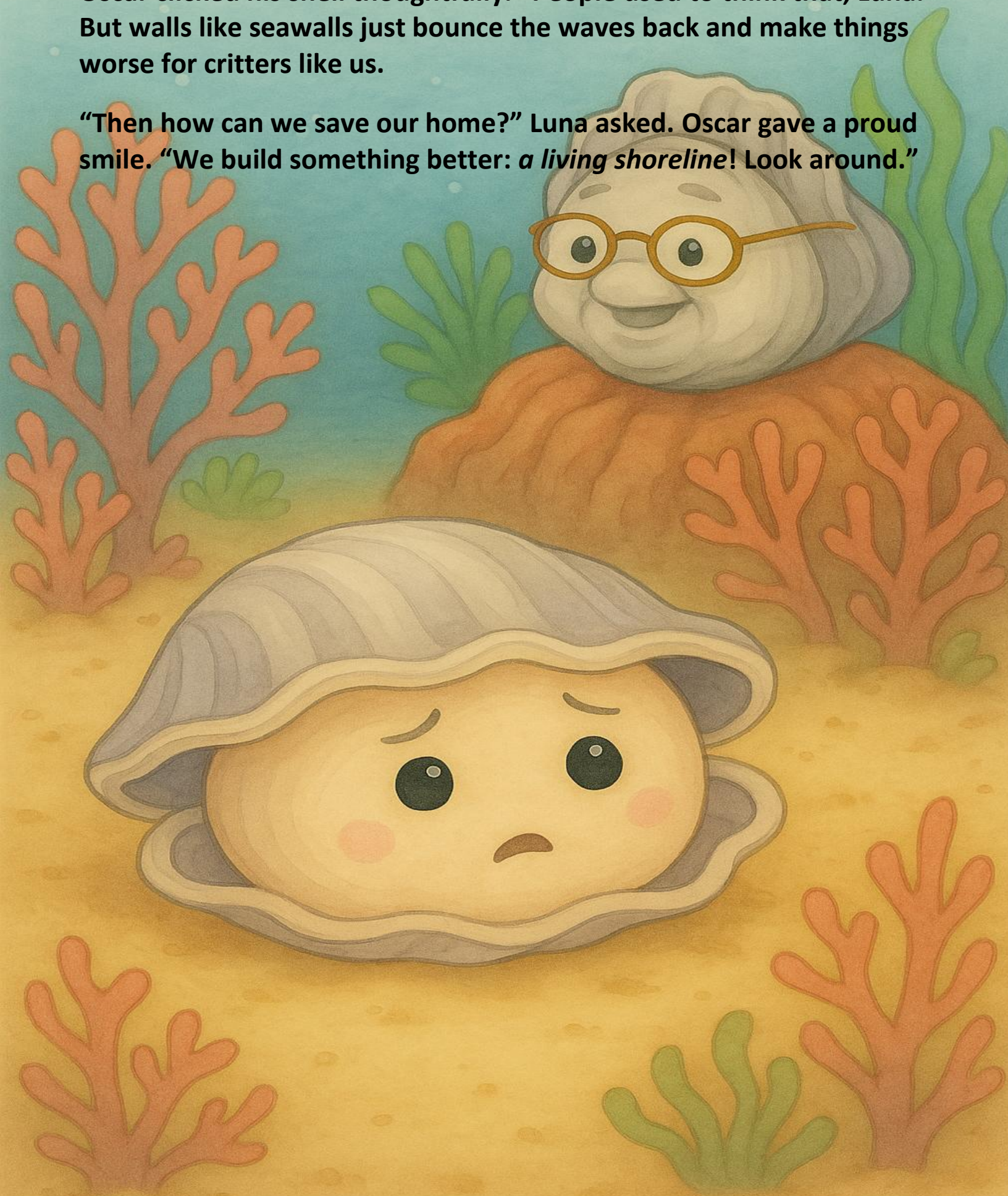
She scuttled (as fast as a clam can) to visit her wise old friend, Oscar the Oyster, who lived on a nearby reef.

“Oscar! The beach is disappearing. Can’t we just build a big wall to stop the waves?”



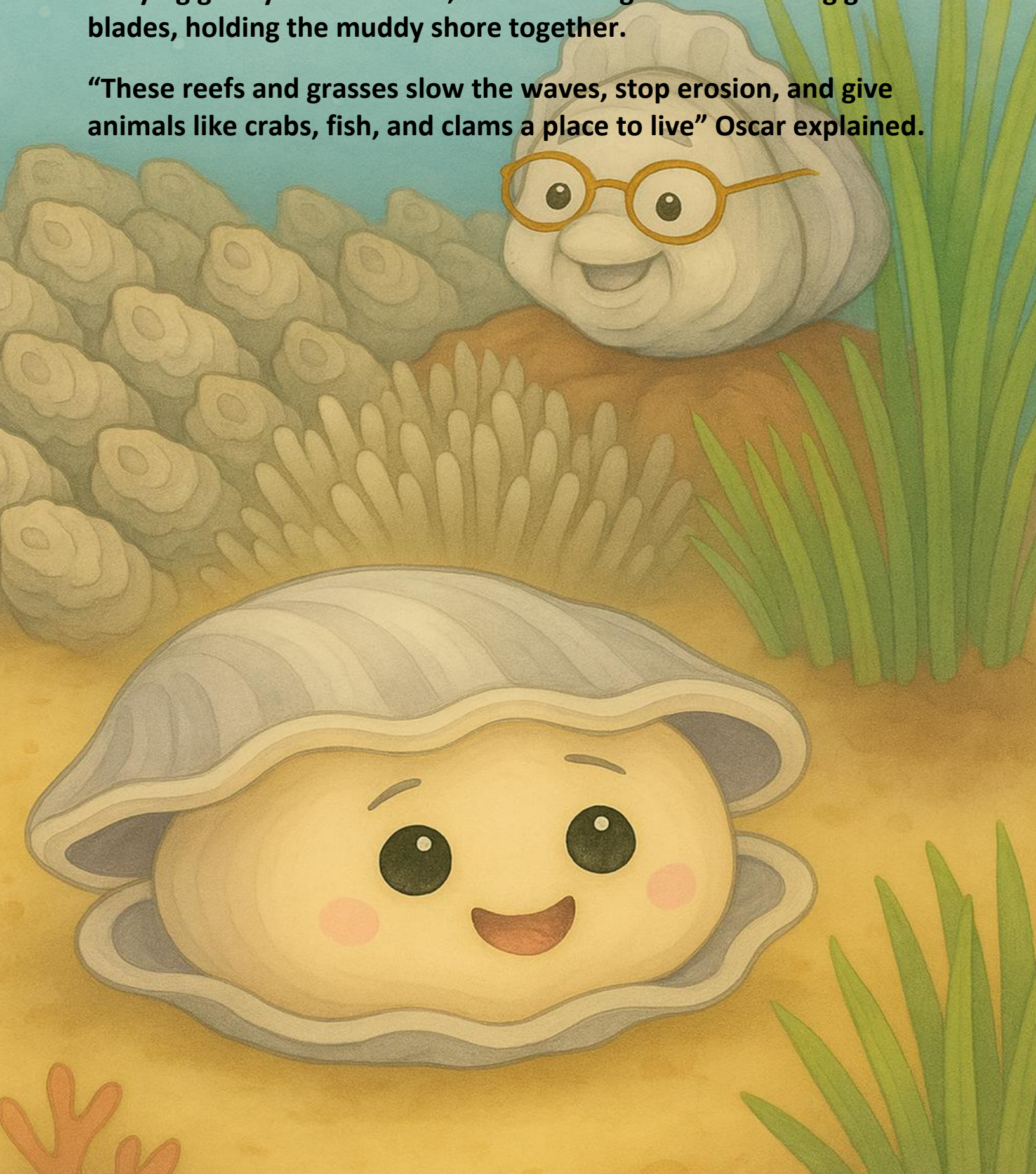
Oscar clicked his shell thoughtfully. "People used to think that, Luna. But walls like seawalls just bounce the waves back and make things worse for critters like us.

"Then how can we save our home?" Luna asked. Oscar gave a proud smile. "We build something better: *a living shoreline!* Look around."



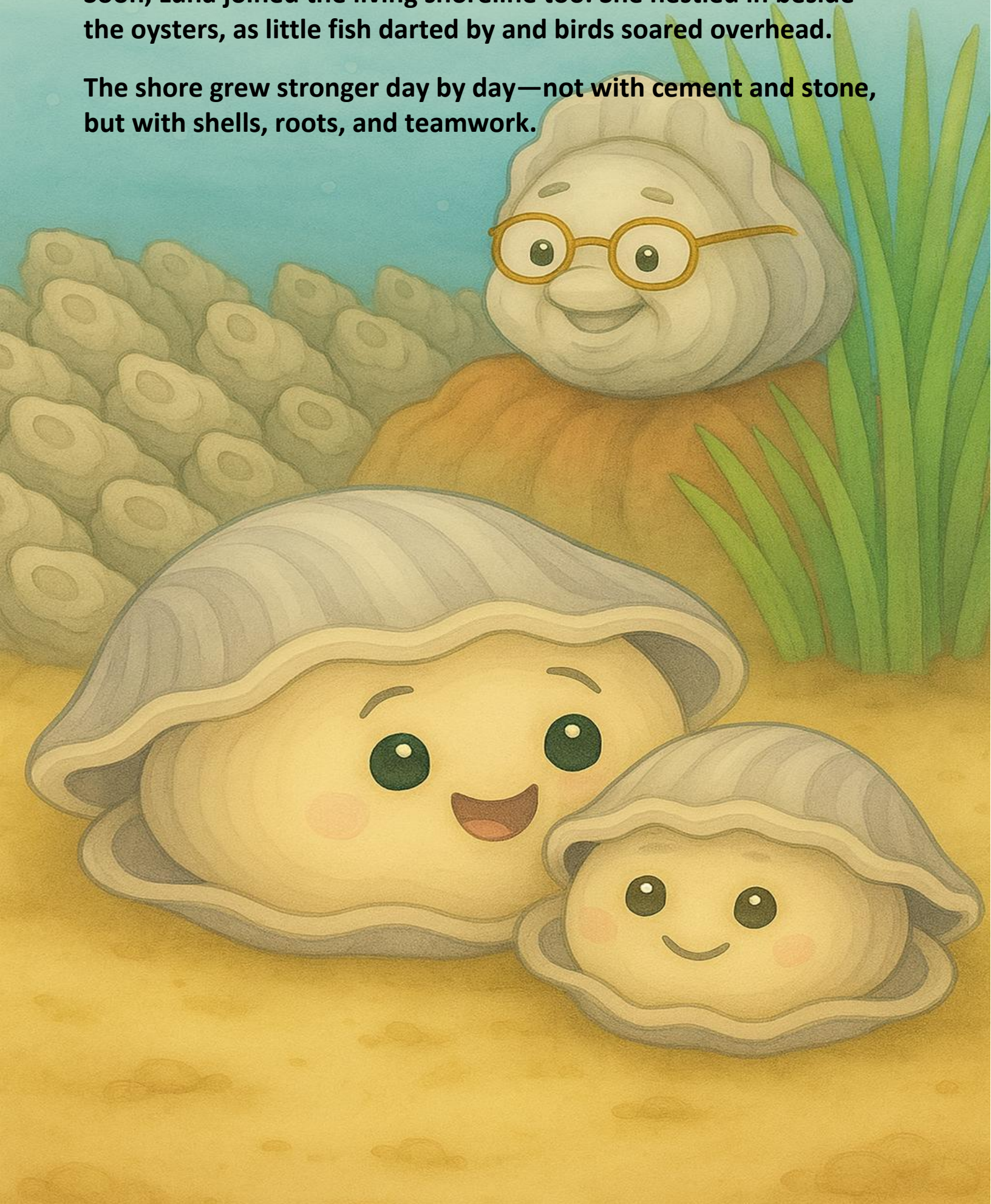
Luna looked and gasped. There were rows of oysters like Oscar, rooted in place, forming a strong, natural barrier. Behind them, swaying gently in the breeze, were marsh grasses with long green blades, holding the muddy shore together.

“These reefs and grasses slow the waves, stop erosion, and give animals like crabs, fish, and clams a place to live” Oscar explained.



Soon, Luna joined the living shoreline too. She nestled in beside the oysters, as little fish darted by and birds soared overhead.

The shore grew stronger day by day—not with cement and stone, but with shells, roots, and teamwork.



And from that day on, Luna told every sea creature she met:

“We don’t need walls. We build with life.”



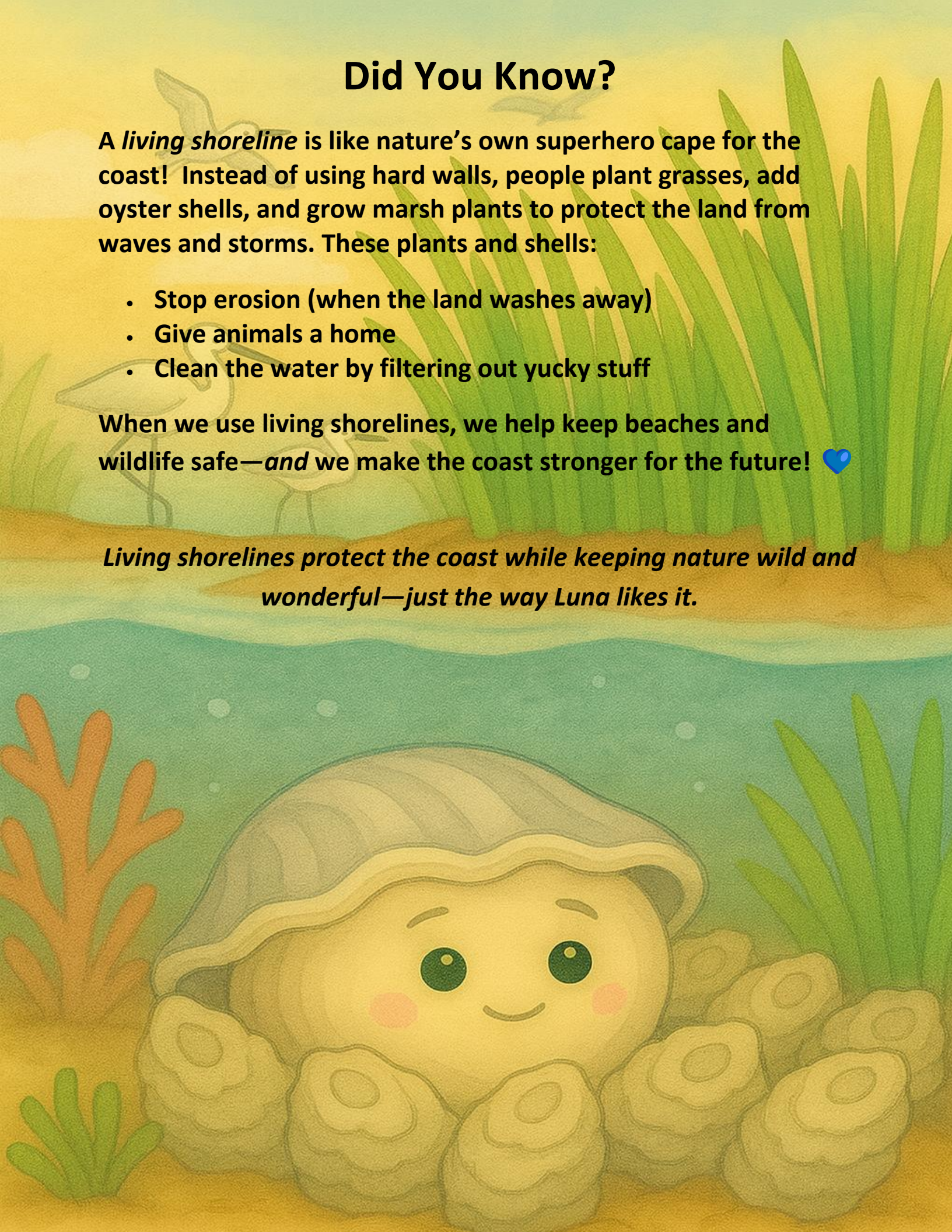
Did You Know?

A living shoreline is like nature's own superhero cape for the coast! Instead of using hard walls, people plant grasses, add oyster shells, and grow marsh plants to protect the land from waves and storms. These plants and shells:

- Stop erosion (when the land washes away)
- Give animals a home
- Clean the water by filtering out yucky stuff

When we use living shorelines, we help keep beaches and wildlife safe—*and* we make the coast stronger for the future! 💙

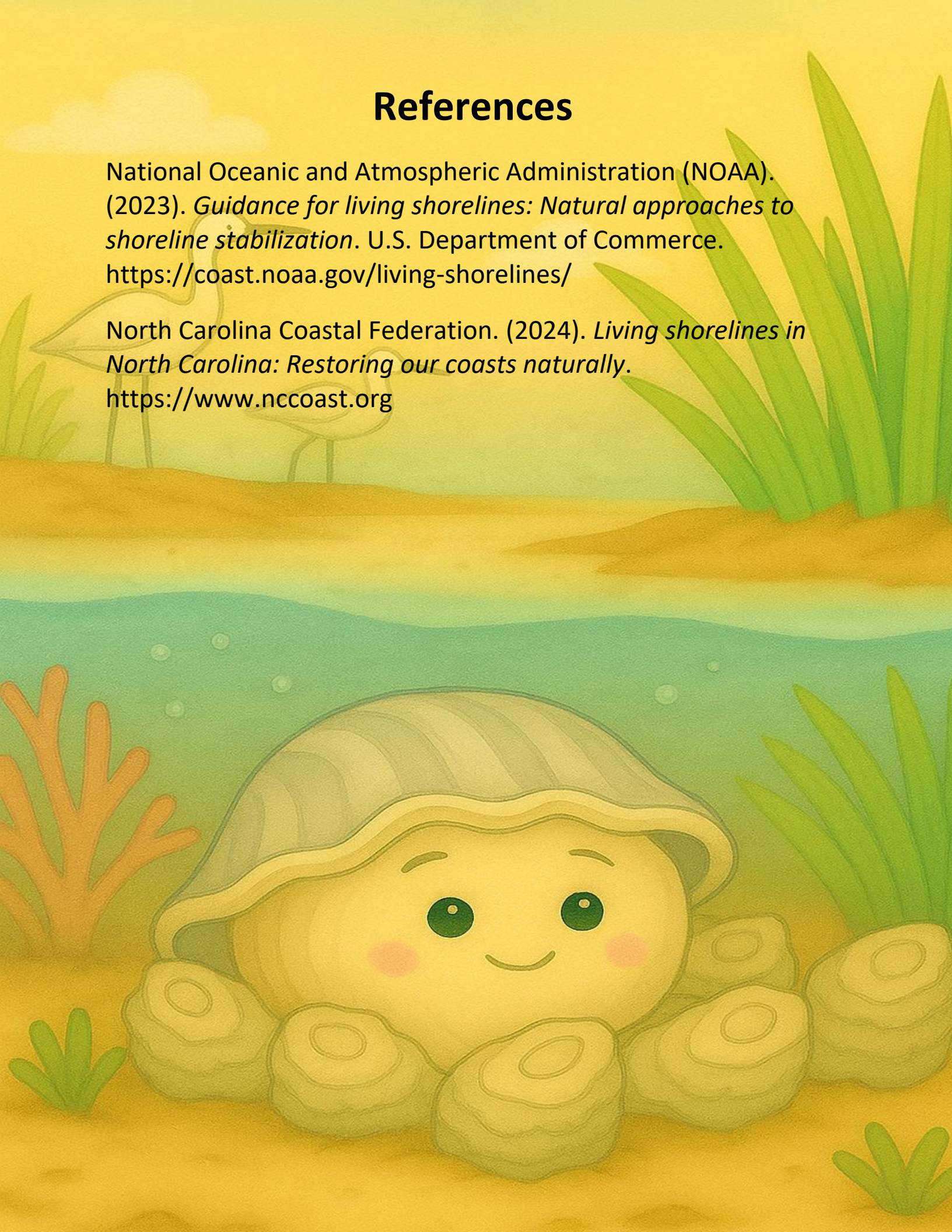
Living shorelines protect the coast while keeping nature wild and wonderful—just the way Luna likes it.



References

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). (2023). *Guidance for living shorelines: Natural approaches to shoreline stabilization*. U.S. Department of Commerce. <https://coast.noaa.gov/living-shorelines/>

North Carolina Coastal Federation. (2024). *Living shorelines in North Carolina: Restoring our coasts naturally*. <https://www.nccoast.org>



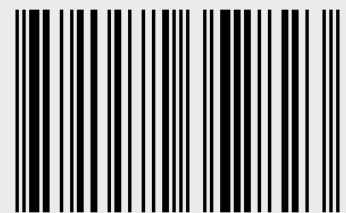
Luna and the Living Shoreline: A Coastal Conservation Story for Children

tells the story of a young clam named Luna who notices that waves are washing away her shoreline home. Worried, she asks her friend Oscar the Oyster for help. Oscar teaches her that instead of building seawalls, people can create living shorelines using oyster reefs and marsh grasses. These natural barriers reduce erosion, protect wildlife, and keep the coast healthy. Luna learns that working with nature is the best way to protect the shoreline and shares this lesson with others.

About the Publisher

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