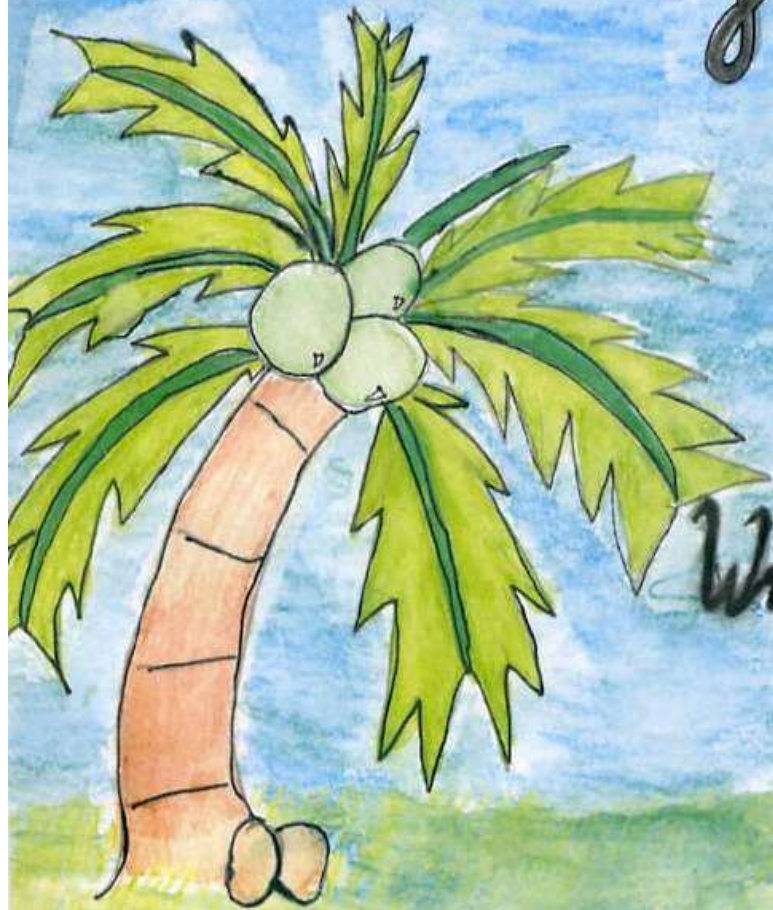


Effects of Climate Change on Cocos CK Islands



Written and Illustrated
by Year 3/4
Home Island

LOCATION

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands are located in the middle of the Indian Ocean some 2750km north-west of Perth, and 900km west south-west of Christmas Island, its closest neighbour. Cocos lies approximately 12° south and 96.5° east, locating the islands in the humid tropical zone.



GEOLOGY

Almost all isolated oceanic islands sit atop the remains of ancient volcanoes. The Cocos (Keeling) Islands are two coral atolls which have developed on top of old volcanic seamounts, rising from the depth of 5000 metres in the north east Indian Ocean.

The islands' foundations are two of a series of undersea features known as the Vening Meinsz Seamounts. This undersea range of mountains also includes Christmas Island and extends in a north north-easterly direction from a prominent Indian Ocean sea floor feature known as the Ninetyeast Ridge. The Cocos atolls are two peaks in a section of the range known as the Cocos Rise and are connected by a narrow underwater bank at a depth of 700-800 metres.

Atolls are more or less circular coral reefs enclosing a lagoon, but without any land inside. On large atolls, parts of the reef have been built up by wave action and wind to form low island chains connected by the reef. The environmental aspects of atoll islands are unique in some respects. For example there is no rock other than coral limestone composed of calcium carbonate. This means that plants requiring other minerals such as silica, can not be cultivated without the aid of fertilisers or some outside source of rock from a larger island composed of volcanic or other igneous rock. The palm tree is native to atoll islands because it thrives on brackish water and the seed, or nut, is distributed widely by floating from one island to another.



Before

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

After



Cocos Island is surrounded by beautiful white beaches.



The sea level rises and washes the white sand away. Grey hard rock is left. The coconut trees are washed away.

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

Before



The coral on the reef is healthy. There are many different types of coral growing. Many fish are living in the coral.

After



The water is hotter and the coral is dying. The small fish are dying. So the big fish have no food. They die too.

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

Before



Cocos Island is a ring of 27 Islands. They are low to the sea. They have beautiful beaches and many coconut trees.

After



The sea level rises and starts to cover some of the small Islands. The plant and bird life die. Only one Island is left.

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

Before



The lagoon is beautiful. The water is sparkling blue and clear. You can see all the beautiful fish.

After



The temperature of the lagoon has got hotter. Algae are growing everywhere. The fish are dying. The lagoon is slimy green.

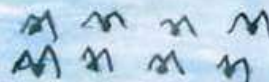
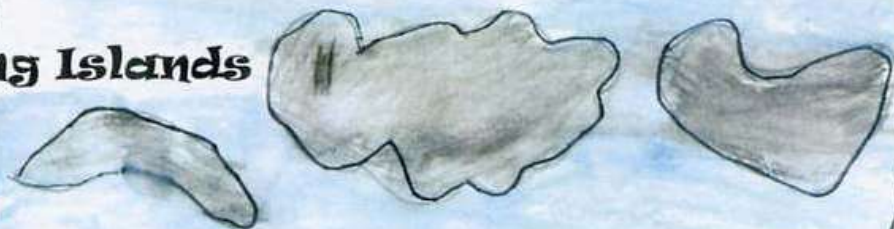
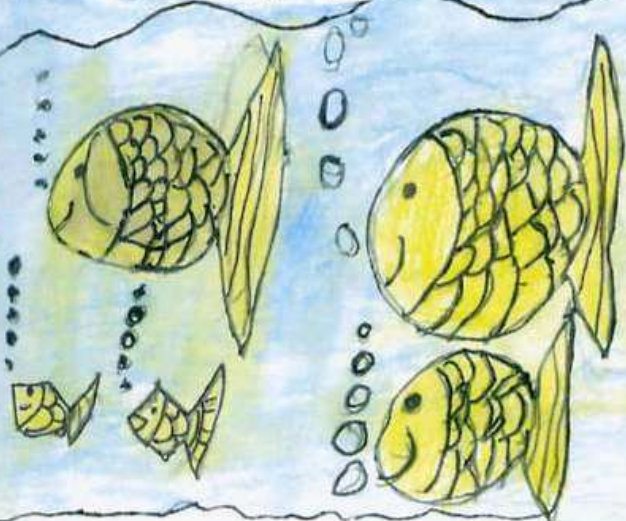
Before

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

After



Our lagoon is healthy. There are many small fish and big fish living there.



The sea temperature has got hotter. It has killed all the little fish. The big fish have no food. They are dying.



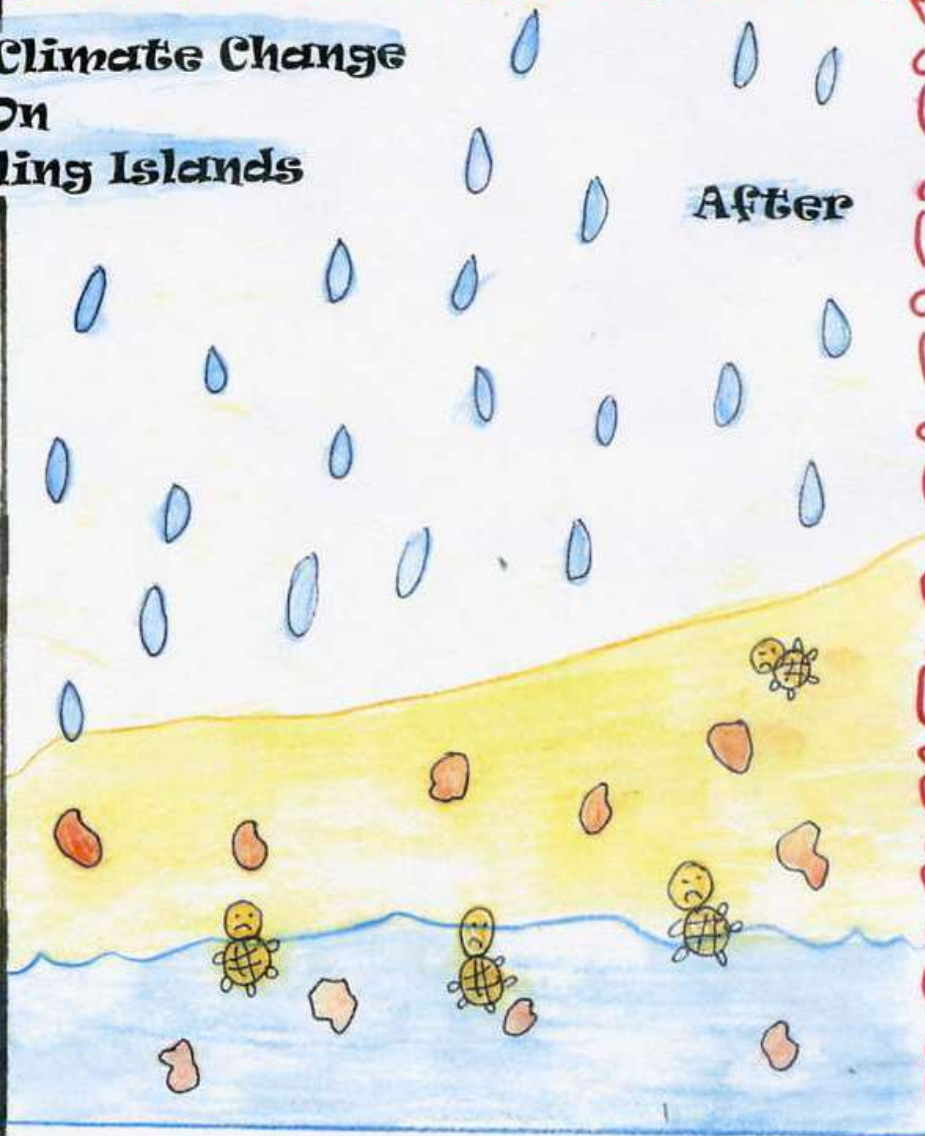
Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

Before



It is very good for the turtles on Cocos Islands. There are many beaches to lay eggs. The sea is a beautiful blue.

After



The sea and land temperature is hotter. The turtle's eggs cannot hatch. The baby turtles cannot live in the hot water.



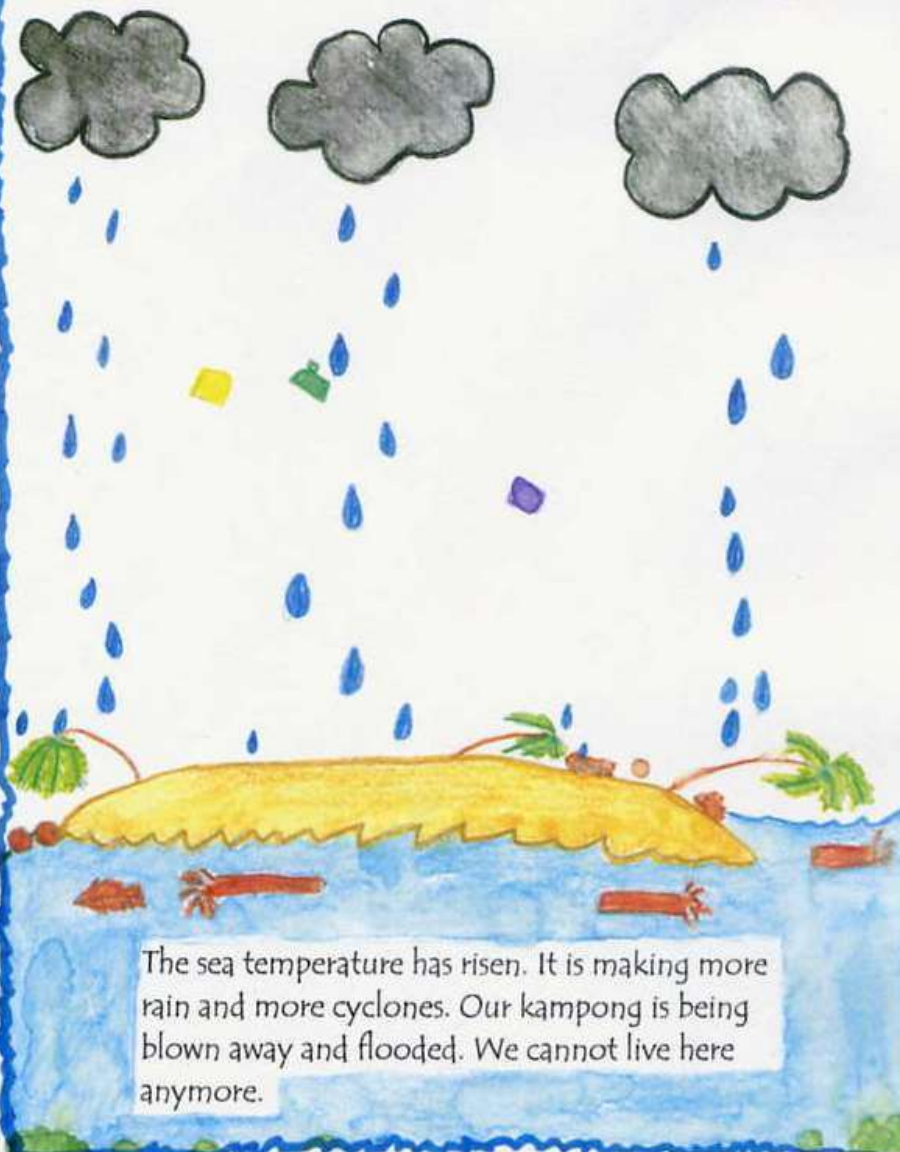
Before

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands



It is beautiful on Cocos Island. We have one cyclone a year. It is not very strong. We get a lot of rain. The coconuts grow strong and our kampong has lovely houses.

After



The sea temperature has risen. It is making more rain and more cyclones. Our kampong is being blown away and flooded. We cannot live here anymore.

Before

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

After



Cocos Island is a beautiful place. Our kampong has many houses and is next to the lagoon shore.



The water level in the lagoon has risen. It is flooding the kampong. We must move our kampong or build new houses on stilts.

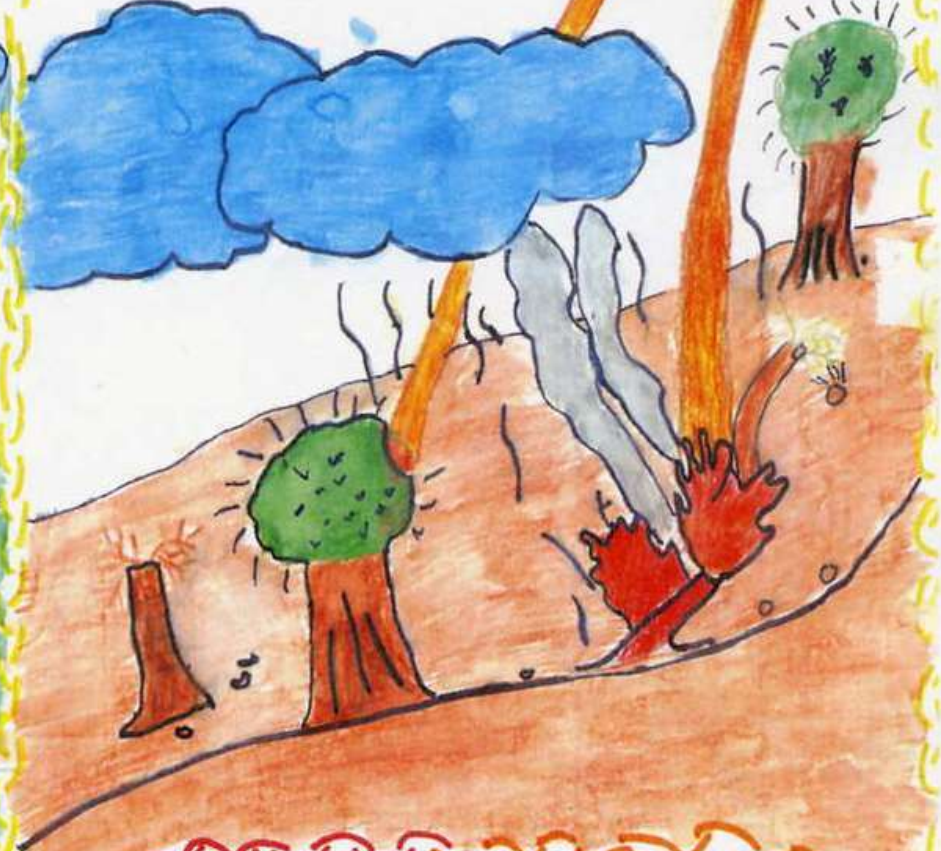
Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

Before



Cocos Island is beautiful. There are coconut trees everywhere. The plants are healthy growing in the tropical sun.

After



The earth's temperature is hotter. The plants are dying and the island is being ruined.

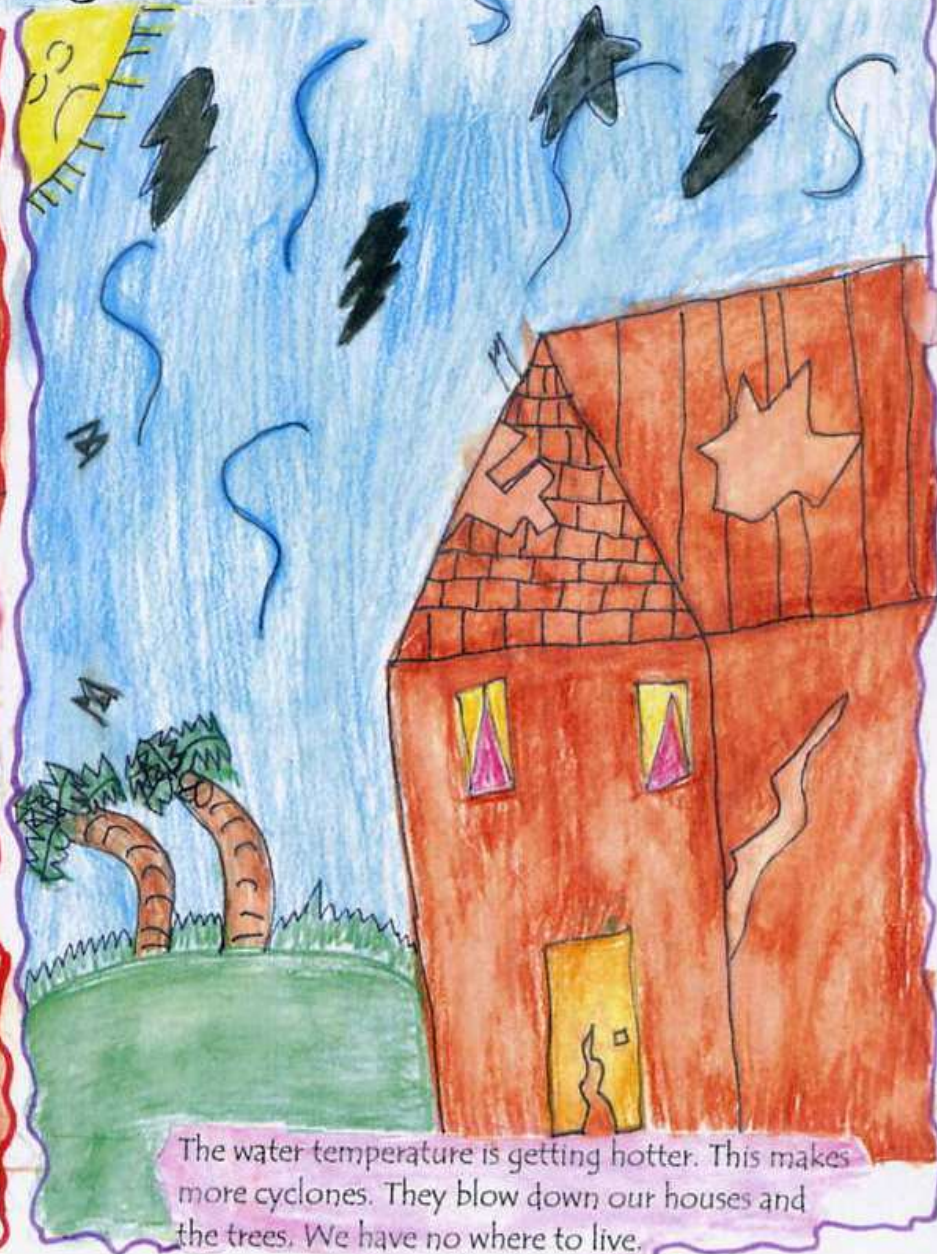
Before

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

After



Cocos Islands are beautiful. We have lovely weather and beautiful houses. We live together happily.



The water temperature is getting hotter. This makes more cyclones. They blow down our houses and the trees. We have no where to live.

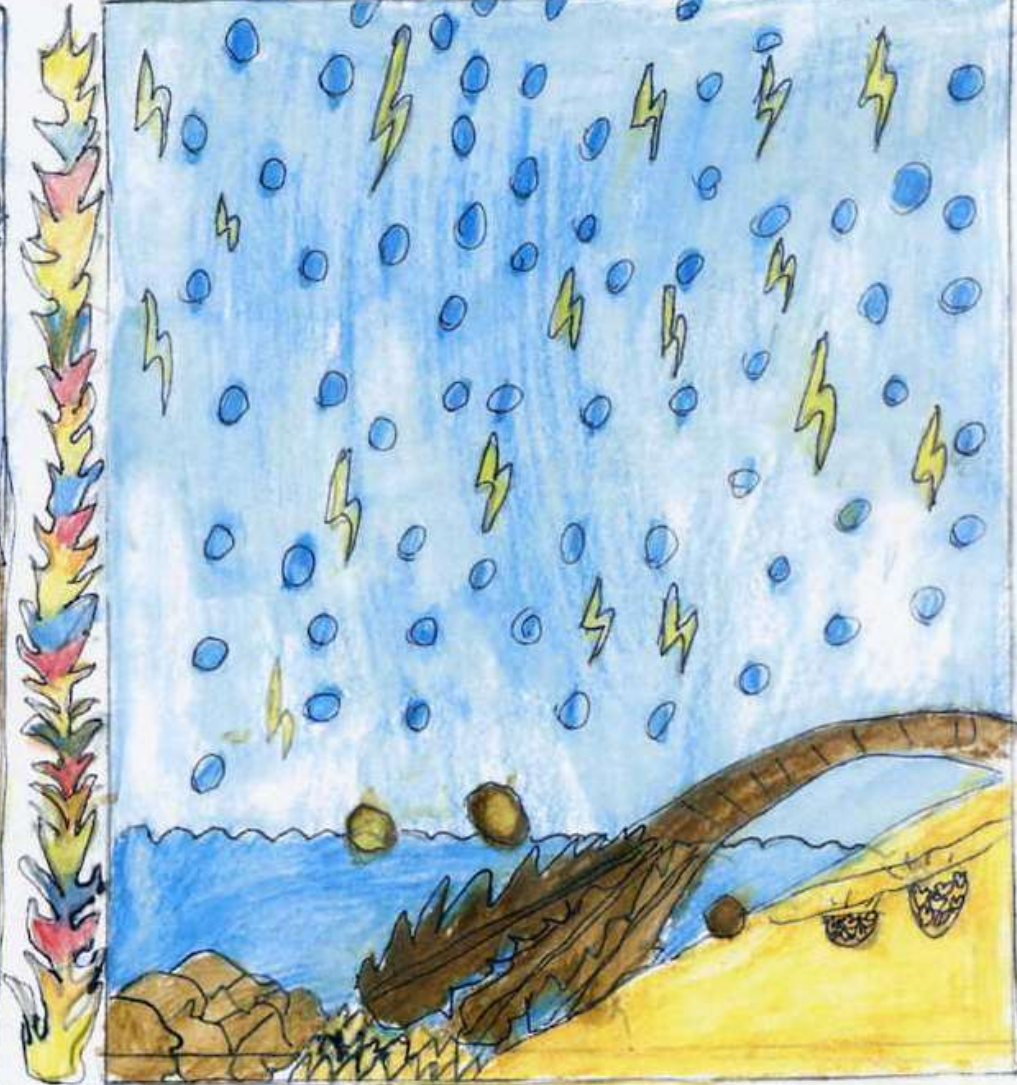
Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

After

Before



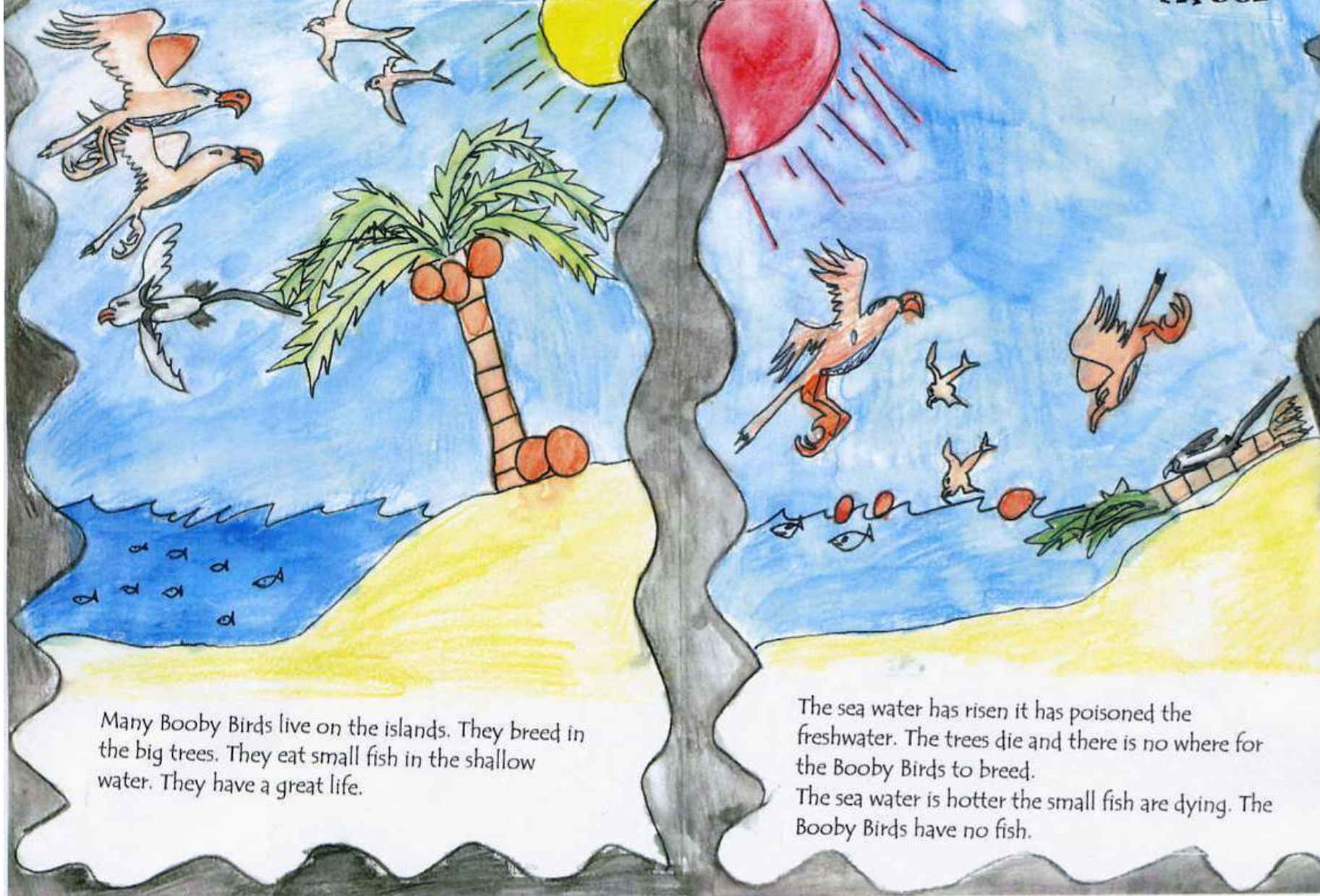
Life is good on Cocos Keeling Islands. The temperature of the sea is 24°C . It is good for turtles to breed on the beaches.



The temperature of the sea has risen. The temperature of the land is hotter. The turtles try to breed but the eggs cannot hatch. The sand too hot.

Before Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

After



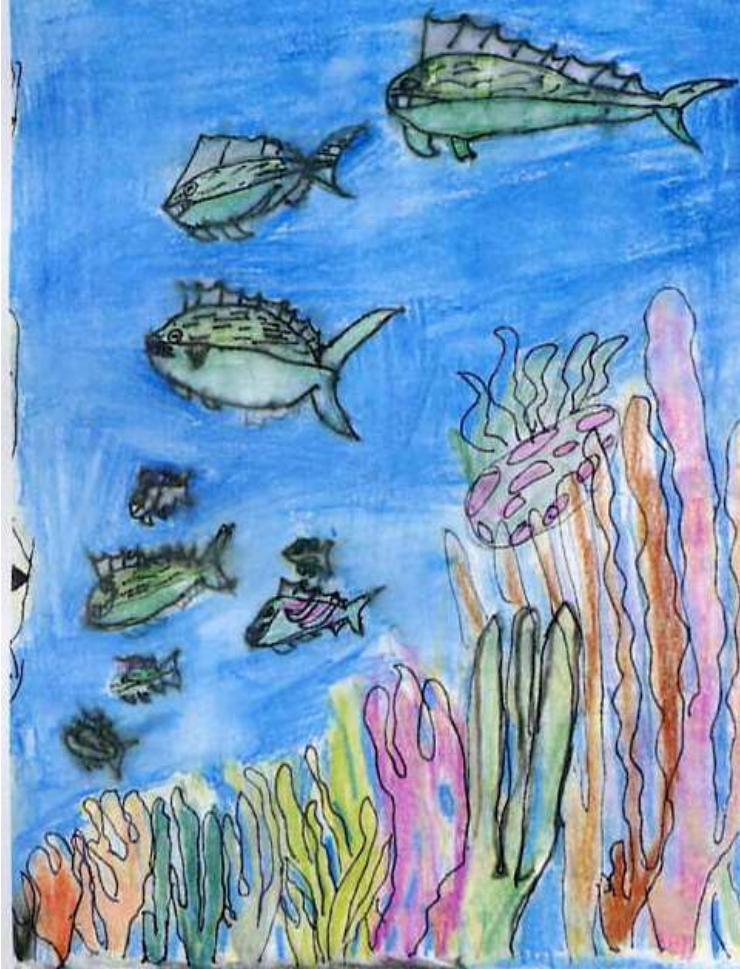
Many Booby Birds live on the islands. They breed in the big trees. They eat small fish in the shallow water. They have a great life.

The sea water has risen it has poisoned the freshwater. The trees die and there is no where for the Booby Birds to breed. The sea water is hotter the small fish are dying. The Booby Birds have no fish.

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

Before

After



The reef is healthy. It has lots of coral and sea weed. There are many different kinds of fish living on the reef.



The coral has been bleached by the hotter temperature of the sun. The fish cannot feed so they are dying.

Before Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

After



Cocos Island beaches are beautiful. They have white sand with coconut trees.



The sea water has risen. It has washed the white sand away. There are only grey rocks. The sea has washed the sand from the tree roots. They have fallen down.

Effects of Climate Change On Cocos Keeling Islands

Before



Cocos Island is surrounded by healthy growing coral reef. There are many fish living on the reef.

After



The water temperature is hotter. The coral is stressed and is bleached. The fish cannot feed or live on the reef. The reef is dying.

Year 3-4
Home Island Campus



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