

# SALTY THE SEAHORSE

Once upon a time under the sparkling blue ocean, behind a forest of seaweed, in a cluster of coral, there lived a spunky young seahorse, and his name was Salty. Now, Salty loved his home very much. His family was there and all his sea creature friends too, and the coral reef was like a beautiful under water castle. In short, Salty had a very happy life in his little cluster of coral.

On one particularly sunny day Salty and his friends were playing hide-and-seek in the seaweed field beyond the coral reef. Now for seahorses, which have an amazing ability to blend into their surroundings, hide-and-seek can turn into a very serious, very long game. This game had been going on for several hours and everyone was having a great time, when all of a sudden something strange came shooting through the water and landed right-smack-dab in the middle of the playing field. All of the sea creatures came out from their hiding places to see what this curious object could be. It was tall (to a sea creature anyway) and brightly colored. It had a flat top with a hole in it and all the sides were rounded. Across one side was written the word "SODA".

After that day, many, many more strange objects of all different shapes and sizes started to appear in the coral reef. The sea water began to taste strange to Salty and his friends, and soon their beautiful little cluster of coral was no longer safe for them to live in. All of the sea creatures had to find a new place to call their home, far away from the seaweed fields they once loved. Salty searched far and wide for a new home that could compare to his old one, until finally he found a beautiful little cove in a place called Sinepuxet Bay. In his new home, Salty was just as happy and safe as he had ever been.

Little did Salty know, but the little cove he had chosen to make his home belonged to a place called Castaways, a campground for humans. At first when Salty discovered that humans would be sharing his beautiful cove, he was afraid that his wonderful new home would be ruined just like it had been before. But being a brave little seahorse, Salty decided he would ask the people who worked at the campground to help him keep his home clean and safe for sea creatures and humans alike. When Salty went and talked to the campground workers he found out that they were really nice people and happy to help keep the bay garbage free. In return Salty helps out around the camp lending a hand in chores and activities, and keeping an eye out to make sure all the little boys and girls who come to visit the campground are well behaved (after all his eyes can move around completely separately from each other!).

