

## The 'Mare Nostrum' educational project: bringing marine research to Primary school children to create a bridge between them and the Mediterranean fragile marine ecosystem <u>M. Giusti</u>, A. Izzi, L. Rossi, D. Genta, M. Angiolillo, S.F. Rende, A. Pazzini, L. Tunesi

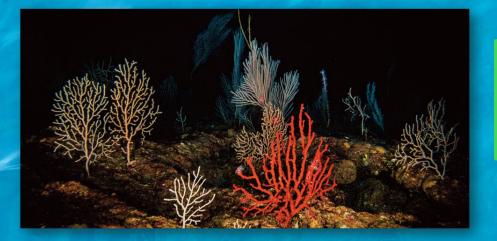


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## What is "Mare Nostrum"?

A project by ISPRA (Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research)





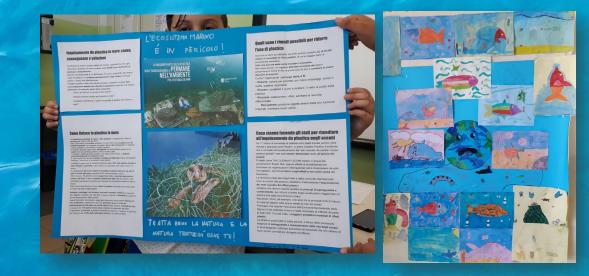
Focuses on the Mediterranean Sea's ecosystem

Aims to teach primary school children about marine life and conservation



## **Main objectives**

## Raise awareness of the Mediterranean ecosystem's fragility



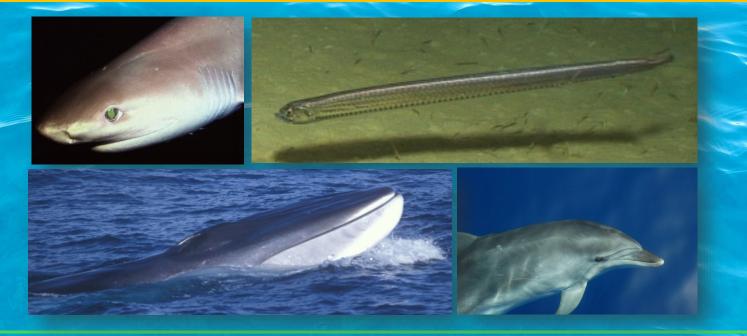
# Instill a sense of respect and responsibility towards the sea

Introduce children to marine research and exploration



#### **Educational activities**

Introduction to the Mediterranean ecosystem and its biodiversity



#### Focus on marine life, including corals and other invertebrates







Hands-on experiences with real research tools and materials

#### The role of the ROV

#### Used to explore deep-sea habitats and collect data

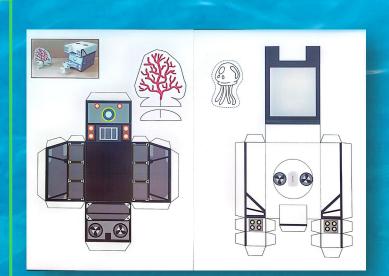




Children learn how the ROV works and see footage and marine samples (corals, other invertebrates) from real expeditions

## **Interactive Learning Experiences**

Constructing cardboard models of the ROV fo understand its design and function



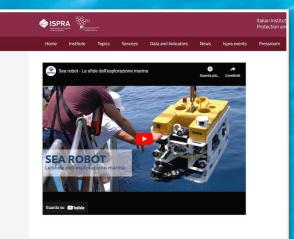


Observing marine organisms up close to build a personal connection with marine life



## **Learning materials**

#### Virtual Tour of R/V Astrea: Link





**Documentary on Deep-Sea Coral Research**: Link

Educational Book - " Diving into the Sea» (Scendiamo in fondo al mare):Link



#### **Project Impact and Outcomes**

**Children's Engagement:** Builds curiosity and a passion for the sea through researchers interactions



**Educational Success**: Builds up children's connection with marine ecosystems and boosts conservation awareness **Positive Impact on Researchers**: Researchers gain motivation from children's enthusiasm and curiosity

#### Conclusions

The "Mare Nostrum" project successfully combines research, education, and hands-on experience to:

Promote environmental responsibility

Encorage curiosity about the Mediterranean Sea

> Inspire the next generation of marine conservationists





L. Rossi





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Gracias a todos por la atención

