



# Weird Fish Lady

July 2025

The Weird Fish Lady - Gloria Barnett, MA, BSc,  
Science Presenter, Author, Educator, Real-Life Adventurer

Hi Everyone,  
Welcome to my newsletter  
Have you missed me? What happened to me writing a newsletter every month??  
Well, my website blew up and I've spent the past few months organising a new one. I think you'll find the new website easier to navigate and teachers (and parents) now have loads more **RESOURCES** available to download for **FREE** or to buy for silly prices.  
I also took a week out to go to New York - but you'll hear all about that later.  
Your favourites are still here:  
**See** the latest 'Did You Know Facts';  
**Read** the latest environmental news and  
**Hear** about what's happening in the world of Gloria's books.  
Everyone can still visit the website shop, of course, to see the **books for children and adults plus the resources for Teachers.**  
**Go to : [www.barnettauthor.co.uk](http://www.barnettauthor.co.uk)**

## 'Did You Know' Fact?

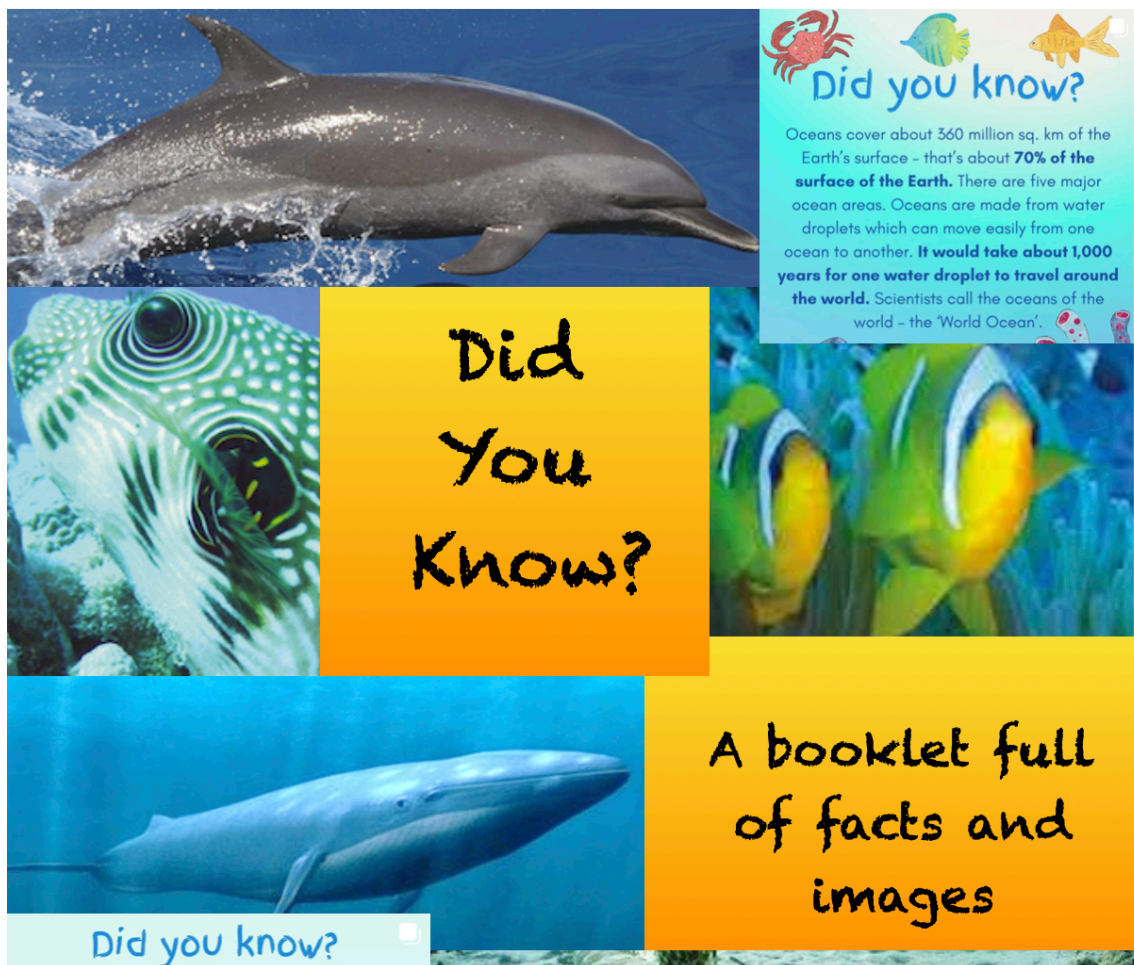
### *What is Oceanography?*

'Oceanography' is the scientific study of our oceans, and it includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geology and Climatology. By beginning to understand our oceans, you enter into a fascinating world - a world of amazing life forms and adaptations for survival. You will link ideas of Earth structure with phenomena such as mid-ocean ridges, volcanoes and tsunamis. You will be able to understand the importance of our Sun and its connection to our oceans and our

atmospheric climate. The Earth is an incredible place, and with a little understanding of the science that explains our world, it becomes even more wonderful.'

This statement comes from the introduction to my first book - 'The Amazing World Beneath the Waves. This book has been written in everyday English, with all the science explained, and helps everyone aged 10 to 110 to understand the Oceans. Yes - it's non-fiction - and full of thousands of incredible facts. Buy this book to gift to a local school library - or perhaps you should buy a copy just for yourself.

I'm returning next month to the posts of '**Did You Know Facts**' on Facebook and Instagram - just a fact or two every week - you'll be amazed!



**For Teachers:** (and Parents, Scout leaders and more) - On the website there is a downloadable **Teacher's Resource** - a '**Did You Know**' **Booklet** which includes three posters and loads of amazing facts about

1. Amazing Creatures,
2. Birds, and
3. Creatures which live in the Oceans.

**On sale - Downloadable - for a very silly price of £1.00.**

There is also a template available for teachers to use for a True or False classroom activity using this 'Did You Know' booklet. The template is FREE to download, and the booklet is 'On Sale' price - at just £1.

Take a look at the Resources page - there are Lesson Plans, Activity Books, Posters available - and even SIX original videos are included - FREE - for you to show to your students. You can plan a fantastic Ocean day for your students using these materials.

## Environmental News

### Item 1

On World Ocean Day at the UN Oceans Conference in Nice, France, the UK government finally announced its plan to ban **destructive bottom trawling in parts of 41 UK Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)**! While this is not a total ban, it is a great victory for some of the UK's most precious underwater ecosystems, beloved marine life and small-scale fishing communities.' says Greenpeace.

[An Angel Shark was sighted for the first time in UK waters in July. These creatures need destructive bottom trawling to be stopped.]

Want to know more about supertrawlers - go to :

<https://uk.oceana.org/press-releases/10-fishing-vessels-cause-a-quarter-of-suspected-bottom-trawling-in-uk-offshore-mpas/>

### Item 2

David Attenborough's new film 'Oceans' is now available on National Geographic. In interviews leading up to the release of the film, David said 'we all need to realise that the oceans are more important than the land.'

***?? Mmmm ... isn't that what I've been saying for 20 plus years ??***

***Check out my website - page 'Oceans' and you'll find all the scientific facts for why this statement is true! <https://barnettauthor.co.uk/the-oceans/>***

**Item 3** - some Good News quickies:

- A new study from Germany found that a large agrivoltaic solar farm has become a major breeding site for skylarks.
- China just built the world's first grid-scale sodium-ion battery storage.

- New Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) have been announced around the world including French Polynesia (1.1 million km<sup>2</sup> - Pacific) and Tanzania (1.3 million km<sup>2</sup> - Indian Ocean)
- Tonga has declared they will become the first jurisdiction in history to grant full personhood to whales. They will appoint legal guardians to represent cetacean interest in Tongan courts (similar to current norms for human children). WOW !
- Reports to the *UN Oceans Conference* also confirmed that whilst Earth's marine ecosystems struggle with record-high heat waves, menacing ocean acidification, plastic pollution and other threats ... **conservation** is understood to be more **important than ever** to give wildlife the time and space for a chance to evolve and adapt. Much of the world is now stepping up to meet the challenges. Yes, folks - the World really is taking action.
- **Item 4** - an interesting 'law development'. The International Court of Justice held this week decided that failing to protect the planet from global warming could be a violation of international law. Judges in The Hague stated 'failure of a state to take appropriate action to protect the climate system may constitute an internationally wrongful act. They called the climate crisis an existential problem of planetary proportions that imperils all forms of life and the very health of our planet'. The ruling came in a suit brought by the low-lying island state of Vanuatu and was backed by 130 other nations. UN chief Antonio Guterres said 'This is a victory for our planet, for climate justice and for the power of young people to make a difference. Young Pacific islands initiated this call for humanity to the world. And the world must respond.' The information here shows that the USA, and Washington in particular will need to change their ways. The President of the USA needs to stop his present denial of climate change and stop supporting BIG OIL companies like Exxon.
- This new International Law will be useful at the next COP30 meeting of the global climate talks which will be held in Brazil in November.
- **Item 5** - Chinese data!
  - 1. Beijing has ended all imports of oil and gas from America.
  - 2. China is currently installing **100 solar panels a second**, and
  - 3. more than half the cars China sells are electric.
 They are telling BIG OIL to buzz off !! Let's join them.

## News About the Books



I'm thrilled to announce a new initiative:

**For every book ordered, through 'Buy from the author' I will plant a tree!**

 Together, let's nurture a love for reading while giving back to our planet.



Join me in making a difference—one book at a time!

🌟 Get involved today! Order a book! 🌟

## Book Awards

In February 2025 I was delighted to receive the news that 'Eye of the Turtle' had been awarded one of the most prestigious global book awards - the Independent Press Award. I decided to collect the award in person in New York - and had a great time meeting loads of other authors. 'EYE' - the first book in the Lucy Morgan series was awarded 'WINNER 2025' in the children's chapter book category. Well done, Lucy !



# Resources for Busy Teachers

The biggest change on the new-look website is the opportunity to acquire loads of seriously good Teacher Resources.

Go to : <https://barnettauthor.co.uk/resources/>

There are 14 FREE resources, including original underwater videos to share with your children. Also available are 19 resources to buy at a very silly price of £1 each. From lesson plans, activity booklets, PowerPoint and posters - there is everything you need to create exciting lessons/activities. All resources are downloadable.

Fill your boots with exciting activities, folks - it's my gift to you ...to encourage all children to begin to understand the Oceans.

More resources will be added as the weeks go by.

## One Extra Gift !

Here is a video - used by me in previous school visits ( as the Weird Fish Lady, of course) - check out this video with your children (school or home) and help them understand the importance of keeping the Oceans healthy. Adults can watch this as well, of course. Learning about oceans is not restricted to the little people!



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