I Sea



A Beachcombing Treasure Hunt

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First Edition

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This book is dedicated to beachcombers worldwide who pick up not only the treasures on our shorelines, but also the trash.



When we were young—long, long ago—we remember going to the doctor's office and reading *Highlights* magazine, where searching for hidden objects on the Hidden Pictures page was the most fun. Raising our collective seven kids, we each always had tons of books in our homes, and the *I Spy* books were favorites of our families.

Years later, our common love for beachcombing brought us together as friends, as the worldwide beachcombing family brings together so many of us. And, our love of books inspired us to create *I Sea* to help promote beach conservation through words and images of actual beach finds from around the world.

We hope that looking for the hidden beach trash and treasures inspires you to continue to find and pick up treasures on your own beach. Eight million tons of plastic are dumped into our oceans each year, and while only a fraction washes up on beaches, beachcombers have the opportunity while on the beach to pick up man-made materials so they don't harm marine life.

This book is for all those who enjoy hunting coastlines at any age and appreciate the joy of the search as much as the joy of discovery. If we work together to help pick up marine debris, maybe we will *sea* a small difference.

Mary McCarthy and Kirsti Scott





We are so thankful to everyone who contributed to this book with their energy, art, enthusiasm...and their beach trash! Thanks to Michelle Costello of smartielidsonthebeach.com for creating her beautiful rainbow wave for this book, and for her marine debris artwork as part of the #2minutebeachclean family. Many of the items from the book are from our own collections of beach treasures and trash, and we are grateful to those who also donated beach-found items, especially Lucy Kruse and Kent Island Beach Cleanups, Doreen Traut, Amy Chen, Lainie Tame, Katherine Georgenson, and Lindsey, Justin, and Kennedy Welch.

Thanks to our fantastic families—we are grateful they put up with all the times we're late for dinner because we were at the beach, the times our kitchen counters are covered in beach finds, and for their love and support of our many projects.

And, our special thanks to the beachcombing community! Through festivals and online, it's a joy to make friends and meet new people who share a common love for combing the world's beaches for treasures and trash.

