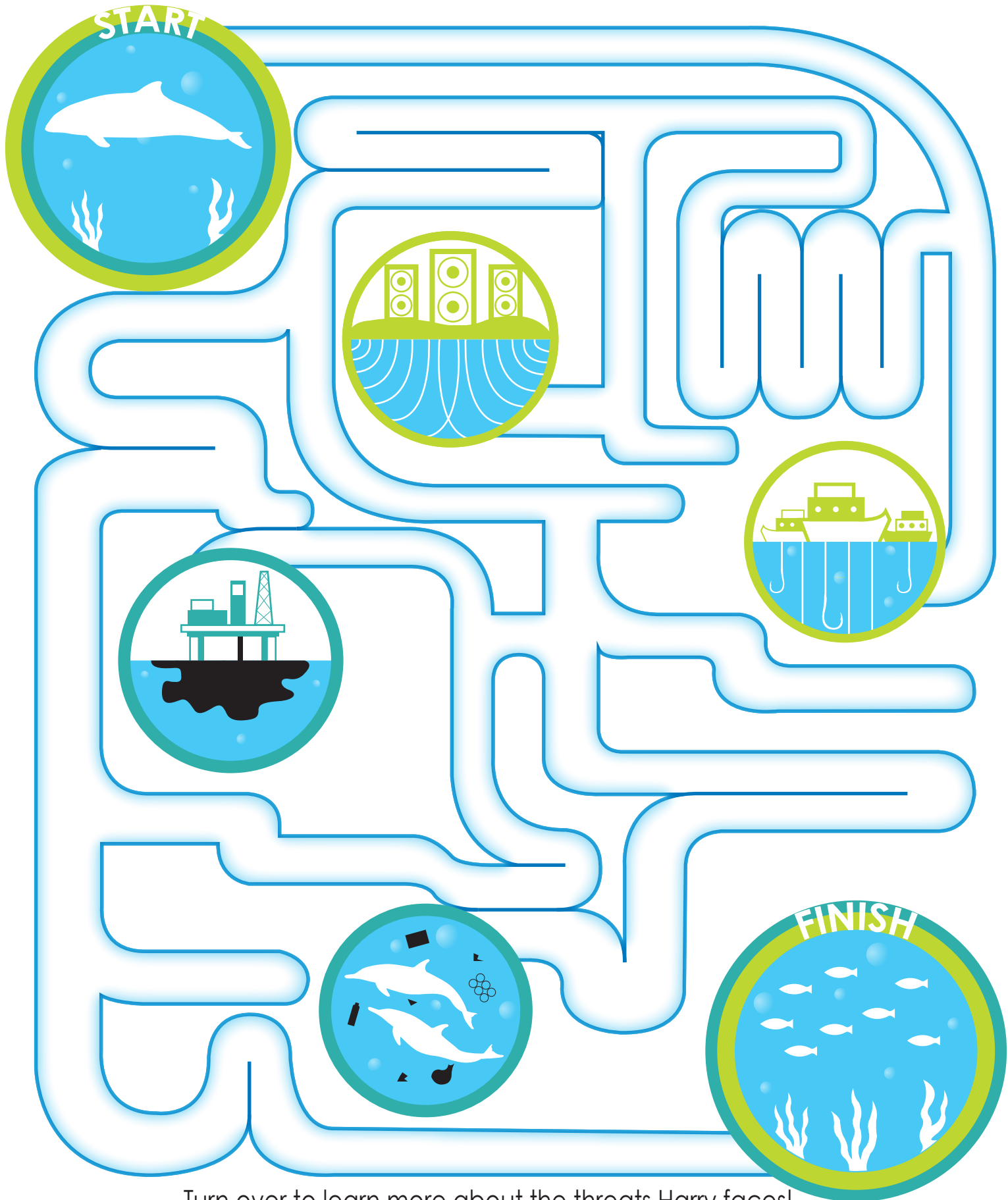


Porpoise Threats Maze

Can you help Harry the Harbour Porpoise find clean and safe waters to live in?

START



FINISH

Turn over to learn more about the threats Harry faces!

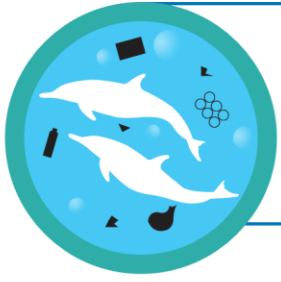


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Looking out for
Whales and Dolphins
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Threats to Marine Wildlife



Marine Litter

Marine litter consists of materials that are discarded into the sea and 80% of this is made up of plastic, which never breaks down, and stays in our environment forever. Marine animals can become entangled in this litter and may also attempt to swallow it, which means it fills up their stomachs leading to starvation, and may make them choke.



Noise Pollution

Whales, dolphins, and porpoises use sound (echolocation) to navigate, find their food and to communicate with each another. Loud noises created by human activities such as sonar, oil rigs and ships can make it difficult for these animals to find their food and to communicate with their pod.



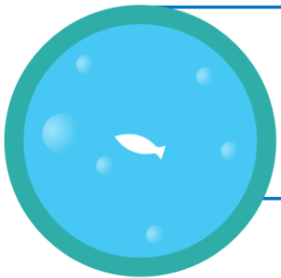
Oil Spills

Oil spills contain lots of toxic chemicals that have nasty effects on the organs and digestive systems of marine mammals. The oil also clogs the blowhole of whales, dolphins and porpoises, meaning that they are unable to breathe. Other man-made chemicals in the ocean harm whales and dolphins in many different ways.



Fishing

Fishing methods, such as trawling and gill-netting, involve leaving large fishing nets unattended in open waters. This means that marine mammals, as well as sharks and turtles, often get caught in these nets. When caught in nets marine animals cannot get to the surface to breathe, so they drown.



Overfishing

Fishing activities remove many different species from the ocean for human consumption, often taking the same species of fish that marine mammals eat. These fish are unable to breed fast enough to restore their populations. Overfishing causes the collapse of food chains by removal of certain species.

How can you help?

Refuse (say no to plastic straws!), **reduce** (say no to plastic bags!), **reuse** (if you buy plastic, make sure it's something you can use again and again, for example a reusable water bottle), **recycle** (as much as possible!)! You can also take part in beach cleans or litter picks.



Buying pole and line caught fish. This method means that marine mammals, sharks and turtles are mostly left unharmed, as well as also reducing overfishing!



Tell your friends! The more people that know about all the threats whales, dolphins, and other marine wildlife faces, the more people will make differences in their lives to help protect them.

You can also support ORCA's work by making a donation or becoming a member.

