

TPE Kids page

Ducks on parade

Squeak if you like adventure

Scientists who study ocean currents are learning new things from an unlikely source: rubber ducks.

A ship's cargo of 29,000 plastic bath toys — including yellow ducks — tumbled overboard into the Pacific Ocean more than 15 years ago. Since then, oceanographers have charted their amazing journey.

Many of the ducks survived storms, waves, rocks and sea creatures that might have mistaken them for food. The toys have been spotted all over the world, from Iceland to Hawaii. They spent several years stuck in arctic ice, only to break free and float toward Europe.

Numbers of the toys have washed ashore in different places, including one found on the beach by a boy in Alaska.

When a flock of the bath floaties approached the coast of England two years ago, someone created an 8-foot-tall "mother duck" to welcome them.

In the end, the ducks' adventures could teach us something. Studying their movements may help researchers better understand how the seas flow so they can prevent the spread of litter and pollution.

Those helpful bath toys aren't the only ones on the move. Missionaries travel the country and circle the globe to tell people about the love of Jesus. You can be a part of this adventure by giving to missions offerings and telling people in your own neighborhood about Jesus.

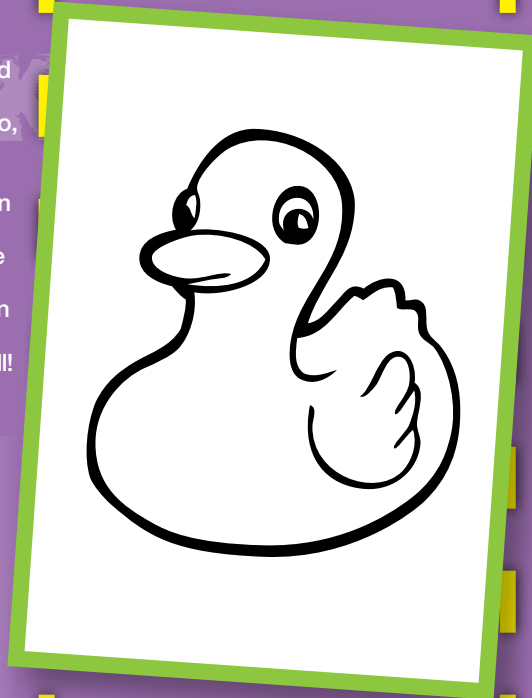
Serving God and helping Him reach spiritually lost people is the best adventure of all! "The Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost" (Luke 19:10, NIV).



Dress-up duck

Using a pen or pencil, add features to the duck to make it look like one of the characters listed.

- Pirate duck • Cowboy duck
- Royal duck • Clown duck
- Space duck



Did you know?

- Real ducks can fly about 50 mph.
- A Dutch artist created a giant rubber duck 105 feet tall and 85 feet wide. It floated freely among boats as part of an outdoor art exhibit.
- A rubber duck race is held each year at Huntington Beach Pier in California. Thousands of ducks are dropped from a bridge by front-end loaders. Prizes are awarded to owners of the first ducks to make it to shore.



JUST FOR laughs

Why do ducks fly south for the winter?
It's faster than walking.

Why did the rubber duck cross the sea?
To get to the other tide.

