

# “Paradise Tossed”

## Discussion Guide

### Objectives

Emma Wagner’s “Paradise Tossed” on pages 340-341 of *Island Visions* recounts her personal experiences and observations as a middle school student participating in a beach cleanup on Santa Rosa Island. The goal of this discussion is to get students thinking about how marine debris can end up in even the most remote, seemingly “wild” and untouched places.

### Guidelines for Teacher

- As students read Emma’s piece, ask them to look out for any moments of her day that surprised them.
- This discussion can work in both all-class and breakout-and-report-back formats
- Use the [“See/Think/Wonder”](#) format to encourage students to put themselves in Emma’s shoes, observing the beach as she does.

### Discussion Questions

1. See
  - a. What is the most surprising thing that Emma found?
2. Think
  - a. Where do you think it came from?
  - b. How do you think it got there?
3. Wonder
  - a. How do Emma’s discoveries make you feel?
  - b. Where else have you seen trash in “wild” places that you didn’t expect?

### Conclusion

The subsequent activities in the module will give students the background to understand how marine debris spread around the globe. Ask students to remember their initial answers, and continually reflect throughout the module on how these answers might change.