



ELT Graded Readers

BEGINNER

# AT THE BEACH



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## To the reader:

Welcome to the DK ELT Graded Readers! These readers are different. They explore aspects of the world around us: its history, geography, science ... and a lot of other things. And they show the different ways in which people live now, and lived in the past.

These DK ELT Graded Readers give you material for reading for information, and reading for pleasure. You are using your English to do something real. The illustrations will help you understand the text, and also help bring the Reader to life. There is a Picture Dictionary to help you understand the special words for this topic. Listen to the cassette or CD as well, and you can really enter the world of the Olympic Games, the *Titanic*, or the Trojan War ... and a lot more. Choose the topics that interest you, improve your English, and learn something ... all at the same time.  
Enjoy the series!

## To the teacher:

This series provides varied reading practice at five levels of language difficulty, from elementary to FCE level:

BEGINNER

ELEMENTARY A

ELEMENTARY B

INTERMEDIATE

UPPER INTERMEDIATE

The language syllabus has been designed to suit the factual nature of the series, and includes a wider vocabulary range than is usual with ELT readers: language linked with the specific theme of each book is included and glossed. The language scheme, and ideas for exploiting the material (including the recorded material) both in and out of class are contained in the Teacher's Resource Book.

We hope you and your students enjoy using this series.

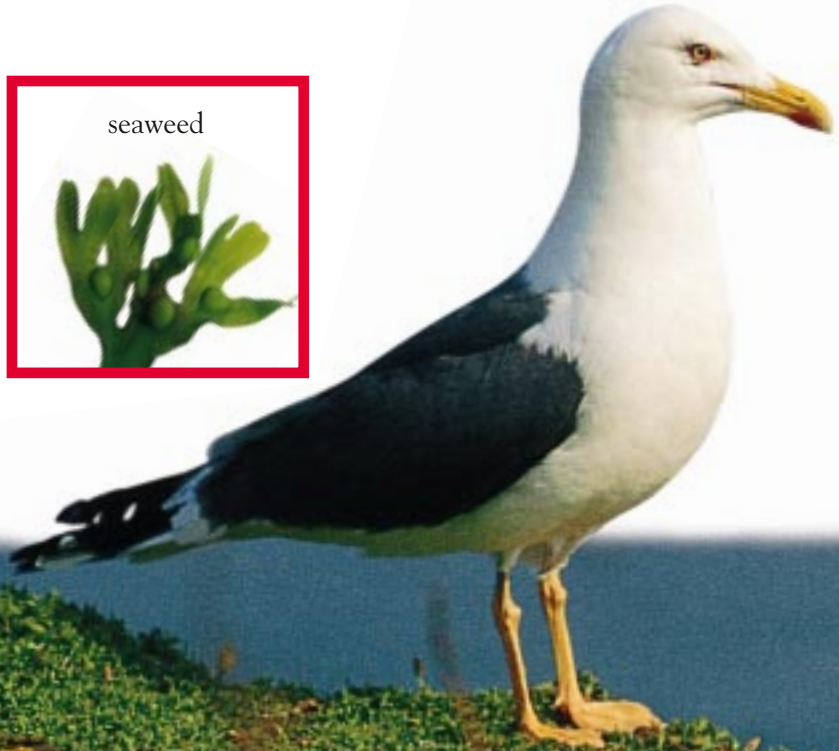


# Seagull Bay

This bird is a seagull. It lives near the sea. It builds a nest on the cliff. The seagulls can see the beach. They have very good eyes. They are looking for seaweed. Why?

The seagulls make their nests with seaweed and small pieces of wood. The seaweed comes from the sea. The waves bring it to the beach. The seagulls fly down, and pick up the seaweed in their beaks.

seaweed







This seagull is on the cliff too. But this seagull isn't looking for seaweed. It is looking at the children. The children are playing on the beach. Two children are playing in the sand: they are building sandcastles. There is another child on the beach. This child is playing in the sea.



This seagull leaves his nest on the cliff and flies over the sea. The sea is blue and the wind is strong.

The waves are big. Their tops are white. The waves roll to the beach and crash on the seashore. The seagull smells the salt of the sea.



The seagull flies over the sea. His sharp eyes are looking at the water. He sees the waves and flies over their white tops. The water is very cold and very deep. But it is also very clear. He flies over the waves and looks at the water.

The seagull is looking for something in the water. Is he looking for seaweed? Or fish? Is he hungry? What is the seagull looking for?





The seagull can see seaweed under the water. The seaweed floats under the sea. It grows in the sand and on the rocks under the water. The waves roll to the seashore.

The seaweed moves with the water.

Look at the colours. There is green seaweed, brown seaweed, and red seaweed. It is a beautiful garden of seaweed under the water. And this garden is moving.



And the seagull flies over the sea and this beautiful garden under the water. He dives down to the water. He flies up to the sky. He flies up; he flies down.



The water is moving, the waves are moving, and the seaweed is moving. And the seagull is moving quickly through the air.





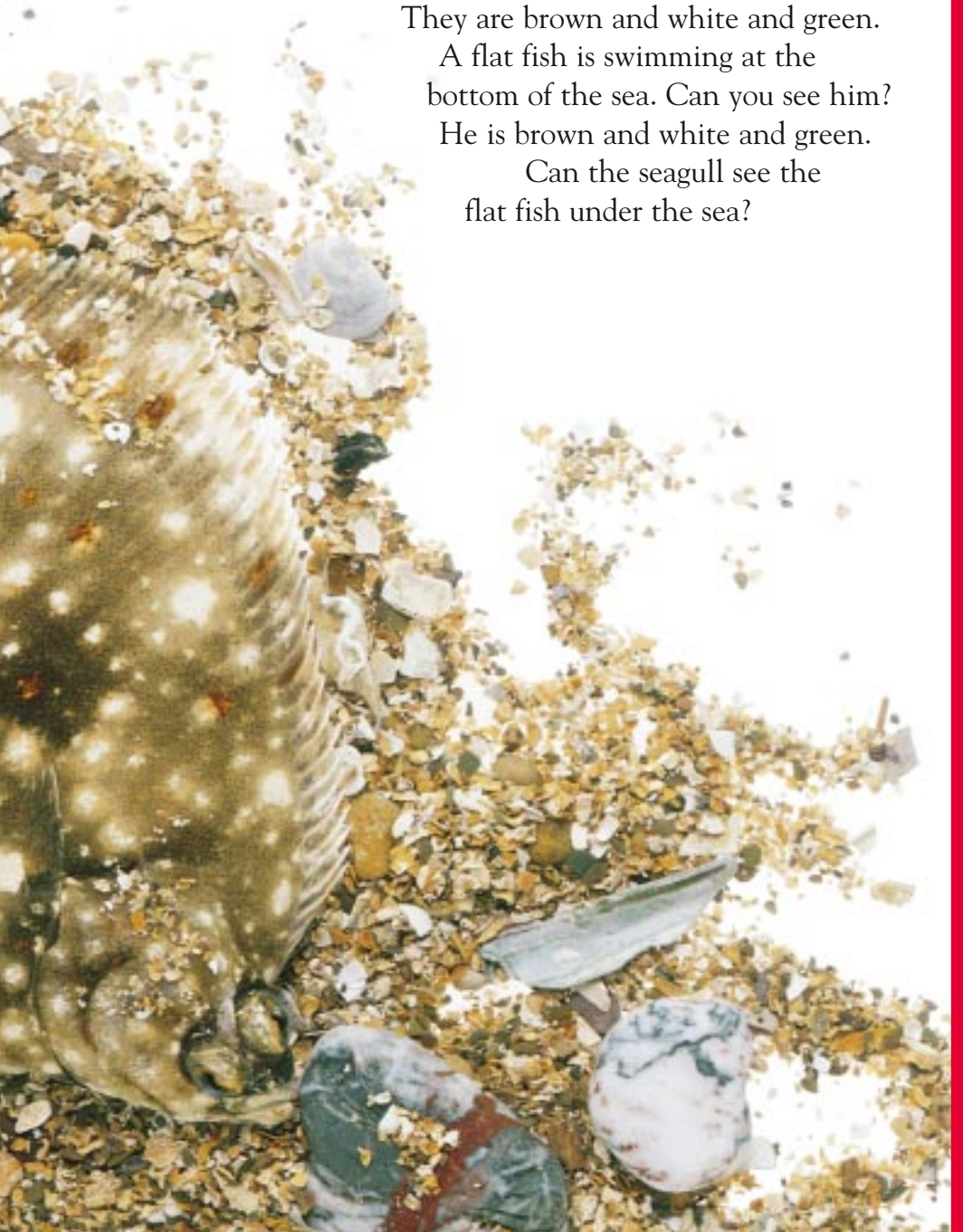


Can the seagull see the bottom of the sea? There are small stones, seashells, and pebbles at the bottom of the sea. The water is very clear. The pebbles are smooth and round.

They are brown and white and green.

A flat fish is swimming at the bottom of the sea. Can you see him? He is brown and white and green.

Can the seagull see the flat fish under the sea?





A close-up photograph of a seagull's head and beak, which is open and pointed towards a crab. The seagull's beak is yellow and red. The crab is brown and has its claws visible. The word "TAP!" is written in a stylized, black, serif font three times, once near the seagull's beak and twice near the crab's shell, indicating the sound of the seagull tapping the crab.

TAP!  
TAP!  
TAP!

The seagull does not see the flat fish. He flies down to the beach and walks on the sand.

He finds a crab and looks at it with his sharp eyes. He opens his strong beak and hits the crab's hard shell.



The crab is angry. He has not got sharp eyes but he has got sharp pincers! He waves his sharp pincers at the seagull. The seagull's beak hits the crab. But the crab snaps his pincers at the seagull's beak. The seagull does not like the pincers: he leaves the crab.

What is the seagull looking for?

pincer



**SNAP!**

**SNIP!**



The seagull walks along the beach. He hops on a rock and finds a pool of water. The rock pool is an interesting place. There is seaweed on the top of the rock. Under the water there are shells and sea plants.

Can you see the fish in the rock pool? There is a green starfish moving at the bottom of the pool.

Can the seagull see the green starfish?



starfish





The seagull is looking at the children. They are building a sandcastle. One of the children has an orange starfish in his hand.

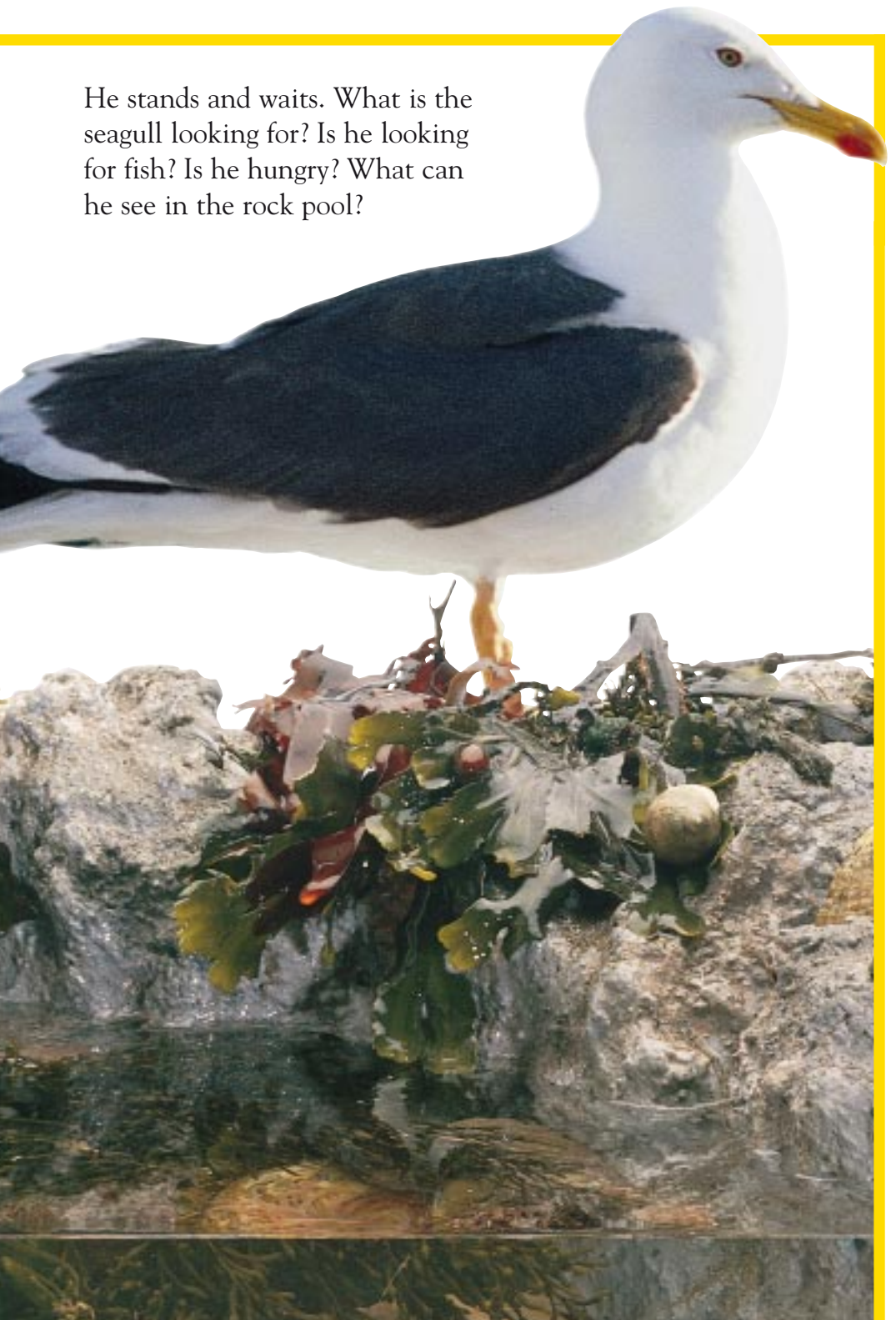





The seagull waits on the rocks. His sharp eyes see the seaweed and all the sea shells. He sees two yellow shells. They are limpet shells. These shells are very strong: they cling to the side of the rock. The seagull has a very strong beak, but he cannot move the limpets.



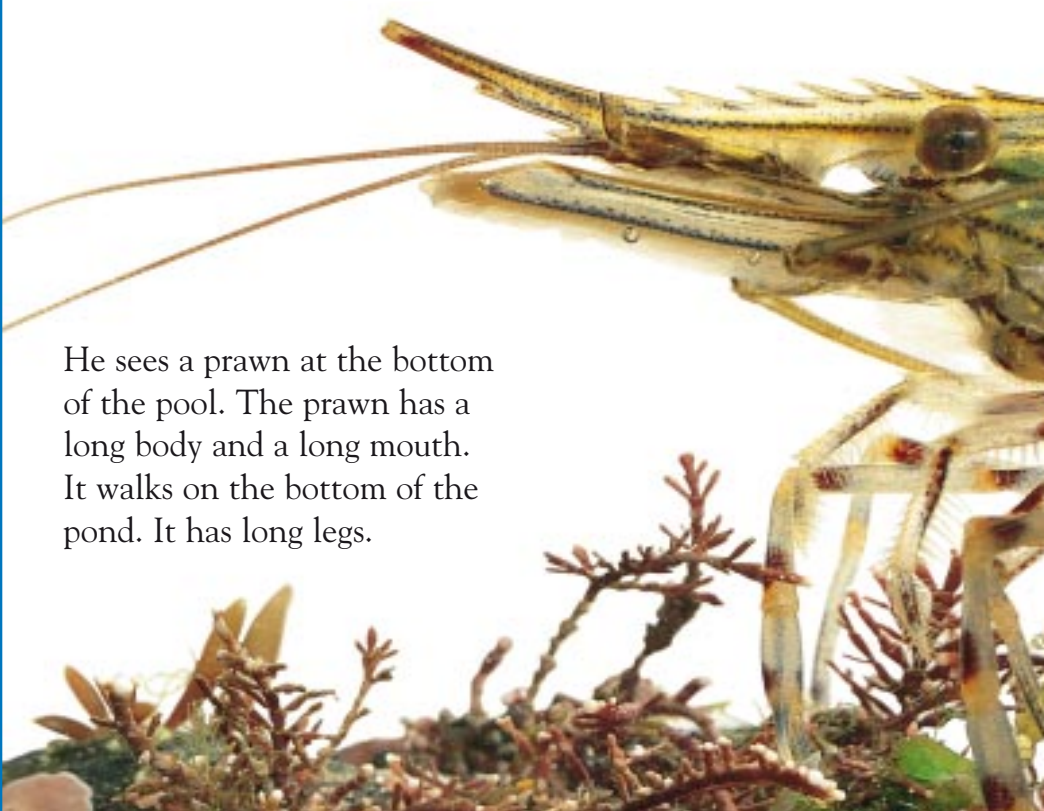
He stands and waits. What is the seagull looking for? Is he looking for fish? Is he hungry? What can he see in the rock pool?



A photograph of a crab with a brown and yellow shell, partially hidden behind a piece of green seaweed with yellow flowers. The crab is facing right.

He looks into the pool. His sharp eyes see a crab. The crab is hiding in the seaweed. But the seagull does not like crabs. He does not like their sharp pincers!

The seagull waits.

A close-up photograph of a prawn with a long, segmented body and long antennae. It is positioned on a bed of brown, branching seaweed. The prawn is facing left.

He sees a prawn at the bottom of the pool. The prawn has a long body and a long mouth. It walks on the bottom of the pond. It has long legs.



Seagulls like prawns. They are very good to eat! The seagull sees the prawn. He opens his beak.

The seagull pushes his beak into the water. But the prawn has sharp eyes too. It sees and hears the seagull. It swims away quickly. The seagull is too slow. The prawn escapes!





waves



Poor seagull! He leaves the rock pool and walks along the beach again. He sees the white tops of the salty waves as they roll towards the beach. The water comes onto the beach. He can see the white salt at the end of the waves. But the tide is going out and the waves are falling back. The children's sandcastle is safe!





The waves bring new seaweed to the beach. It is wet, and the colours are very bright.

The seagull walks over to this new seaweed and looks at it. Then he opens his strong beak and pecks at the seaweed. What is the seagull looking for?





The seagull doesn't find anything interesting in the seaweed. He walks into the sea. He can see seashells in the water and on the beach. They are shining in the sunlight. The shells turn over in the waves.

There are straight shells and there are curly ones! The seagull turns over the shiny shells with his feet. Some shells are easy to open with a strong beak. The seagull pecks and bites the shells with his beak.



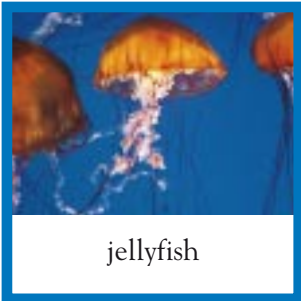
What is the seagull looking for?



He finds little pieces of glass and smooth shining stones. He also sees a hermit crab and a jelly fish. The hermit crab climbs into a shell. The shell is the hermit crab's new home.



The seagull doesn't like jellyfish. They can sting! And they are not good to eat!



jellyfish






He sees a footprint in the sand. It's a child's footprint. And there's a seashell near the footprint!



What is the seagull looking for? He isn't looking for a seashell. He's looking for something different.



He looks out over the sea.  
There are more seagulls in  
the sky. What are they  
looking for? There are fish  
in the sea! The seagulls are  
making a loud noise. They  
dive into the water.



**SKREEK!**  
**SKREEK!**

The seagull dives into the water. The other seagulls want his fish. They fight him. But this is his fish! The other seagulls can't have it. The fish is in his beak, and he is holding it. He flies away quickly.

Food! The seagull wants food. Now he has got a fish. He can take it to his nest.



The seagull is happy. He has got what he is looking for! He eats the fish quickly. It's good! The seagull likes fish. He eats a lot of fish every day. He's often hungry. But he isn't hungry now.





The seagull flies back to the nest on the high cliff above the sea. His mate is waiting for him. She is sitting on the nest.



She is very hungry. She climbs off the nest.  
He climbs on it. There are two eggs in the  
nest. The eggs are very warm. He sits on the  
eggs. His mate flies away.

She flies over the beach and over the sea.  
Now she is looking for something, too!

What is she looking for? Is this  
seagull hungry too?







The seagull flies down over the water. She can smell the salt of the white tops of the waves. She can see the seaweed and the pebbles under the sea. She's very, very hungry. She flies low over the water.

What is the seagull looking for?



# Picture Dictionary

seaweed



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waves



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pincer



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seashells



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starfish



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jellyfish



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limpet



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eggs



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