

# Into the Sea

a book about Emma L. Hickerson told by Stephanie Herbek



Nonfiction







#### Emma L. Hickerson-Marine Biologist

I was born in Sydney, Australia, and have spent half my life in Texas. Since 1997, I have held the position of Research Coordinator for the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary. I have coordinated or participated in over 100 research cruises, including SCUBA, Remotely Operated Vehicle, and submersible operations. As a marine biologist, I enjoy underwater photography as a way to study and interpret scientific data. When not underwater, I spend time with my wonderful daughter Sydney.

Much appreciation goes to NOAA's Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, especially G.P. Schmahl for his support of this book, and for allowing me to explore the underwater world through science. I am also very grateful to Dr. Sylvia Earle for introducing me to the deepwater environment. Finally, thanks to the Moody Gardens Aquarium for access to their facilities.

To the young readers: Dream big and chase your dreams. Look after nature. Look after the ocean. Love her.

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#### Heinemann

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## Glossary **flippers** big rubber shoes that help someone swim like a fish lap a room where scientists study things mask a covering that hides or protects the face scientist a person whose work is the study of nature, such as plants and animals



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My name is Emma Hickerson. I am a scientist. I study plants and animals of the sea.

I use this little sub. It is a special sub that can dive deep into the water.



The sub has tanks of air for me to breathe. The sub has bright lights, too. They help me see the plants and animals.



air tanks

I want to see what kinds of sharks live here. This sub has a camera.

camera

So I take pictures of the sharks that swim by.

Sometimes I dive off a boat into the sea. I put on a special suit for diving.

I wear an air tank.

I wear a mask and flippers, too.

I carry a special camera that works underwater. I take pictures of the seaweed. I want to see how big it can grow.

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I also take pictures of a sea turtle. I want to see what kind of food the turtle eats. Then I go back to my lab. I look at all the pictures that I took in the sea.

I use my computer. I write about the shark, the seaweed, and the turtle.



AUGUST 2002

I love my job. I love to study the plants and animals of the sea. I'm writing a book about them!

1 Minter