Hi there, ocean explorer!

My name is Mia Kingtide, and I'm so glad you're here. I live on Monterey Bay in California, and I have the best backyard in the world. It's full of whales, sea otters, glowing jellies and a canyon so deep you could hide a mountain in it.

I also have a secret. I have a magic shell that lets me breathe underwater and talk with ocean animals. My best friends are Flip, a harbor seal, Luna, a sea lion, and Marlow, a sea otter. Together we help animals in trouble, and believe me, there's always someone who needs help.

Now I need YOUR help. This book will take you on a journey through four parts of Monterey Bay:

The Tide Pools, where the ocean leaves treasures behind at low tide.
The Kelp Forest, the tallest forest under the sea.
The Open Ocean, home of the biggest animals on Earth.
The Deep, where it's darker than night and the animals make their own light.

Along the way you'll solve the same kinds of puzzles I do on my adventures. You'll untangle a whale, find lost crab traps, crack a secret radio message and spot clues that something is wrong on the reef. Every puzzle has a real ocean fact in the corner. I promise every single one is true. (Some of them are so weird they sound made up!)

Each chapter starts easy and gets harder as you go, just like diving deeper. If you get stuck, the answers are in the back of the book. But try your hardest first. Real explorers don't give up!

When you finish all four chapters, you'll earn your official Ocean Hero certificate.

Ready? Grab a pencil and let's dive in.

Your friend in the sea,

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Mia Kingtide



P.S. Marlow says he can finish the giant maze at the end of the book faster than you. Flip says Marlow just wants an excuse to eat more clams. Prove them both wrong!