Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) is a non-profit marine resource conservation organization. It has been active in almost every national fisheries debate for decades and has been a driving force in state and federal fisheries management issues. With your continued support, CCA will continue to battle for the health and longevity of our coastal fisheries and for recreational anglers' interests in them.

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ON THE COVER >>
CCA member Townes Peterek shows off a big speckled trout caught out of Galveston, Texas. He’s also showing off two of his favorite fishing trip essentials - a protective, longsleeve fishing shirt and CCA hat!
GET THE FACTS

We have a bad habit. Humans use 450 billion plastic drinking bottles a year, and far too many of them end up in our oceans. We at Costa know how important our oceans are, and as anglers, we’re in a unique position to do something about it.

HERE’S WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

• The equivalent of a garbage truck of plastic is dumped into the ocean every minute.

• By 2050 there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean (by weight).

• Almost all the plastic ever produced is still around.

• One in four fish tested have plastic in them.

SPREAD THE WORD

None of us wants to live in a plastic sea. Join us in the fight to Kick Plastic by spreading the word about the problem and teaming up to find solutions. You can learn more about what we’re doing to Kick Plastic at costadelmar.com.

HERE’S HOW YOU CAN SHARE:

• Post about Kick Plastic to your social media accounts. We’ve collected images and facts that’ll help spread the word at http://bit.ly/kickplastic.

• Be sure to tag your posts with #KickPlastic. We’ll amplify your posts on our campaign page to help you reach more people.

• Watch and share the Kick Plastic video at http://bit.ly/kickplasticvid to help get the word out and protect our oceans.

SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE A BIG IMPACT

• Stop Using Plastic Water Bottles

• Use Reusable Grocery Bags

• Buy In Bulk To Cut Down On Packaging

• Recycle Old Fishing Line

COSTA

GET INVOLVED AT costadelmar.com/kickplastic
Have you ever dreamt of that perfect job for you? Maybe one where you could travel the world, be in the outdoors and go fishing?

Well, there's a TV show called *Local Knowledge* that makes that dream a reality! This show follows two friends from opposite sides of the country - Ali Hussainy of San Diego, California and Fishing Captain Rush Maltz from the Florida Keys - as they explore both local and exotic fishing destinations!

They say that in the world of fishing, the key ingredient for success is *local knowledge*. Which means, knowing your home turf well enough to know the best spots to fish and when. Hussainy and Maltz are masters on their own turfs and it shows as they fish the waters of their hometowns. But as they travel to strange waters to explore and fish, they must learn new local knowledge!

They not only dig deep into the fishing, but also learn about the food, people and the lifestyle of each unique destination.

You (and Mom and Dad) will love watching these guys explore, fish and have fun - and maybe inspire your future career path! Catch the new season Sunday mornings at 8am on the Discovery Channel, watch full episodes for free at LocalKnowledge.tv or search your favorite App Store for “Local Knowledge.”
Hi, I'm Ali Hussainy...

And I'm Rush Maltz!
The Gulf of Mexico: 20 Facts Every Kid Should Know

A gulf is a portion of the sea that is almost surrounded completely by land except for a narrow opening. As the largest gulf in the world, the Gulf of Mexico has long played a big role in the United States—and beyond. Here are a few things about this impressive body of water you might not have known.

1. There are 33 major rivers that empty into the Gulf of Mexico, the largest of which is the Mississippi River.

2. There is a trough in the Gulf of Mexico that reaches 14,383 feet deep called the Sigsbee Deep.

3. The Straits of Florida divides the Gulf from the Atlantic Ocean and the Yucatan Channel separates it from the Caribbean Sea.

4. The population in US states along the Gulf is projected to reach 61.4 million people by 2025, a 40% increase.

5. Hundreds of millions of migratory birds cross the Gulf of Mexico each season.

6. The Gulf contains half of America’s coastal wetlands, 90% of its seagrass, and all its mangrove habitat.

7. Residents of the Gulf of Mexico Region spent $1 billion on saltwater fishing trips in 2011.

8. In 2011, there were 80,000 jobs created in the Gulf of Mexico Region by recreational fishing activities.

9. In 2011, over 3 million recreational anglers took 23 million fishing trips in the Gulf of Mexico Region.

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW: The term recreational fishing means going fishing for food, fun and sport—like we do!
The first European exploration of the Gulf of Mexico was by Amerigo Vespucci in 1497.

The Gulf’s shoreline extends for 3,500 miles.

The Gulf was created first by continental plates colliding in the Late Triassic period, around 300 million years ago.

As many as 49 shark species are known to inhabit the Gulf of Mexico.

The Gulf holds 643 quadrillion gallons of water.

The Gulf’s average depth is about 5,000 feet – relatively shallow compared to the open ocean, which has an average depth of 12,500 feet.

There are 29 marine mammal species found in the Gulf of Mexico.

It is the ninth largest body of water in the world, covering about 600,000 square miles.

Spotted seatrout is the most recreationally caught species in the Gulf Region with red drum coming in second.

There are over 750 known historical shipwrecks in the gulf, some dating as far back as the 1500s.

There are 207 estuaries that empty into the Gulf.
A beach activity that makes a difference? Trash cleanup! A super extended version of the classic **ROBOT CLAW** with a 3 foot reach is perfect for snapping up unwanted trash and dropping it into the closest trash bin. Its also great for shell and shark tooth hunting!

Be ready for your next underwater beach exploration with a creative twist! These **BLING2O** googles and masks have intensely polarized lenses, full UV protection and lots of unique and fun designs for boys and girls, so you’re protected and fashionable!

Be real treasure hunter with the **EXPLORE ONE JUNIOR METAL DETECTOR** that finds objects up to 6 inches below the surface. It has adjustable height, waterproof base and also comes with LED lights for low-light searching.

CCA members know all about catch and release! This **CATCH & RELEASE BEACH AQUARIUM** lets you study your beach catches like crabs or fish and then safely return them to their natural habitat! The lid is a screen which allows the entire aquarium to be submerged under water for sea creatures or gives fresh air for land dwellers!

**FOOD FUN!**

Bring sweet treats to the beach without all the sticky, sandy mess! Food-themed outdoor gear is all over the beach this summer. Some so realistic, you might be thinking, “Should I eat that or use it as a float?” **BIGMOUTH INC.** makes tons of hilarious, hunger-inducing floats and towels perfect for a day the beach!
TRY THIS!
beach sand canvas art

With just a few supplies from the craft store, you can turn your beach treasures into a work of art!

WHAT YOU NEED:
1 stretched canvas • white and blue acrylic paint • sand seashells • 1 large paint brush
1 jar rubber cement • hot glue gun

INSTRUCTIONS:
To start the “sandy area,” cover 1 corner with a layer of rubber cement.
Cover entire rubber cement layer with sand, then turn over and tap off excess.
On top of that layer of sand, pour and spread another layer of rubber cement.
Cover that rubber cement layer with sand, then turn over and tap off excess.
Repeat the last step once more, making it three layers of rubber cement and sand total.
Let the layers of rubber cement and sand dry for at least 2 hours.
Start the “ocean water” by painting the opposite corner with blue. Don’t rinse your brush.
As you move toward the center of the canvas, dab the same brush in white paint and blend in some white by gently streaking your brush back and forth.
Once you get about an inch from the sand, rinse your brush and using just white paint,
dab the blank area of canvas and carry over onto the “shoreline.”
Once your “seafoam shoreline” is complete, gently dab small streaks of white on top of the “ocean” to add some “breaking waves.”
To finish your piece, hot glue seashells or other beach treasures on top of the sand.
Find the perfect spot to hang it!
DO YOU HAVE A GREAT CATCH THAT COULD MAKE OUR KIDS FISHIN' PAGE?

Have your parents email them to photos@joincca.org or share on Facebook or Instagram using #JOINCCA

While we try our best to get everyone’s photo published, we cannot guarantee yours will be printed. Any photo with a child (under 13) not wearing a life jacket on a boat cannot be published, as we want to portray safe boating examples to all our readers.

Thank you Shell! Because of the generous support of Shell Oil Company, the Rising Tide Youth Program will continue to thrive!
FISHING TRIP CHECKLIST

We asked kids from all over the country, "Other than your rod, reel and bait, what essentials do you take with you when you go fishing?" Here’s the top 10 items CCA members like you say are key to a successful day on the water!

- ✔ Life Vest
- ✔ Measuring Stick
- ✔ Sunglasses
- ✔ Sunscreen
- ✔ Hook Removers
- ✔ Camera Phone
- ✔ Handheld Scale
- ✔ Water
- ✔ Hat
- ✔ Snacks
YOU are an important part of a conservation organization of more than 100,000 people who love and care about fishing and the health of marine life and habitat. That makes YOU...a pretty cool kid.