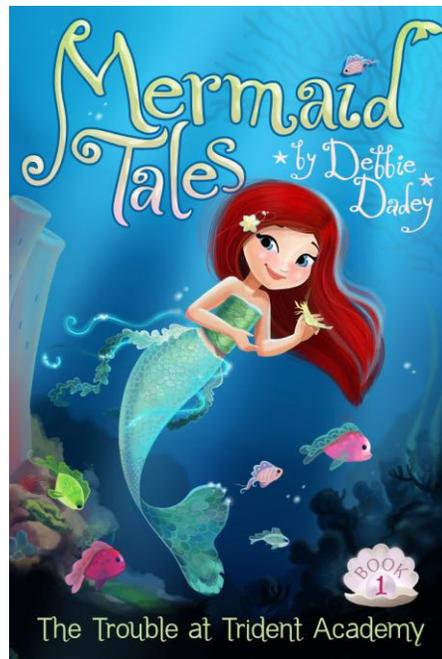


MERMAID TALES

A Teaching Unit

The Trouble at Trident Academy



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www.debbiedadey.com and www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey

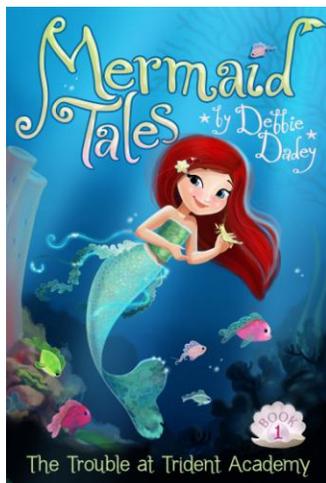
Other books in the Mermaid Tales series include:

Battle of the Best Friends

A Whale of a Tale

Danger in the Deep Blue Sea

Published by Simon and Schuster, 2012



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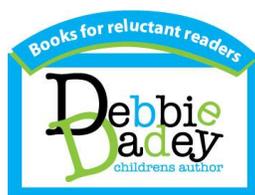
THE TROUBLE AT TRIDENT ACADEMY

Book Summary:

Shelly and Echo are super excited about their first day at the prestigious mermaid school, Trident Academy, until they find out that Pearl and Rocky are in their class. A huge project, teasing from Rocky, and a pot stuck on Echo's tail threaten to destroy Shelly and Echo's friendship until they find out that true friends can work through any problem.

Meet the author:

Debbie Dadey was born in Morganfield, Kentucky on May 18, 1959. In high school and college she worked at McDonalds and as a waitress. "I stunk as a waitress," Debbie says. She graduated with a Masters Degree in Library Science from Western Kentucky University, where she met her husband, Dr. Eric Dadey. Debbie taught first grade before becoming a librarian. Her favorite job is being a writer because she can be home with her children; Nathan, Becky, and Alex. Of course her dogs love for her to be home too. Bailey, Skip, and Shadow stay by her feet while she's writing. They live in Bucks County, PA. Her website is www.debbiedadey.com. She enjoys answering kid's questions on her blog, Debbie Talks.



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DEBBIE DADEY BOOKLIST

Here is a selected list of books by Debbie Dadey. For a complete list of titles visit www.debbiedadey.com

Mermaids Don't Run Track

The Other Side of Magic

Slime Wars

The Swamp Monster in Third Grade

This Side of Magic

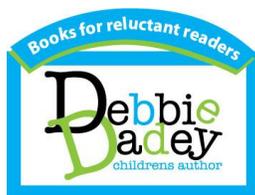
The Worst Name in Third Grade

Vampires Don't Wear Polka Dots

Pre-reading activities:

Before reading **The Trouble at Trident Academy** complete some or all of the activities below to peak interest in the story, as well as to increase comprehension, reading, and predicting skills.

1. Ask students to tell you what they know about the ocean. Put their answers on a board or screen. Pass out books about the ocean and let them find fun facts for the board or to put on the activity on page four.
2. Ask students to predict what students would learn if they went to a school under the ocean. Put their answers on a board or screen.
3. Tell students we are going to read about kids who go to school underwater. Tell them to see if their predictions were right.



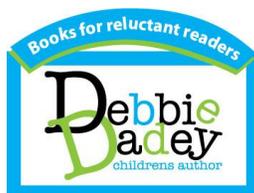
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Pre-reading activity/research

Name:	Date:	
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Find four interesting facts about the ocean and write them here:	Fact one:	Fact two:	Fact three:	Fact four:
Write the names of the books where you found the interesting facts here:	Book title: Author:	Book title: Author:	Book title: Author:	Book title: Author:

WHAT FACT DID YOU FIND MOST INTERESTING?:



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New words To Learn for *The Trouble at Trident Academy*

Chapter 1

Trident	academy	Café
Neptune	sashes	Plankton

Chapter 2 and 3

massive	secretes	Irritant
illustrious	career	Krill

Chapter 4 and 5

grumpy	octopus	Fascination
cafeteria	headmaster	Vase

Chapter 6

museum	complained	Glittering
crustacean	Antarctic	Zooplankton

Chapter 7 - 10

Harlequin Shrimp	Emperor Shrimp	Casserole
glasswort	octopus	Gadgets

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FUN WAYS TO LEARN VOCABULARY WORDS FOR *THE TROUBLE AT TRIDENT ACADEMY.*

- Use the words in a sentence to see if students can guess their meanings through context.
- Let kids put their words in spelling boxes by drawing a rectangle and putting the word in it. Now, separate each syllable inside the boxes. Remind students that every box must have a vowel.
- Let students make a picture of things in the sea. Then let them hide their vocabulary words in the picture. Let another student try to find the words.
- Have students make up a scene from MermaidTales using at least three vocabulary words. Let students act out the scenes.
- Have students draw pictures to illustrate some of the vocabulary words. Use those pictures to make a mobile or collage.



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Chapter one/math

Name:	Date:
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In *The Trouble at Trident Academy* the girls drink Seaweed juice at The Big Rock Café. Below is a menu from the café. See if you can figure out how much things cost. On the back make up your own menu.



How much is a meal of Deep Sea Prawns and two seaweed juices? _____

How much is two Sea Grapes and two orders of The Days Catch? _____

How much change would you get from fifty clams if you bought Eyeball Stew and a Big Kelp drink? _____

How much are five Big Kelps, three seaweed juices, and two sea grapes? _____

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Chapter one/math ANSWERS

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In The Trouble at Trident Academy the girls drink seaweed juice at The Big Rock Café. Below is a menu from the café. See if you can figure out how much things cost. On the back make up your own menu.



How much is a meal of Deep Sea Prawns and two seaweed juices? 19

How much is two Sea Grapes and two orders of The Days Catch? 26

How much change would you get from fifty clams if you bought Eyeball Stew and a Big Kelp drink? 25

How much are five Big Kelps, three seaweed juices, and two sea grapes? 37

MERMAID TALES**Chapter 2/science**

Name:	Date:
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In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Shelly was a fry when she was a small fish. Use the library or Internet to help you match the offspring with their parent.

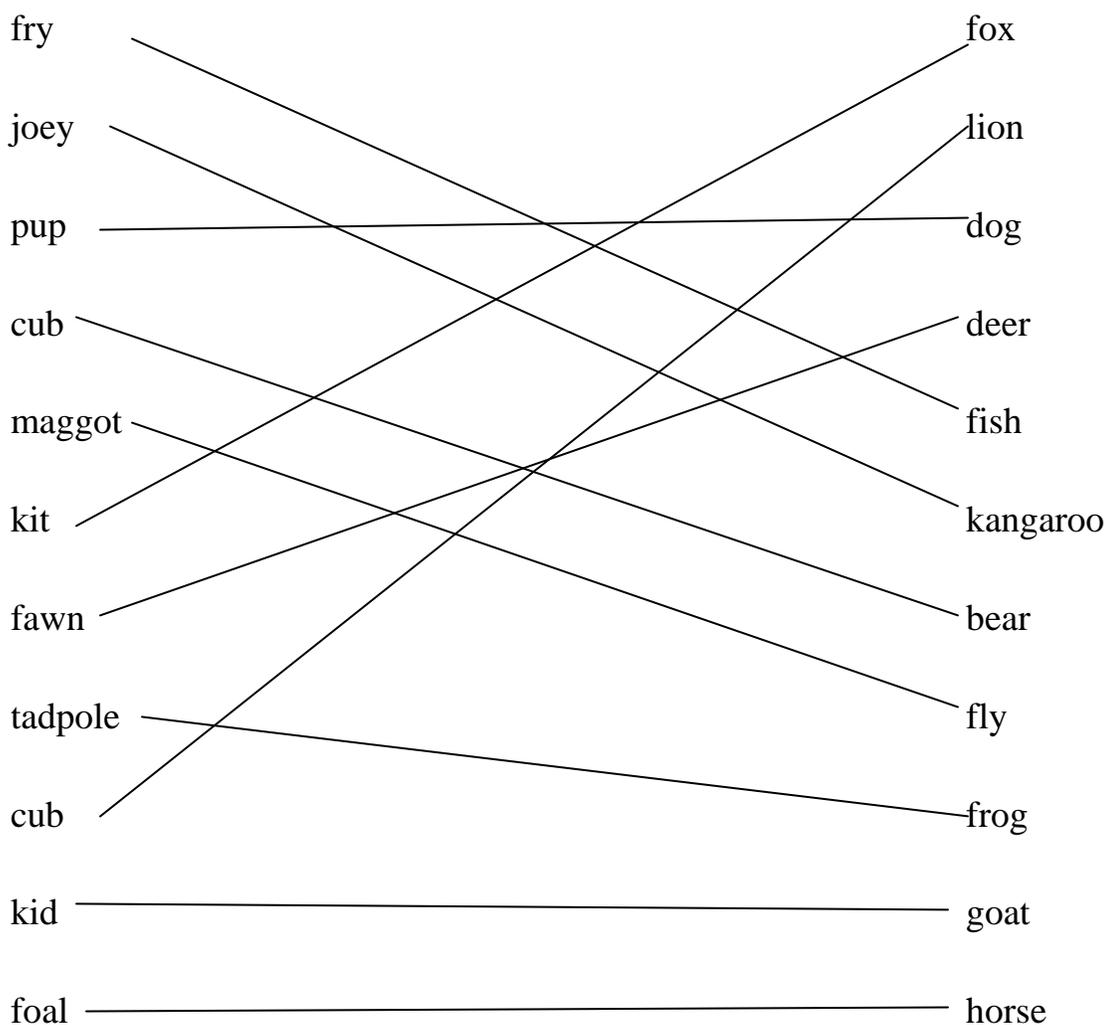
Fry	shark
joey	lion
pup	dog
Cub	deer
maggot	fish
kit	kangaroo
fawn	bear
tadpole	fly
cub	frog
kid	goat
foal	horse

MERMAID TALES

Chapter 2/science ANSWER SHEET

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Shelly was a fry when she was a small fish. Use the library or Internet to help you match the offspring with their parent.



MERMAID TALES Chapter 3/plurals

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Shelly and Echo try to follow the rules at their new school. Sometimes nouns don't follow the rules. Use the word bank to help you figure out the right plural noun for each sentence.

1. The dentist checked my _____ for cavities.
2. _____ are the main food for whales.
3. Dad screamed when he saw four _____ in the kitchen.
4. The _____ wore bright red lipstick.
5. The _____ went to the movies after supper.
6. On the school bus, the _____ sat in the back.
7. She ate the whole plate full of _____.
8. The sky was full of _____ flying north.

Teeth	mice	people	shrimp
Krill	women	children	geese

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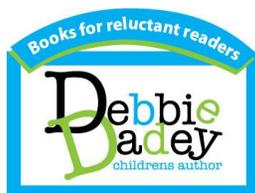
Chapter 3/plurals/ANSWERS

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Shelly and Echo try to follow the rules at their new school. Sometimes nouns don't follow the rules. Use the word bank to help you figure out the right plural noun for each sentence.

1. The dentist checked my _____ **teeth** _____ for cavities.
2. **Krill** _____ are the main food for whales.
3. Dad screamed when he saw four **mice** _____ in the kitchen.
4. The _____ **women** _____ wore bright red lipstick.
5. The _____ **people** _____ went to the movies after supper.
6. On the school bus, the **children** _____ sat in the back.
7. She ate the whole plate full of _____ **shrimp** _____.
8. The sky was full of _____ **geese** _____ flying north.

Teeth	mice	people	shrimp
Krill	women	children	geese



MERMAID TALES**Chapter 4/Venn diagram**

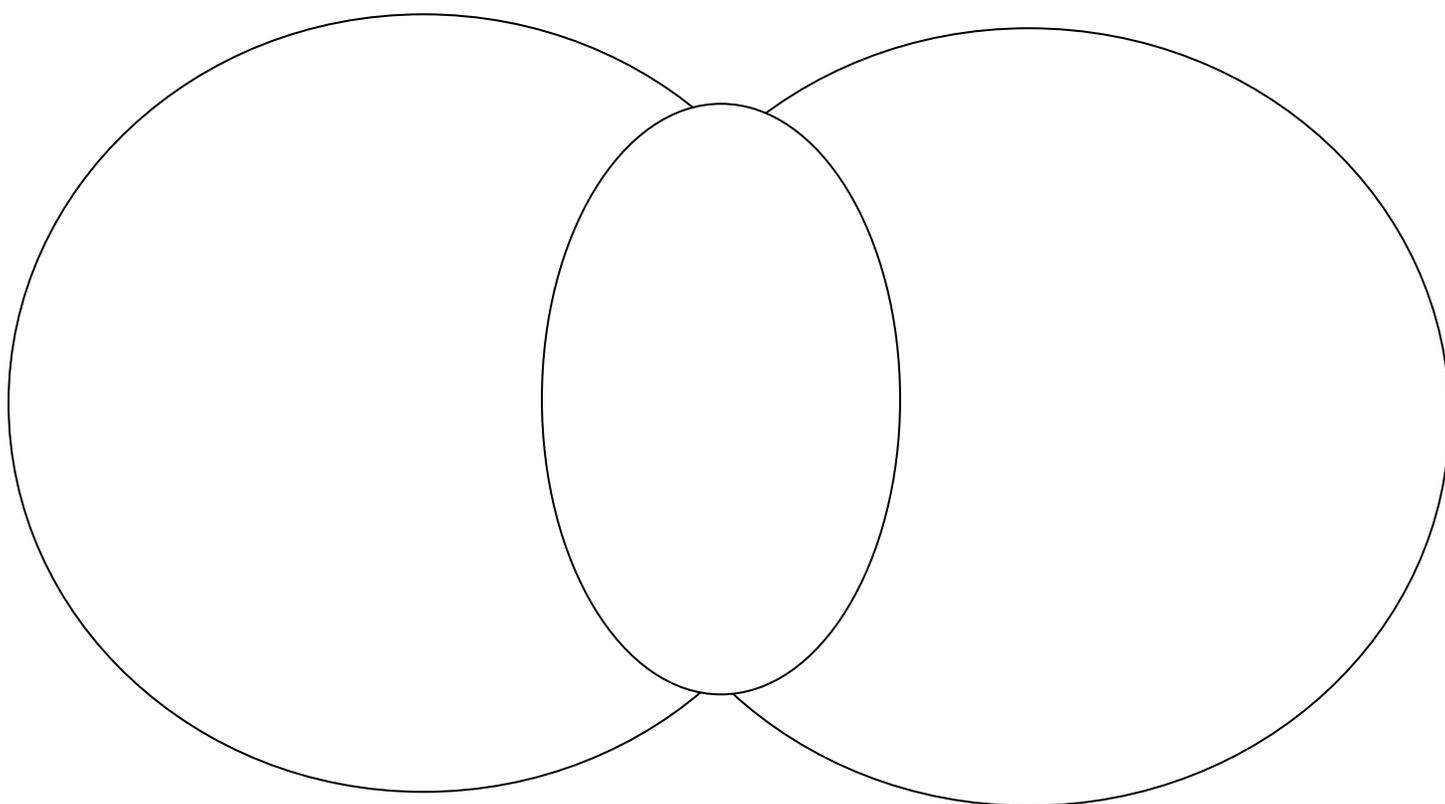
Name:	Date:
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Directions: Compare and contrast the differences between mermaids and people in the diagram below. Put the things that they have in common in the middle. Answers will vary. Use *The Trouble for Trident Academy* for suggestions.

Mermaid

both

People



MERMAID TALES**Chapter 5/Narrative Writing**

Name: _____	Date: _____
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In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Echo gets a pot stuck on her tail. Now it's your turn to write a story about a black pot. Brainstorm some ideas: is it a pot full of treasure, special soup, or something else? Use the story elements below to start and write your story on the back.

Story Title _____

Characters _____

Setting (where does your story take place?) _____

Plot (what is your story about?) _____

Conflict (what is the problem in your story?) _____

Climax and Resolution (how do you solve the conflict?) _____

MERMAID TALES**Chapter 6/science and architecture**

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

A map of Trident City appears in the front of *The Trouble at Trident Academy*. Author Debbie Dadey made up the city after doing research on what might be found on the deep ocean floor. Make up your own city in a unique place like the ocean, the moon, or deep in a cave. **Where is your city?** _____ Use the library or Internet to research plants, rocks, or animals that you might find there. **Name three plants or rocks:**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Name animals or rocks that you might find in your city:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

On the back of the page, design your own city. Look at the Trident City map to see what type of things you might include. Don't forget schools, restaurants, hotels, museums, and places for people to live.

MERMAID TALES**Chapter 7/punctuation**

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

The following sentences from chapter seven of *The Trouble at Trident Academy* are missing some important punctuation marks. Fix what's wrong by marking above for capital letters and filling in for quotation marks, periods, commas, or question marks.

1. did you see that shelly asked echo
2. you thought rocky was cute
3. no its mr worm echo whispered
4. i dont think its nice to brag
5. i do echo yelled
6. but she didnt

Write your own sentences below using these words from chapter seven. Don't forget proper punctuation!

shrimp brag

1. _____
2. _____

MERMAID TALES**Chapter 7/punctuationANSWERS**

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

The following sentences from chapter seven of *The Trouble at Trident Academy* are missing some important punctuation marks. Fix what's wrong by marking above for capital letters and filling in for quotation marks, periods, commas, or question marks.

Corrections below:

1. "Did you see that?" Shelly asked Echo.
2. "You thought Rocky was cute?"
3. "No, it's Mr. Worm," Echo whispered.
4. "I don't think it's nice to brag."
5. "I do," Echo yelled.
6. But she didn't.

Write your own sentences below using these words from chapter seven. Don't forget proper punctuation!

shrimp

brag

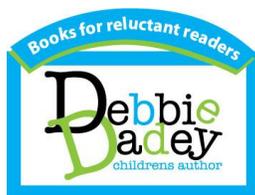
1. _____
2. _____

MERMAID TALES**Chapter 8/multiplication**

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Shelly and Rocky love to play Shell Wars. Every regular score in Shell Wars is worth five points, but field goals are worth two. Figure out each team's score and who won.

Rocky's team's score	Shelly's team's score	Who won?
5 regular scores and one field goal: _____	Four regular scores and three field goals: _____	
1 regular score and five field goals: _____	Two regular scores and three field goals: _____	
0 regular score and four field goals: _____	1 regular score and 1 field goal: _____	
2 regular scores and 1 field goal: _____	2 regular scores and 2 field goals: _____	
3 regular scores and 3 field goals: _____	2 regular scores and 6 field goals: _____	
4 regular scores and 1 field goal: _____	3 regular scores and 1 field goal: _____	

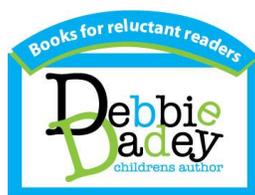


MERMAID TALES Chapter 8/multiplication/ANSWERS

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Shelly and Rocky love to play Shell Wars. Every regular score in Shell Wars is worth five points, but field goals are worth two. Figure out each team's score and who won.

Rocky's team's score	Shelly's team's score	Who won?
5 regular scores and one field goal: ___27___	Four regular scores and three field goals: ___26___	Rocky's team
1 regular score and five field goals: ___15___	Two regular scores and three field goals: ___16___	Shelly's team
0 regular score and four field goals: ___8___	1 regular score and 1 field goal: ___7___	Rocky's team
2 regular scores and 1 field goal: ___12___	2 regular scores and 2 field goals: ___14___	Shelly's team
3 regular scores and 3 field goals: ___21___	2 regular scores and 6 field goals: ___22___	Shelly's team
4 regular scores and 1 field goal: ___22___	3 regular scores and 1 field goal: ___16___	Rocky's team



MERMAID TALES**Chapter 9/comprehension**

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In *The Trouble at Trident Academy* Grandpa Siren refused to use motor oil because it is dangerous to ocean life. Read the paragraph below to find out about a dangerous oil spill and then answer the questions.

Gulf Oil Spill

On April 20, 2010 the Deepwater Horizon oil platform exploded. Rescue workers rushed to save the people onboard and to put out the fire. Unfortunately oil began leaking from a pipe into the ocean. The United States Coast guard estimated that as much as 5,000 barrels of oil may have leaked each day. It was the largest oil spill in United States history and the second largest in the world. Sea turtles, pelicans, jellyfish, whales, dolphins, fish, and crabs are among the creatures whose habitat was hurt by the spill.

1. What caused the oil spill in the gulf? _____

2. What was the second largest oil spill ever? _____

3. Name three animals whose habitats were hurt by the gulf oil spill. _____

MERMAID TALES**Chapter 9/comprehension/ANSWERS**

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In *The Trouble at Trident Academy* Grandpa Siren refused to use motor oil because it is dangerous to ocean life. Read the paragraph below to find out about a dangerous oil spill and then answer the questions.

Gulf Oil Spill

On April 20, 2010 the Deepwater Horizon oil platform exploded. Rescue workers rushed to save the people onboard and to put out the fire. Unfortunately oil began leaking from a pipe into the ocean. The United States Coast guard estimated that as much as 5,000 barrels of oil may have leaked each day. It was the largest oil spill in United States history and the second largest in the world. Sea turtles, pelicans, jellyfish, whales, dolphins, fish, and crabs are among the creatures whose habitat was hurt by the spill.

1. What caused the oil spill in the gulf? _____
 _____ **an explosion** _____
2. What was the second largest oil spill ever? _____
 _____ **the Gulf Oil spill** _____
3. Name three animals whose habitats were hurt by the gulf oil spill? **See last line above** _____

MERMAID TALES**Chapter 10/geography**

Name:	Date:
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In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Shelly and Echo make friends with Kiki. Did you know that Kiki is from the waters close to China? Answer these questions using the map.

1. Name three countries that border (touch) China. _____

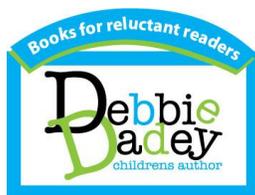
2. Name two islands in the Pacific Ocean. _____

3. On the back, list four bodies of water shown on the map.

4. On the back, list two countries that begin with the letter I.



Map credit: <http://www.yourchildlearns.com/online-atlas/southeast-asia-map.htm>



MERMAID TALES**Chapter 10/geography/ANSWERS**

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In *The Trouble at Trident Academy*, Shelly and Echo make friends with Kiki. Did you know that Kiki is from the waters close to China? Answer these questions using the map.

1. Name three countries that border (touch) China. _____

_____ Vietnam, Laos, and Burma are shown

2. Name two islands in the Pacific Ocean. _____

_____ Taiwan, Philippines, Indonesia are shown _____

3. On the back, list four bodies of water shown on the map. **South China Sea, Pacific Ocean, Bay of Bengal, and Indian Ocean.**

4. On the back, list two countries that begin with the letter I.

Indonesia and India



Map credit: <http://www.yourchildlearns.com/online-atlas/southeast-asia-map.htm>

