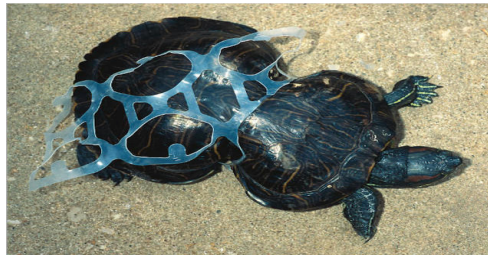


# SAVE THE EARTH FROM PLASTIC BY **BEN SLEATOR AND JACK STALLARD DOYLE**



Researchers previously found that related **moth larvae can biodegrade polyethylene**, beetle larvae known as mealworms can eat Styrofoam, and soil bacteria can munch on polyethylene terephthalate drink-bottle plastic.

Among the bacteria, **Pseudomonas species** degraded 20.54% of polythene and 8.16% of plastics in one-month period. Among the fungal species, *Aspergillus glaucus* degraded 28.80% of polythene and 7.26% of plastics in one-month period.



**Wildlife can easily get trapped and entangled in plastics, preventing them from being mobile to hunt for food or become more vulnerable early prey**

## **What animals are most affected by plastic?**

**Seals, whales, dolphins, seabirds, fish, crabs and many other sea animals are dying because of the amount of plastic that ends up in the sea**



