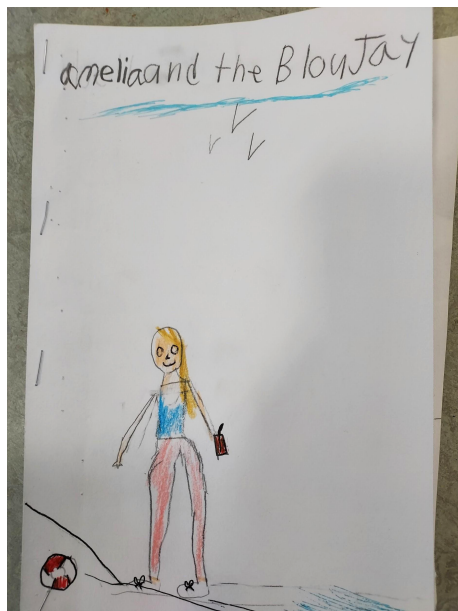


Amelia and the Blue Jay

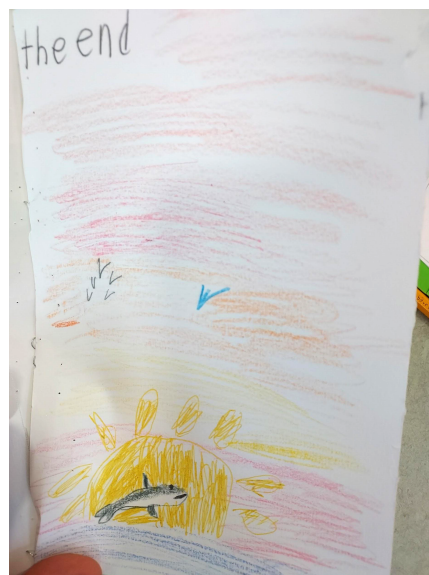
by Jayne Gonella



ONE DAY, AMELIA was on a cruise ship in the ocean. She was excited. She was drinking strawberry lemonade and playing in the pool. She heard a loud *bump*. Oh no, was it an earthquake? Nope, something had crashed into the window of the boat cabin! She ran over to see. It was a hurt bird. She thought it was a blue jay, although she had never seen one before. It wasn't moving. She thought it might be dead. *Why did this happen?* she thought, worried and sad.

She gently picked up the blue jay and saw that he was quietly chattering, so he wasn't dead! She felt some hope. She said "your name will be Ocean," and smiled. *When the cruise ship stops, I will bring you to the vet,* she thought.

Amelia's mom agreed and they kept Ocean in a box until they got back to land. Amelia pulled out her bird guide and discovered that blue jays live nowhere near where they were.



*How did he get here? she wondered. Maybe he got blown from a hurricane.
Or, did something else happen?*

When they landed, Amelia opened up the box to give Ocean some fresh air,
but he flew away into the sunset!

Amelia hoped Ocean would get back home.

The End



Can you figure out where Amelia was on her boat? These are the clues

1. There are a lot of earthquakes there
2. There are no blue jays there normally
3. She's about twelve hours driving from her home in Colorado
4. It's warm all year there
5. It's in the United States



Look at a blue jay range map so you can see where blue jays live:

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Blue_Jay/maps-range