



# WHY THE OCEAN IS SALTY

Have you ever wondered why the ocean is salty? This is a question that a lot of children have asked before. So many children around the world have asked this question so many times that almost all cultures and countries have a different story to explain it. In the Philippines, a country surrounded by water, there are even **multiple** versions of this myth.

According to legend, the ocean was not always salty. The people in the Philippines used their boats to cross the sea to get salt from a mountain of salt across the sea.

One day, the village people ran out of salt. But they didn't want to cook without salt. They needed the salt to make their food more delectable and tasty. However, they could not cross the sea because of strong winds and huge waves. The villagers wondered how they could get to the mountain of salt. Then one of the villagers said, "Let's ask Ang-ngalo for help!"

Ang-ngalo was a giant that lived in a mountain near the village. He was a friendly giant who was always ready to help the villagers.

"Ang-ngalo," called the villagers, "please help us, we need to get to the mountain of salt."

The giant agreed to help the villagers. He sat on the shore and spread his leg across the ocean. "Cross my leg and use it as a bridge," he told the villagers.

So the villagers took their empty sacks and pails and crossed the giant's leg.

But the giant did not notice that he had placed his heel on an anthill! Big, red ants, started crawling on his foot and biting the giant. It was itchy and painful! Ang-ngalo waited until the last villager had crossed. Then, he bent his leg so that he could wash the ants off in the ocean. He felt better after washing the ants off. He was relieved.

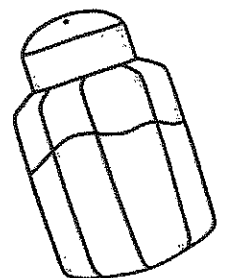
After a while, the villagers shouted and waved at Ang-ngalo. "Ang-ngalo, stretch your leg out again, we're ready to go home!" But Ang-ngalo was scared he would get bitten again. He was terrified of the ants.

The villagers could not believe that the big giant like him would be so scared of the tiny ants. "Please Ang-ngalo, we need salt for our meat and fish!"

Ang-ngalo, because he was really kind, didn't want to let the villagers down. So sat down again and stretched his leg. The villagers started climbing and making their way back to their village.

"Hurry, the ants are biting me again!" cried Ang-ngalo.

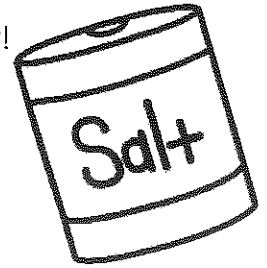
But the villagers really did not take him seriously. They walked leisurely, telling stories, and laughing along the way.



Soon, the ants started crawling up the giant's leg. The giant couldn't take it anymore! It was really itchy and very painful and the bites were burning. He couldn't keep his leg still. He moved his leg and dipped it in the water.

Suddenly, the villagers fell in the ocean, along with their sacks and pails of salt!

Ang-ngalo quickly rescued all the villagers, and everyone was saved. Unfortunately, all the pails and sacks of salt fell into the ocean. All of the salt was dissolved into the water.



This is why the ocean is salty.

### Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Which details best describe the setting in this story?
  - a. many years ago in the Philippines
  - b. a few years ago in the Philippines
  - c. last week in Hawaii
  - d. during the Civil War
  
2. What caused Ang-ngalo to dip his leg into the water?
  - a. ants were tickling him
  - b. the villagers were too heavy
  - c. he was getting too hot
  - d. ants were biting him
  
3. Which of the following best describes Ang-ngalo's personality?
  - a. intimidating
  - b. helpful
  - c. afraid
  - d. embarrassed
  
4. What does the word **delectable** mean?
  - a. something that smells really good
  - b. something that tastes really good
  - c. something that does not taste good
  - d. something you can eat with your fingers
  
5. According to this myth, explain why the ocean is salty in your own words. \_\_\_\_\_

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# Division

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Show your work on another sheet.  
Write your answers here.

1.  $8 \overline{)532}$

2.  $4 \overline{)269}$

3.  $6 \overline{)562}$

4.  $2 \overline{)179}$

5.  $9 \overline{)659}$

6.  $3 \overline{)119}$

7.  $7 \overline{)439}$

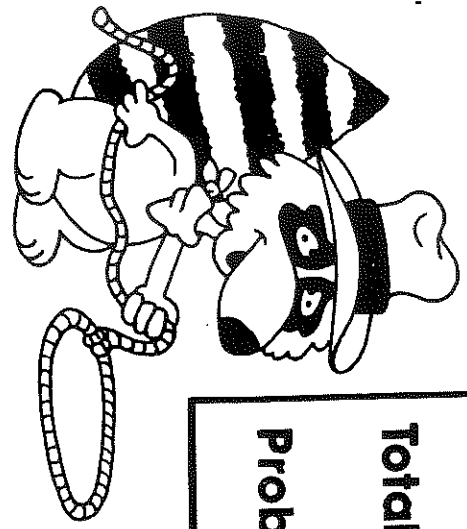
8.  $5 \overline{)484}$

9.  $4 \overline{)155}$

10.  $9 \overline{)587}$

11.  $8 \overline{)757}$

12.  $2 \overline{)157}$



<b>Total Problems</b> _____
<b>Problems Correct</b> _____