

## A day in the River

During my childhood, I always liked going to river beaches, to the river and walking outdoors. This was a way to have fun on summer holidays and spend time with people I really love. Most of the time, I went with my grandparents, we tried to find a quiet place to have a picnic and we played a lot in the water. Over the years, this habit becomes rarer, because of the advancing age of my grandparents and their consequent physical limitations.

I remember and miss all those pleasant moments a lot, most especially a very hot day in 2012. My three cousins, our grandparents and I left home very early and we went to the Loriga river beach. After about forty minutes, and after enjoying the incredible and beautiful natural view, we arrived at the river.

We chose a great place at the shade near the water, which pleased us a lot, because me and my cousins were anxious to begin playing. It's a big, nice and beautiful place. We spent the morning in the water, with my grandparents always watching us because the rocks are slippery, and we could fall. When lunch time came, we prepared the picnic and, after being satisfied, we explored the local environment.

We walked for about 1 km and, surprisingly, we found a baby turtle crippled and probably out of the water for quite a while. Only being eight years old, we immediately wanted to take it home with us, so that we could take care of the small animal, but our grandparents told us that that was impossible and the best thing to do was to take it to the lifeguard and they would be able to have the animal the help it needed, until it was fine to be taken back to its natural habitat.

And that we did: we saw how the vet took care of the turtle and helped it to improve. As we had found it, we took it to the river. This moment marked my day in a positive and really good way, because we had saved a turtle.

Until today, we remember this day as one of the most important ever. My cousin was influenced by this little turtle and today she loves aquatic animals, and, in the future, she really wants to be a marine biologist.

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