

“I use the camera to share my passion for the ocean
and to get people to care about the natural world.”

GAELIN ROSENWAKS



Make It HAPPEN!



Before Reading

Think about your own goals. Do you want to play soccer or make music? All of these activities take time and practice.

During Reading

During reading, review the highlighted vocab words. While learning about Gaelin, understand how she got to where she is today. What **skills** has she shown that have helped her **career**? In each chapter, the Make It Happen! activity will help you, too, build skills to reach your own goals.

After Reading

Look in the back of the book for questions and activities to help you think about Gaelin's story. Share these with a friend, parent, or teacher. Also, talk about the skills you need to reach your goals.

skill: the ability to do something that comes from training, experience, or practice

career: a job or profession that someone does for a long time



Contents

Early Life 6

First Steps of the Journey... 10

Overcoming Obstacles..... 14

Teamwork..... 18

Current Career..... 22

Defining Moments 26

Depth of Knowledge 28

Raise Environmental Awareness 29

Glossary 30

Read More 31

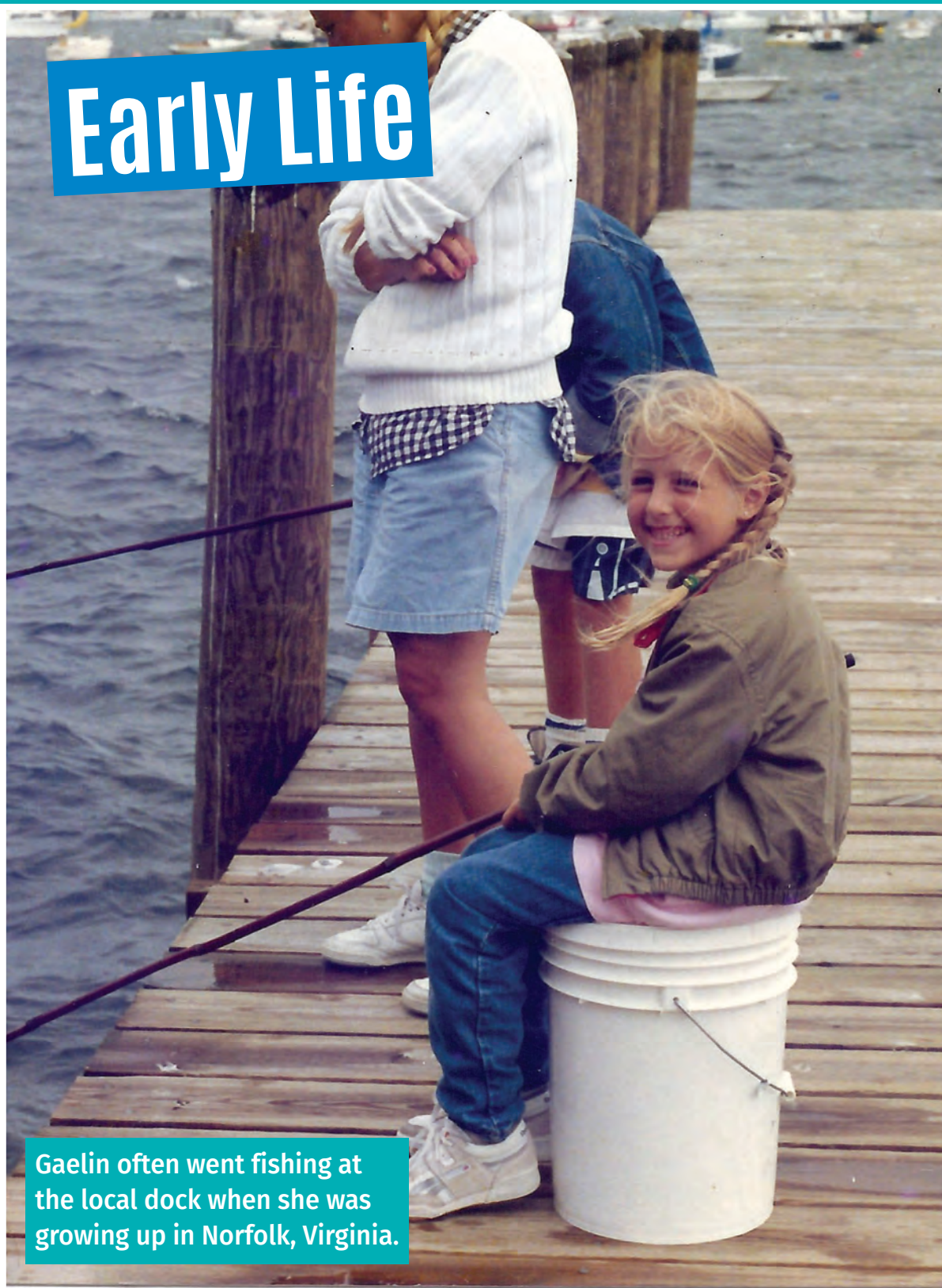
Internet Links..... 31

Bibliography..... 32

Index 32



Early Life



Gaelin often went fishing at the local dock when she was growing up in Norfolk, Virginia.



Gaelin swam with hammerhead sharks off the coast of the Bahamas in 2017.

In the deep, dark ocean, a hammerhead shark stares at a nearby diver. It is a woman with a camera. She is wearing a black wetsuit and **SCUBA gear**. She is Gaelin Rosenwaks. Gaelin takes a photo of the hammerhead. Then it slowly disappears into the blue waters. Gaelin turns and swims deeper into the ocean. She has more exploring to do.

For Gaelin, the ocean has been a part of her life for as long as she can remember. She feels at home in the ocean. She knows how important it is for life on Earth. Gaelin's career is studying it, protecting it, and teaching people about it through her movies, photographs, and writing.

SCUBA gear: the tools and equipment used for underwater diving

Who Is Gaelin?

Gaelin has always loved the ocean. She learned to swim by the age of two. She caught her first fish when she was three years old. Gaelin spent a lot of her early childhood in Norfolk, Virginia, near the Elizabeth River. Gaelin was not afraid of the ocean or the creatures in it. She and her brother often played and fished at the beach.

Other kids watched cartoons, but Gaelin's favorite TV shows were about science and nature.

Gaelin's family loved nature. Her mom often took her and her brother to the beach. They used nets to catch and look at **marine** life, like fish and crabs. Gaelin's dad traveled a lot for work. Often, the family went with him. When Gaelin was nine years old, her family went to Bali, Indonesia. Gaelin went snorkeling. "The colors and passing fish were the most



The sea life in Bali had a huge impact on Gaelin.



amazing thing I had ever seen,” Gaelin said. “I realized then that the world is a big and beautiful place filled with wonder,” she said. She realized she wanted to be a **marine biologist**.

marine: having to do with the ocean

marine biologist: a scientist who studies the ocean and the plants and animals that live in it

Make It HAPPEN!

Research a Cool Career

Gaelin knew she wanted to become a marine biologist when she was a little girl. She took **initiative** to make her dream come true. What career do you dream of having someday? At your school or local library, **research** your dream job. Use books and the internet. You can also ask a teacher or adult for ideas.

- What skills do you need for this job?
- What kind of education do you need?
- Do you need to live in a special place, perhaps near water or in a city?
- What hobbies, school classes, or clubs can you start doing now?

initiative: the ability to get things done

research: to seriously study a topic in order to find and report new knowledge about it

What types of careers do you like? What careers do your classmates like? How are your interests similar or different?

First Steps of the Journey



As Gaelin grew up, she continued to have great respect for the ocean and everything that lived in the water.

Gaelin started working toward her goal of being a marine biologist. As a teenager, she went to marine science camp. She learned that to keep the Earth healthy, the oceans must be healthy, too. Gaelin also became a SCUBA diver. “SCUBA diving opened up the world in a new and exciting way for me,” Gaelin said. She started to read everything she could about oceans and nature.

Marine biologists need college degrees. To reach her goal, Gaelin studied hard in school. She then went to college to study biology at the University of Pennsylvania. After college she worked in a lab, and her hard work and **perseverance** were rewarded. She earned a spot as part of a team on a huge research ship in Antarctica!



Antarctica is a continent in the Southern Ocean. It is home to the south pole and is covered in ice.



perseverance: willing to keep trying in the face of difficulties or obstacles