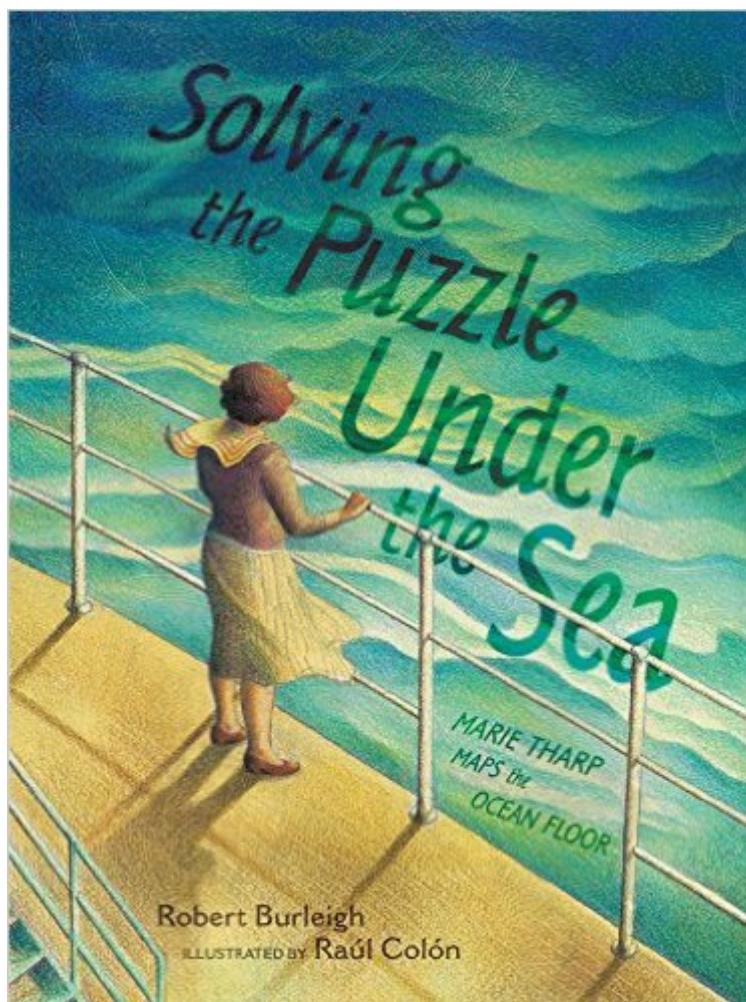


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Solving The Puzzle Under The Sea: Marie Tharp Maps The Ocean Floor



Synopsis

Filled with gorgeous illustrations by acclaimed artist Raúl Colom, this illustrated biography shares the story of female scientist, Marie Tharp, a pioneering woman scientist and the first person to ever successfully map the ocean floor. Marie Tharp was always fascinated by the ocean. Taught to think big by her father who was a mapmaker, Marie wanted to do something no one had ever done before: map the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. Was it even possible? Not sure if she would succeed, Marie decided to give it a try. Throughout history, others had tried and failed to measure the depths of the oceans. Sailors lowered weighted ropes to take measurements. Even today, scientists are trying to measure the depth by using echo sounder machines to track how long it would take a sound wave sent from a ship to the sea floor to come back. But for Marie, it was like piecing together an immense jigsaw puzzle. Despite past failures and challenges—“sometimes Marie would be turned away from a ship because having a woman on board was a bad luck”—Marie was determined to succeed. And she did, becoming the first person to chart the ocean floor, helping us better understand the planet we call home. Award-winning author Robert Burleigh tells her story of imagination and perseverance. Beautifully illustrated by Raúl Colom, *Look Up!* is a book that will inspire readers to follow their dreams.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 750 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

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Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.5 x 11.5 inches

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (3 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Summary: Marie Tharp fell in love with maps when she and her family moved from place to place for her father's job. After attending 17 different schools, she studied geography in college, then got a job at Lamont Geological Laboratory at Columbia University. Looking for a groundbreaking idea to work on, she teamed up with her colleague Bruce Heezen to map the ocean floor. For 20 years, from 1957 to 1977, Heezen collected data on many ocean trips, and Tharp turned the data into maps of the floors of the oceans. Along the way, she discovered a deep rift in the Atlantic Ocean which helped support the theory of continental drift. Her maps have been used in schools and museums around the world. End matter includes more information about Marie Tharp, a glossary and bibliography, and a page entitled, "Things to Wonder About and Do". 40 pages; grades K-4. Pros: The first person narration imbues the story with Marie's own energy and enthusiasm. Colon's illustrations beautifully capture the light and colors of the seas and the intricacies of Tharp's maps. Cons: The continents are moving an inch or two every year?!

Bought it for grandchildren, the oldest is crazy about maps (age 7) His sister at 5 needs to learn that women can do anything. And their mother, who was a meteorologist, was the one that told her parents about plate tectonics when she was in grade school. Dad, another meteorologist, fishes with a fish finding camera. Basically it was neat for anyone on the list. Did make me wonder if she ever married? Super book!

This biography of an astonishing scientist notes her key achievements, with gorgeous illustrations that suggest the importance and beauty of Marie Tharp's findings. It's an important book to further the history of women and science.

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