

Sylvia Earle

Quotes

*Ocean, Sea, Years, People, Thinking, Blue, Sharks, Earth, Water, Oil, Mean,
Past, Ecosystems, Fishing, Children, Heart, Numbers, Use, Support Systems,
Oxygen*

With every drop of water you drink, every breath you take, you're connected to the sea. No matter where on Earth you live.

~Sylvia Earle

We need to respect the oceans and take care of them as if our lives depended on it. Because they do.

~Sylvia Earle

The oceans deserve our respect and care, but you have to know something before you can care about it.

~Sylvia Earle

Our past, our present, and whatever remains of our future, absolutely depend on what we do now.

~Sylvia Earle

No water, no life. No blue, no green.

~Sylvia Earle

Sharks are beautiful animals, and if you're lucky enough to see lots of them, that means that you're in a healthy ocean. You should be afraid if you are in the ocean and don't see sharks.

~Sylvia Earle

Every time I slip into the ocean, it's like going home.

~Sylvia Earle

Far and away, the greatest threat to the ocean, and thus to ourselves, is ignorance. But we can do something about that.

~Sylvia Earle

I have lots of heroes: anyone and everyone who does whatever they can to leave the natural world better than they found it.

~Sylvia Earle

If the sea is sick, we'll feel it. If it dies, we die. Our future and the state of the oceans are one.

~Sylvia Earle

I suggest to everyone: Look in the mirror. Ask yourself: Who are you? What are your talents? Use them, and do what you love.

~Sylvia Earle

Great attention gets paid to rainforests because of the diversity of life there. Diversity in the oceans is even greater.

~Sylvia Earle

Like a shipwreck or a jetty, almost anything that forms a structure in the ocean, whether it is natural or artificial over time, collects life.

~Sylvia Earle

We must protect our ocean as if our lives depend upon it, because they do.

~Sylvia Earle

I hope for your help to explore and protect the wild ocean in ways that will restore the health and, in so doing, secure hope for humankind. Health to the ocean means health for us.

~Sylvia Earle

There's plenty of water in the universe without life, but nowhere is there life without water.

~Sylvia Earle

Ice ages have come and gone. Coral reefs have persisted.

~Sylvia Earle

We are all together in this, we are all together in this single living ecosystem called planet earth.

~Sylvia Earle

Everyone has power. But it doesn't help if you don't use it.

~Sylvia Earle

With care and protection, with safe havens in the ocean, there is still a good chance that we can turn things around.

~Sylvia Earle

Everybody can make choices that will make peace with the natural world.

~Sylvia Earle

I hope that someday we will find evidence that there is intelligent life among humans on this planet.

~Sylvia Earle

We've got to somehow stabilize our connection to nature so that in 50 years from now, 500 years, 5,000 years from now there will still be a wild system and respect for what it takes to sustain us.

~Sylvia Earle

We have become frighteningly effective at altering nature.

~Sylvia Earle

Nothing has prepared sharks, squid, krill and other sea creatures for industrial-scale extraction that destroys entire ecosystems while targeting a few species.

~Sylvia Earle

We still have 10 percent of the sharks. We still have half of the coral reefs. However, if we wait another 50 years, opportunities might well be gone.

~Sylvia Earle

I find the lure of the unknown irresistible.

~Sylvia Earle

Many of us ask what can I, as one person, do, but history shows us that everything good and bad starts because somebody does something or does not do something.

~Sylvia Earle

Scientists never stop asking. They're little kids who never grew up.

~Sylvia Earle

I want to get out in the water. I want to see fish, real fish, not fish in a laboratory.

~Sylvia Earle

You don't have to touch the ocean for the ocean to touch you

~Sylvia Earle

We're still under the weight of this impression that the ocean is too big to fail, that the planet is too big to fail.

~Sylvia Earle

We have been far too aggressive about extracting ocean wildlife, not appreciating that there are limits and even points of no return.

~Sylvia Earle

Since the middle of the 20th century, more has been learnt about the ocean than during all preceding human history; at the same time, more has been lost.

~Sylvia Earle

The oxygen cycle, the nitrogen cycle, the carbon cycle, the water cycle - all of these are linked to the existence of life in the sea.

~Sylvia Earle

Protecting vital sources of renewal - unscathed marshes, healthy reefs, and deep-sea gardens - will provide hope for the future of the Gulf, and for all of us.

~Sylvia Earle

If I seem like a radical it's because I have seen things that others have not.

~Sylvia Earle

We have the power to abstain from destructive behavior.

~Sylvia Earle

Look at a child and realize that their future is in your hands. It's not just those who will be here fifty years from now. The decisions we make in the next ten years will shape the next 10,000 years.

~Sylvia Earle

If you think the ocean isn't important, imagine Earth without it. Mars comes to mind. No ocean, no life support system.

~Sylvia Earle

The ocean seemed like a sea of Eden. But now we are facing paradise lost.

~Sylvia Earle

Any astronaut can tell you you've got to do everything you can to learn about your life support system and then do everything you can to take care of it.

~Sylvia Earle

I've always said, 'Underwater or on top, men and women are compatible.'

~Sylvia Earle

Photosynthetic organisms in the sea yield most of the oxygen in the atmosphere, take up and store vast amounts of carbon dioxide, shape planetary chemistry, and hold the planet steady.

~Sylvia Earle

Humans have always wondered the big questions, "Who am I? Where have I come from? Where am I going?" It's part of human nature. It's perhaps the underpinnings of religion.

~Sylvia Earle

The end of commercial fishing is predicted long before the middle of the 21st century.

~Sylvia Earle

When I arrived on the planet, there were only two billion. Wildlife was more abundant, we were less so; now the situation is reversed.

~Sylvia Earle

Use your power to do whatever it takes to secure for humankind an enduring place on this little blue speck in the universe - our only hope.

~Sylvia Earle

My parents moved to Florida when I was 12, and my backyard was the Gulf of Mexico.

~Sylvia Earle

Most of life on Earth has a deep past, much deeper than ours. And we have benefited from the distillation of all preceding history, call it evolutionary history if you will.

~Sylvia Earle

Childcare is a huge issue for young women whose work may require them to leave their families for weeks at a time.

~Sylvia Earle

If Darwin could get into a submarine and see what I've seen, thousand of feet beneath the ocean, I am just confident that he would be inspired to sit down and start writing all over again.

~Sylvia Earle

The Earth is a unique system in the universe, the only planet we know of that's hospitable for humankind.

~Sylvia Earle

I've had the joy of spending thousands of hours under the sea. I wish I could take people along to see what I see, and to know what I know.

~Sylvia Earle

Evolution is not something to be feared. It's to be celebrated, embraced, and understood.

~Sylvia Earle

Our job is to keep what is working intact and not destroy what we have got.

~Sylvia Earle

There is this sweet spot in time when we have an opportunity to stop killing sharks and tunas and swordfish and other wildlife in the sea before it's too late.

~Sylvia Earle

You should know what is taken out of the ecosystem in order to give you a moment's sustenance.

~Sylvia Earle

I personally have stopped eating seafood.

~Sylvia Earle

I actually love diving at night; you see a lot of fish then that you don't

see in the daytime.

~Sylvia Earle

The ocean is our life support system. No blue, no green. It's really a miracle that we have got a place that works in our favor.

~Sylvia Earle

The concept of 'peak oil' has penetrated the hearts and minds of people concerned about energy for the future. 'Peak fish' occurred around the end of the 1980s.

~Sylvia Earle

Ignorance is the biggest problem of all for the ocean - and for many other things as well.

~Sylvia Earle

We have found ways to capture, kill and market ocean wildlife on an unprecedented scale. It's an absolute catastrophe.

~Sylvia Earle

Our insatiable appetite for fossil fuels and the corporate mandate to maximize shareholder value encourages drilling without taking into account the costs to the ocean, even without major spills.

~Sylvia Earle

We want to believe that we can continue doing what we've done for the past thousand years and not worry about the consequences coming back to us.

~Sylvia Earle

We are depleting this immense diversity and abundance of life, and it matters tremendously for the future of the planet.

~Sylvia Earle

Only two percent of the ocean is fully protected right now.

~Sylvia Earle

The ocean is dying, and we have no place to escape to if this experiment doesn't go in our favor.

~Sylvia Earle

The Arctic is an ocean. The southern pole is a continent surrounded by ocean. The North Pole is an ocean, or northern waters. It's an ocean surrounded by land, basically.

~Sylvia Earle

We understand that we must make peace with nature - that our lives depend on it.

~Sylvia Earle

Life in the ocean makes Earth hospitable. We are sailing along in the universe and we have a blue engine that is making everything alright.

~Sylvia Earle

We are taking way more out of the ocean than the ocean can replenish.

~Sylvia Earle

We don't have to be that greedy generation that just continued to take down the underpinnings of what makes the planet work in our favor.

~Sylvia Earle

There's a vested interest in trying to keep people smoking cigarettes.

~Sylvia Earle

If you make the choice to just go with the flow, that is a choice to make a difference in a negative way.

~Sylvia Earle

Knowledge is the key to making a difference.

~Sylvia Earle

Health to the ocean means health for us.

~Sylvia Earle

With knowing comes caring.

~Sylvia Earle

This much is certain: We have the power to damage the sea, but no sure way to heal the harm.

~Sylvia Earle

I am driven by what I know; that the world I love is in trouble.

~Sylvia Earle

It is not too late to turn things around.

~Sylvia Earle

No creature on Earth ever has organized themselves in ways that we have, with the capacity to alter the nature of nature the way we have.

~Sylvia Earle

The Earth is a tiny blue speck in a universe of unfriendly options.

~Sylvia Earle

The next 10 years could be the most important in the next 10,000.

~Sylvia Earle

The ocean governs the climate and the weather, it is taking care of the temperature and it is shaping the chemistry of our planet.

~Sylvia Earle

You should ask where your food is coming from.

~Sylvia Earle

We have the capacity to alter the nature of nature. No, we don't have just the capacity - we are altering the nature of nature, the natural systems that cause the planet to function in our favor.

~Sylvia Earle

If somebody dumps something noxious in my back yard, the dumper is the last one I would call on to repair the damage.

~Sylvia Earle

In terms of personal choices, let's all think more carefully about where we get our protein from.

~Sylvia Earle

I love music of all kinds, but there's no greater music than the sound of my grandchildren laughing; my kids, too.

~Sylvia Earle

Eating wildlife is probably not the smartest thing that we can do in terms of maintaining the integrity of natural systems.

~Sylvia Earle

Humans are the only creatures with the ability to dive deep in the sea, fly high in the sky, send instant messages around the globe, reflect on the past, assess the present and imagine the future.

~Sylvia Earle

Fish from all over the world, from deep in the sea, wind up in countries from Germany to Japan. That is just crazy.

~Sylvia Earle

America gains most when individuals have great freedom to pursue personal goals without undue government interference.

~Sylvia Earle

Give the ocean a break. Give yourself a break.

~Sylvia Earle

Meat reared on land matures relatively quickly, and it takes only a few pounds of plants to produce a pound of meat.

~Sylvia Earle

Burning fossil fuels has given us the gift of seeing ourselves in new ways. But that very gift now enables us to see we've got to change our ways.

~Sylvia Earle

There is not a well-funded campaign among scientists to say, "Look, here's the evidence. You can read it yourself. Here are the facts. We're not making this up."

~Sylvia Earle

The Exxon Valdez spill triggered a swift and strong response that changed policies about shipping, about double-hulled construction. A number of laws came into place.

~Sylvia Earle

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