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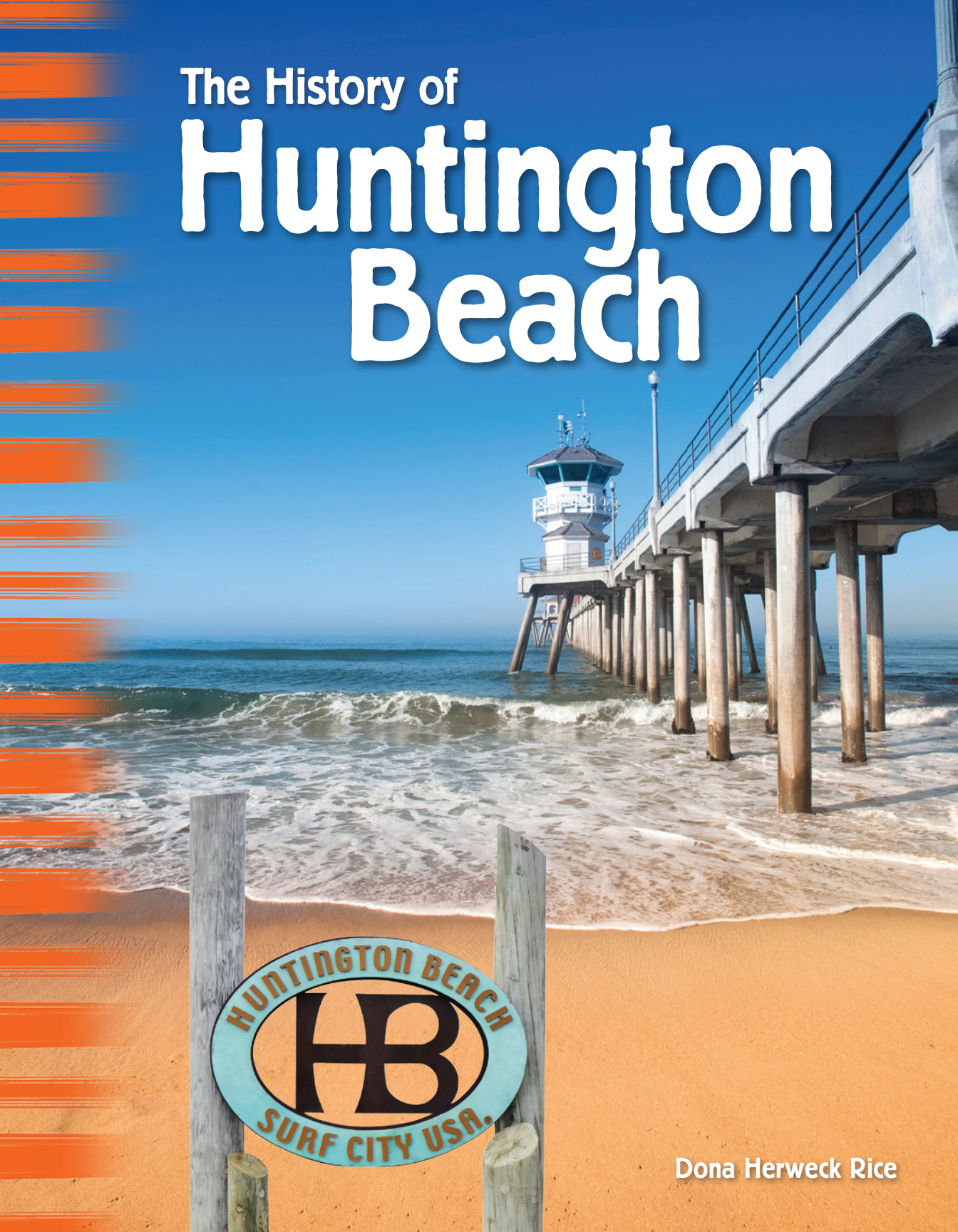
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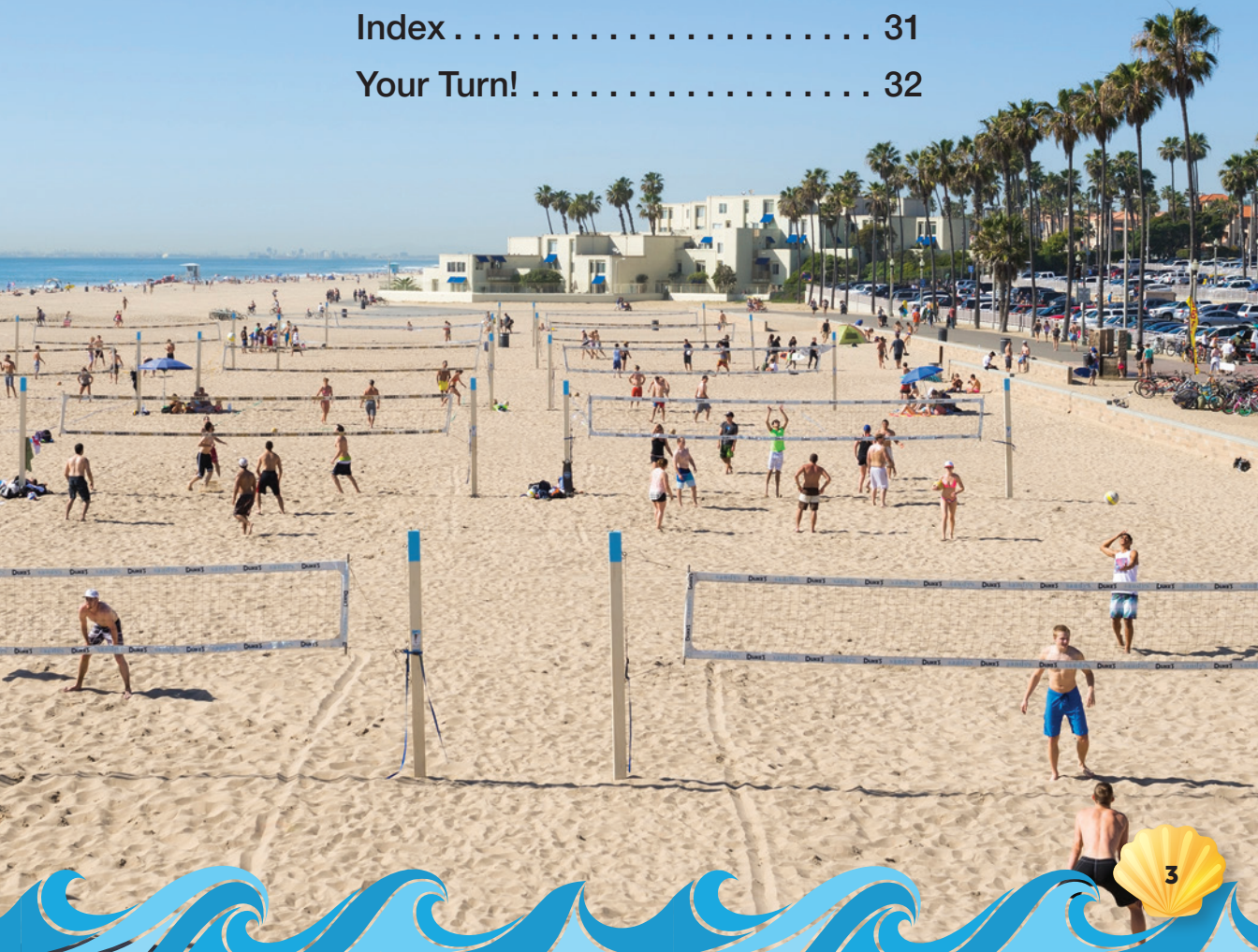
# The History of Huntington Beach



Dona Herweck Rice

# Table of Contents

The Day Begins . . . . .	4
Early History . . . . .	6
A City Is Born . . . . .	12
The City Today . . . . .	18
Surf City USA . . . . .	26
Play It! . . . . .	28
Glossary . . . . .	30
Index . . . . .	31
Your Turn! . . . . .	32



# The Day Begins

A seagull flashes past as the sun glides up from the horizon. Along the beach, glints of light streak the foamy waves that lap the shore. Two surfers jog toward the water.

Down the road, a soft fog lifts across wide **wetlands**. Hikers round a bend in a trail. They are startled by a pelican swooping down for a morning snack.

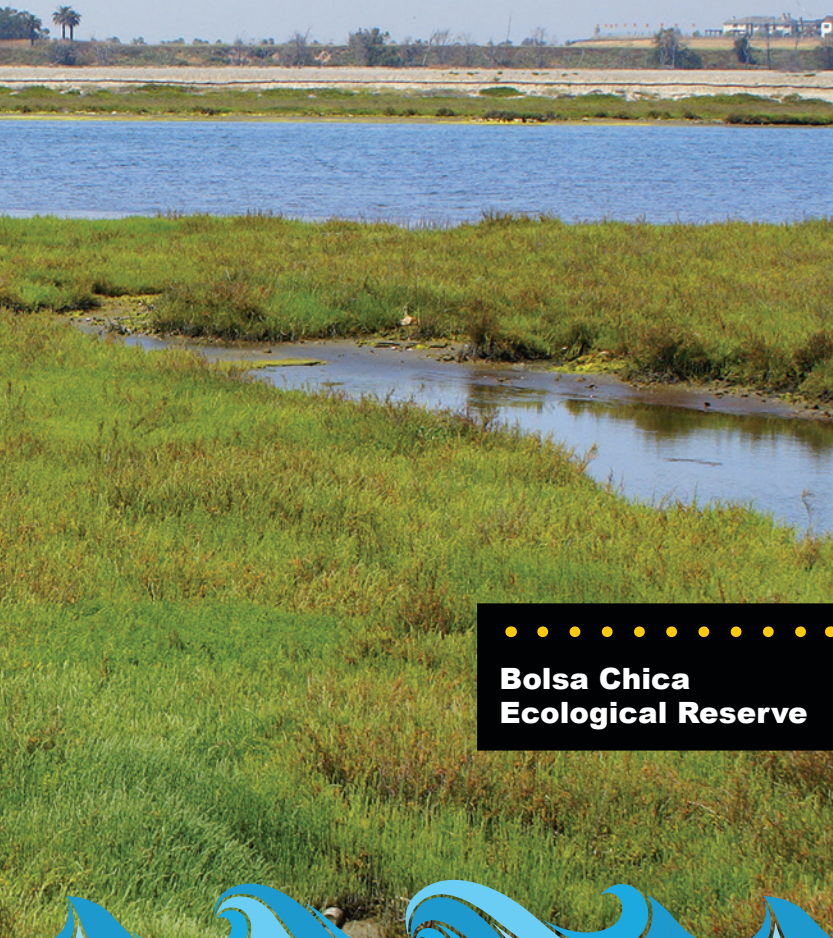
Across town, early workers arrive at a city building. A school bus passes them on the street. The roads are already filled with drivers on their way to work. They pass oil pumps bobbing near the beach like birds pecking in the grass.

## Surf City USA

A lot of people listened to surf music in the 1960s. The song "Surf City" was a big hit. People started to use "Surf City USA" to refer to Huntington Beach. The city adopted the nickname. In 2004, the name became a **trademark** owned by the city.



Back at the beach, fishers on the pier hope for some morning catches. One looks up from his line and notices a **cresteing** wave. The surfers see the wave, too. They stand on their boards. With the city of Huntington Beach coming alive around them, they ride for the shore.



• • • • •  
**Bolsa Chica  
Ecological Reserve**



## The Start of a City

In 1909, Huntington Beach became an incorporated city. That means that the city could elect a mayor. It could also elect a city council. The city could collect taxes from people living there. And it could provide services to the people.

## Events

Huntington Beach is known for its big outdoor events. One of the biggest is the U.S. Open of Surfing. It lasts nine days! The best surfers from around the world compete. There are also skateboard competitions in special stands on the beach. Viewers can watch daring moves and skills.



**A surfer celebrates his win at the U.S. Open of Surfing.**



**Teacher Created Materials celebrates its anniversary at the Fourth of July parade.**

The city is also known for its Fourth of July celebration. The day begins with a parade. The first parade took place in 1904. It is the largest such parade in the West. Floats, marching bands, cars, and more stream down Main Street. People begin to gather in the area the day before to get a good seat. At night, a fireworks show lights up the sky off the pier.



## Meet Rachelle Cracchiolo

Rachelle Cracchiolo (KRAK-ee-oh-loh) was a teacher for nine years. In 1977, she wrote a book for teachers. That book sparked the idea for a business. She named her company Teacher Created Materials (TCM). It started in her garage. It now has over 200 employees. TCM started in Huntington Beach. It is still based there.