

JUST FLIP 'EM!

(copyright Janine Kelly 2001)

(Verse 1)

If you take a little walk down by the sea
You just might find some horseshoe crabs washed up on the beach.
And if they're stranded upside down and if their legs are in the air,
Tell yourself, "I'm gonna help them out; I'm gonna walk right over there.

(Chorus)

Just flip 'em, flip 'em over. Flip 'em over, let them live.
Just flip 'em, flip 'em over. They need all the help we have to give them.
Flip 'em, flip 'em over and very soon you'll see
Those horseshoe crabs will be making their way back home to the sea.

(Verse 2)

You know, horseshoe crabs are really not crustaceans; they're not crabs!
They're called Merostomata, kind of related to a spider. How 'bout that!
And they're gentle and they're harmless. And you'd be such a help—
If you see them stranded upside down, gently flip them by their shell.
Now don't flip them by their tail 'cause that will hurt that horseshoe crab.
It hurts them the way it hurts a little puppy or a cat.
So to flip them over properly, flip them by their shell
And as the horseshoe crabs go home, they're gonna thank you for your help! (Chorus)

(Verse 3)

The mommies lay their eggs on the beach in holes. These are her nests.
She lays a hundred thousand eggs and then she needs a rest.
And then the trilobites, or babies hatch and then they make their way
To the intertidal waters where they'll grow up in the bay.
Horseshoe crabs were here a hundred million years before the dinosaur
And they're very hardy creatures in their homes along the ocean floor.
But they can't survive a day stranded on the beach upside down
So if you see any flipped onto their backs please help them turn around. (Chorus)

(Verse 4)

Horseshoe crabs have ten eyes; not just two like you and me.
They use them for more than seeing things while their swimming in the sea.
They've been such a help to science 'cause research on those eyes
Helped to win the 1967 Nobel Prize!
These quite amazing creatures have saved millions of lives
The horseshoe crab protects us from toxins that might hide
In our vaccines and medicines. They've been such a gift!
So if you see they need your help on the beach, won't you offer them a little FLIP?

(Chorus)