

## Getting There


5 minutes by taxi-boat from Anse Vata beach.



## Who are we?

Founded in 1996 in Noumea, the Centre for the Introduction to the Environment of New-Caledonia created the Ile aux Canards snorkeling trail in 2001 and has been managing it ever since. Our mission is to educate the wider public about the marine environment while raising awareness on how to protect the unique site.



The CIE.NC boasts 7 permanent and essential volunteer members who work tirelessly and enthusiastically all year around. You can support us by becoming a volunteer member or raising awareness. Alternatively, you can read all about the marine species found on the snorkeling trail in our aquaguide (for sale in the Information Point). 



## Welcome!

Located in one of the Southern Pacific province's protected marine zones, Duck Island's snorkeling trail sets itself apart for its beauty and biodiversity. As you explore this underwater garden teeming with life, you will also discover a delicate and endangered ecosystem. We ask you to kindly help us protect it by following all the guidelines in this booklet.

Enjoy your visit!

## How to protect the Ile aux Canards snorkeling trail?



Do not stand on the coral



Do not feed the fish



Use reef friendly sunscreen



Do not disturb marine wildlife

## Partners and financers

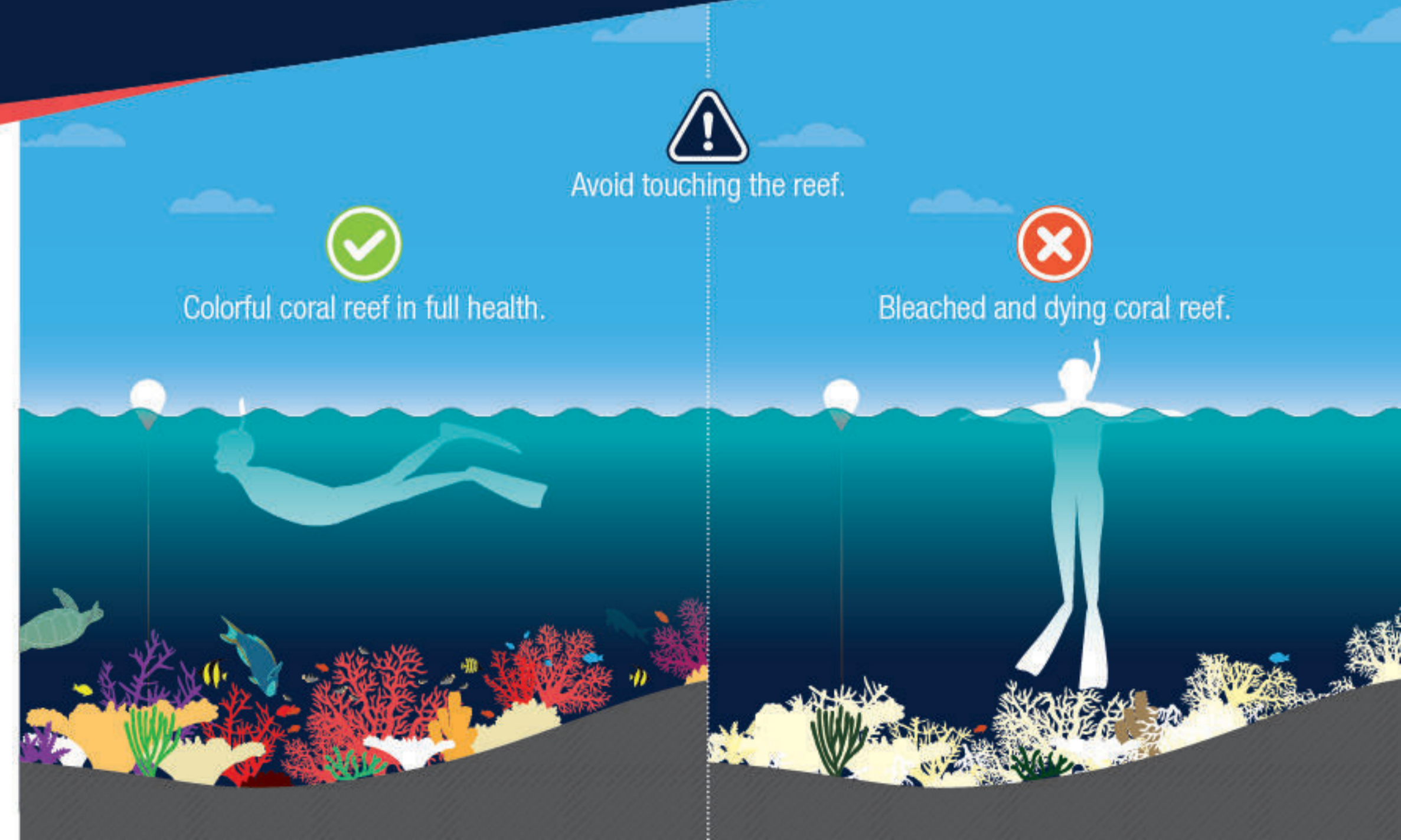


## Contact us

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## Follow us

Sentier Sous-Marin - Île aux Canards  
Centre d'Initiation à l'Environnement



Colorful coral reef in full health.



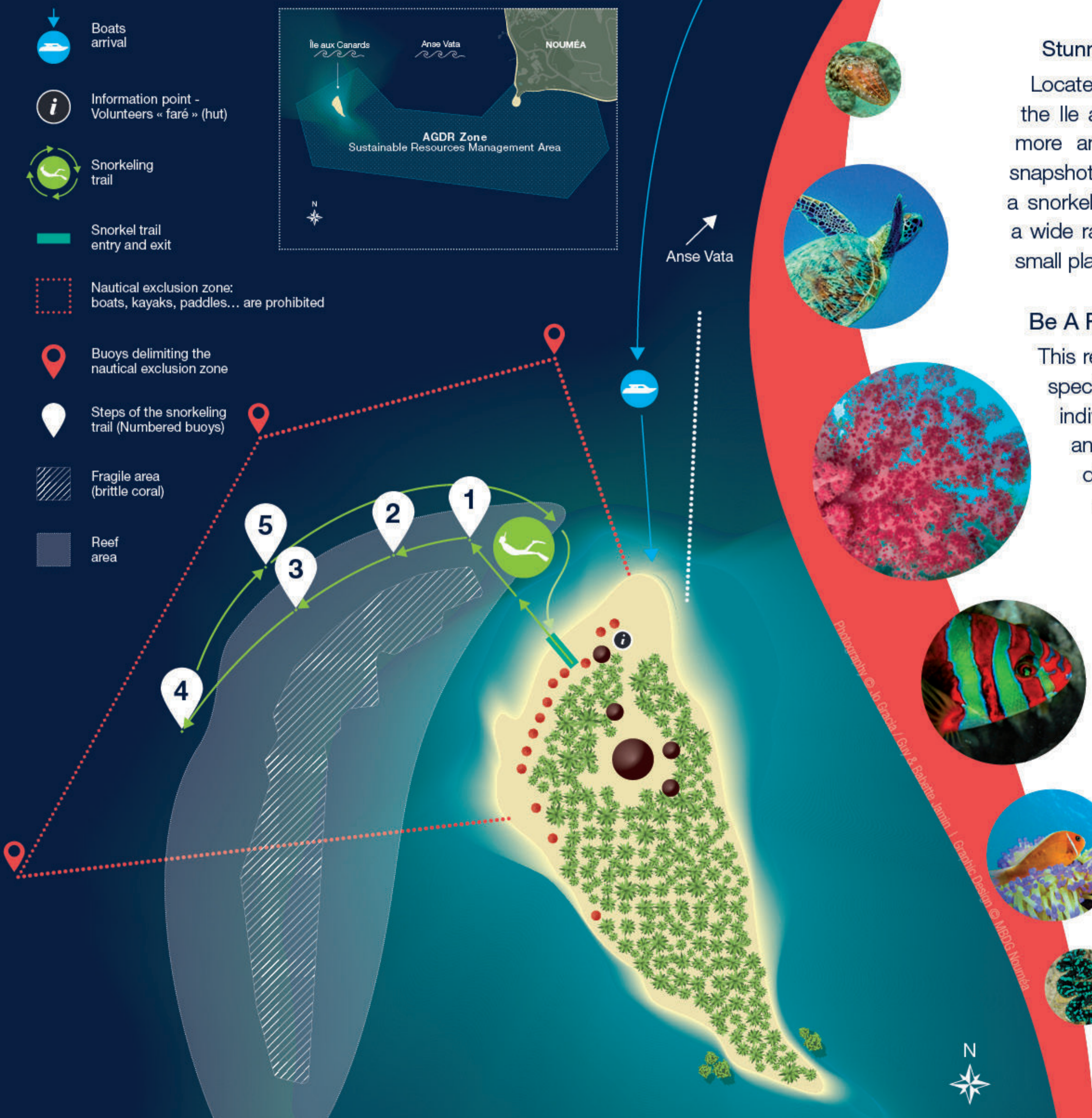
Avoid touching the reef.



Bleached and dying coral reef.



- Boats arrival
- Information point - Volunteers « faré » (hut)
- Snorkeling trail
- Snorkel trail entry and exit
- Nautical exclusion zone: boats, kayaks, paddles... are prohibited
- Buoys delimiting the nautical exclusion zone
- Steps of the snorkeling trail (Numbered buoys)
- Fragile area (brittle coral)
- Reef area



### Stunning Location

Located in a Sustainable Resource Management Area, the Ile aux Canards (Duck Island) snorkeling trail offers more and more visitors each year a comprehensive snapshot of New Caledonia's lagoon biodiversity. With just a snorkel and a pair of goggles, you can easily observe a wide range of marine flora and fauna within a relatively small place.

### Be A Role Model

This reef 's beauty, its variety and its wealth of different species make it a unique natural treasure. Both individuals and groups have the power to preserve and pass this legacy down to future generations. To do so, be sure to avoid touching marine plants and animals. As 10% of the world's coral is threatened by chemical filters found in sunscreens, go a step further and apply reef-friendly sunblock.

### The Building Blocks of our Reef

Polyps are miniscule organisms that live in colonies. Each year they painstakingly produce between 1 and 10 cm of their own exoskeleton, called "coral". As it is highly sensitive to the surrounding environment, coral can quickly bleach and occasionally die.

### A Source of Life

25% of marine species (some of which we eat) depend on coral reefs for their survival. This is where they breed, take shelter and find food.



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