Late in 2014, the new Marine Ambassadors participated in their first workshop. We had the opportunity to swim with marine animals in Port Philip Bay. Before we started our trip from Sorrento Pier, our leader reminded us that seeing dolphins in the wild is a rare privilege, and if we were lucky enough to spot some, we would sight-see from the boat. So, we boarded the Moonraker and headed for a known seal colony.

After a short trip into the bay we arrived. We suited up, with snorkels and masks and entered the water. The Ambassadors showed courage and were very supportive of each other, especially those who were feeling a bit nervous. We spotted crabs on the sandy bottom and plenty of frisky seal activity too. A few minutes later, we spotted a large pod of dolphins!

We hopped back on the boat to try to get a better look. After finding where the pod were playing, we watched them swim beneath the boat, dive and play together for ages. It was a perfectly sunny afternoon with a light breeze. After observing the pod it was decided that because of the calm and interested nature of the animals and the amount of time they had been following the boat, that we would be able to enter the water and observe them from there...so we did...and it was magical.

Some quotes from the Ambassadors include:

“It was a breathtaking experience that I'll never forget.”
“The seals were really funny when they fell off their platform.”