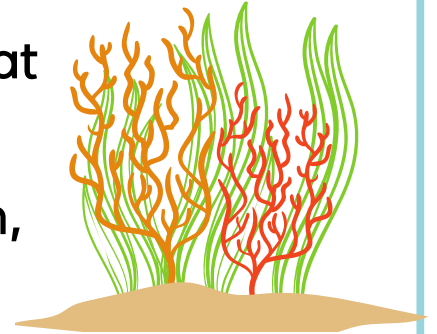


AQUADEMY LESSON 1: HABITATS

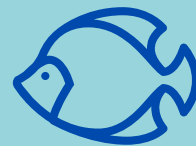
A **HABITAT** is a place a human or animal lives and provides things needed to survive. For an animal, that means things like **SHELTER**, **FOOD**, **LIGHT** and **WATER** so they can successfully reproduce. In the ocean, there are many different types of habitats.



1 W.O.W.

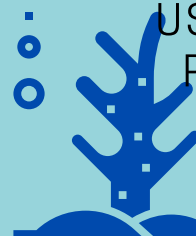
The very first tank in our W.O.W (Wonders of Water) gallery has a special habitat called a **CORAL REEF**. A reef acts as a shelter for fish to hide. In this habitat, what do you see?

- Are there places for the fish to hide?
- Where would you hide if you were a fish living in this reef?



TASK:

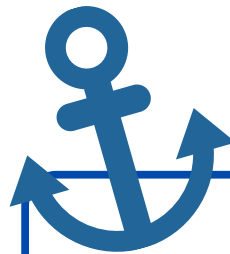
CAN YOU FIND A FISH USING THE REEF TO HIDE?



2

SHIPWRECK

As you enter our next exhibit, the Shipwreck gallery, the first tank you see in the sunken ship holds an animal that built its own **SHELTER**. The yellow headed jawfish has dug a hole for itself in the lower left side of the tank.



TASK:

Observe the other tanks in shipwreck. How are other animals using their environment as shelter?

3

THE BAYOU DOME

While you are in the bayou dome, notice the **LIGHT**. Every habitat needs **LIGHT**. Some of our animal's light comes from light bulbs and some comes from the sun. Can you find one of each?

Swamps and Bayous are known as **WETLANDS**. What characteristics do you think make up these **WETLAND** habitats?

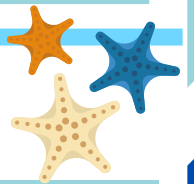
- A. Lots of aquatic plants
- B. An area of land permanently saturated, or filled, with water
- C. Slow moving bodies of water
- D. All of the above

TASK: Which animal in the dome constructs its own **SHELTER** during periods of extreme heat or cold?

4

SHORELINE

Where the land meets the sea. Here we learn about **TIDE POOL** habitats!



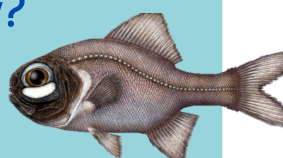
TIDE POOLS are formed along the shorelines of rocky coasts, and filled with seawater that is trapped as the tide recedes. What animals do we find here?

TASK: Talk with the Educator to learn how the animals here survive changing tides and extreme conditions.

5

THE CAVE

TASK: Find the flashlight fish in the cave. What makes the flashlight fish's cheeks glow?



In the **DEEP OCEAN** habitat, some animals make their own **LIGHT**. This is called **BIO**_____

What do you think the Flashlight fish uses its light for?

6

THE TUNNEL

The **OPEN OCEAN** habitat is the largest area of the marine ecosystem. There are different zones in the **OPEN OCEAN**. The first zone is the Epipelagic zone which goes down to about 600 feet below the surface.

This is the zone in which photosynthesis can occur, because **LIGHT** from the sun is still available.

TASK: Observe the sharks and other animals that live in our **OPEN OCEAN** tunnel. Do you think they live in the part of the ocean where photosynthesis occurs? Why?



7 **CONTACT COVE**

Another important part of a habitat is **FOOD!** Every habitat needs food for animals to live there.

TASK: Watch the stingrays swim and eat. Based on your observations, what do you think they eat in the wild?

BONUS: Find an Educator and ask what the stingrays are eating today. Does it match up with what you thought they would eat?

8 **SUBMARINE**

TASK: Gently touch one of our moon jellies. Do they prefer warm or cold **WATER?**



We learned about 5 different types of ocean habitats today. Can you list them?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

FINAL TEST !

Choose words from the word bank to create a cool story!

WORD BANK

FOOD SHELTER TIDE POOL
DEEP OCEAN LIGHT WETLANDS
WATER CORAL REEF OPEN OCEAN

There once was a Seastar called Sam who lived on a rock in a _____ . He used this rock as a _____ for protection and he enjoyed when the waves splashed _____ on his body. One day he was hungry and decided to go on an adventure to find some _____. He thought about his favorite book about Alice the Alligator who lived in a _____ habitat with turtles and other interesting creatures and wanted to see if he could find this cool place. He crawled along the ocean floor and first came across a beautiful and colorful _____. There was lots of exciting things to see there and plenty of food but he still wanted to see more. He continued on into the _____ where there were lots of animals but as he went deeper and deeper there was less and less _____ from the sun. Once he got to the _____, there was no more light and it was dark and scary. He decided to go back home. Sam had enough adventure for one day and decided his rock was the best home ever!

You have completed Lesson 1: Habitats!

As you drive home think about the animals in your life, what are their habitats? Do they have the 4 elements (Shelter, food, light, water) that make a good habitat?