

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW 2: DICTOGLOSS OF MARINE HABITATS

All lesson resources can be found at: encounteredu.com/teachers/lessons/our-ocean-planet-7-11-lesson-2

Marine Habitats

There are five main marine habitats: the shore, shallow sea, the sea floor, the deep ocean and the open ocean. The shore is where the land meets the sea; next is the shallow sea above the shelf where the water is still not very deep. Away from the land, the top 200 metres of the sea is the open ocean and the bottom is called the deep ocean. The sea floor is the ground at the bottom of the sea.

The conditions in the habitats are all different. In the open ocean there is lots of light, but there is no sea floor, so the living things there always have to float and swim. In the deep ocean lots of strange creatures live in permanently dark and cold conditions where the pressure is very high. Shallows seas are lighter and warmer than the deep ocean (although it wouldn't feel warm to us!). Lots of plants and animals live here as there is more food.

On the shore there is lots of light, but the shore is different to the rest of the habitats because it is not always wet.

The sea moves on and off the shore, which is called the tide. This means the plants and animals that live there are sometimes in the wet sea, and sometimes on dry land. Finally as you travel along the sea floor from the shore to the open ocean, the deeper you go, the darker it gets, and the higher the pressure is.

Key Words

Names	Processes	Concepts (ideas)
Coast Deep ocean Open ocean Sea floor Shallow sea Shelf Shore Slope	Tide	Cold(er) Dark(er) Dry Environments High pressure Light(er) Wet

