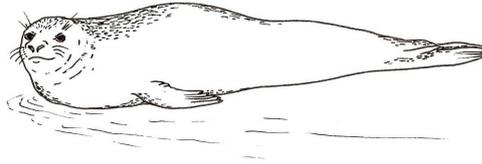


LIFE BENEATH THE SURFACE PUPIL'S WORKSHEET



Activity 1: Learning the language of marine biologists

Marine biologists use all sorts of words to describe sea life and it sometimes seems like they have their very own language! See if you can get to know some of the more common words below. You will be able to use them when you visit the National Sea Life Centre.

predator	prey	habitat
camouflage	food web	plankton
crustaceans	molluscs	conservation
invertebrates	SCUBA	freshwater

Exercise

Insert the words into the blank spaces below:

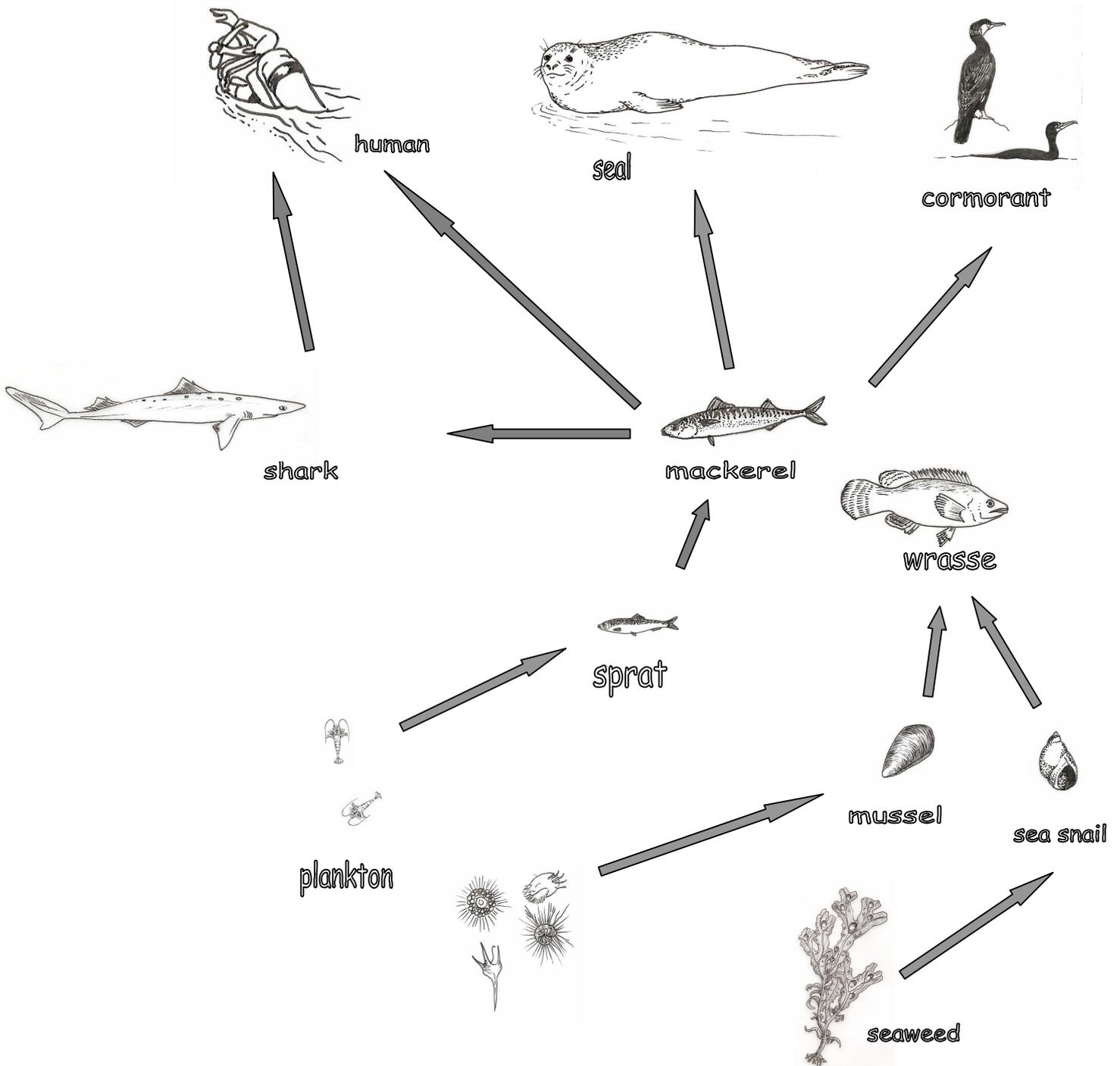
- An animal's natural home is called a _____.
- An animal that hunts another animal for food is called a _____.
- Creatures that don't have a backbone are called _____.
- Marine _____ helps to protect endangered species.
- Animals that are hunted and eaten by other animals are called _____.
- Humans can breathe underwater using _____ gear.
- The sea is made up of saltwater. Rivers and lakes are made up of _____.
- Microscopic animals and plants in the ocean are called _____.
- Cockles and mussels belong to a group of animals called _____. They have their skeletons on the outside.
- Crabs, lobsters and shrimp belong to a group of animals called _____. They also have their skeletons on the outside.
- Animals and plants in the ocean are connected through a _____.
- Some animals avoid predators by using _____ to blend into the background.

LIFE BENEATH THE SURFACE PUPIL'S WORKSHEET

Activity 2: Food chains in the sea

Interesting facts

All the animals and plants in the sea are linked together through food chains (which make up a food web). For example, the human catches the shark, the shark eats the small fishes, the small fishes eat the shrimp, which eat the plankton and so on. Look at the diagram below to see some of the animals and plants commonly seen in Irish marine food webs. The arrows mean 'is eaten by.'



LIFE BENEATH THE SURFACE
PUPIL'S WORKSHEET

Activity 2: Food chains in the sea (continued)

More interesting facts

The animals and plants in a food chain have different ways of feeding. Animals that eat meat are called carnivores, animals that eat plants are called herbivores and animals that eat meat and plants are called omnivores. We call plants producers because they produce their food using sunlight, water and carbon dioxide. Animals are called consumers because they consume their food.

Exercise

Now, see if you can make up some links for a food chain using the creatures that you have seen in the National Sea Life Centre. Fill in the spaces in the diagram below:



(a) Small tropical fishes

(are eaten by)



(b) Crabs



(are eaten by)

(c) _____



(are eaten by)

Starfish



(d) Can you add any more links? If so, fill in the blanks below:



(are eaten by)



(are eaten by)
