Reef House

Mascot: Octopus

Motto: Find a Way Through



The coral reef is the most colorful, most crowded, most creative place in the ocean. Thousands of species share the same space by solving the same problem in a thousand different ways. Reef animals don't give up. They adapt, they innovate, and they find a way through.

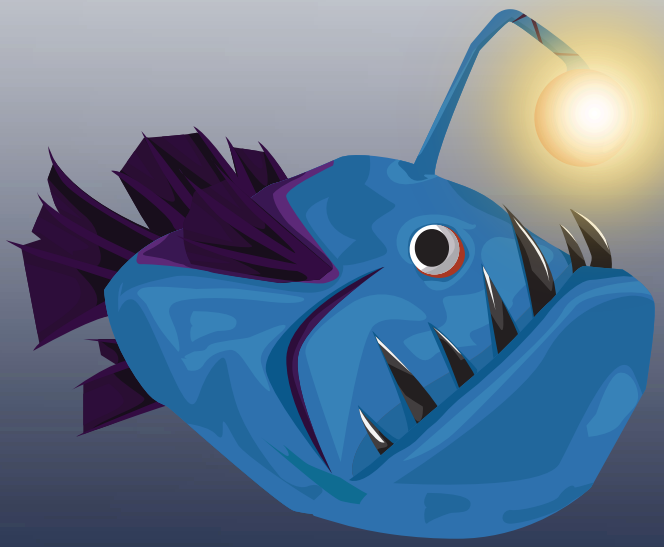
Three things you might not know about the reef:

- A coral reef looks like a plant but is actually made of tiny animals called polyps.
- The mantis shrimp can throw the fastest punch of any animal on Earth and sees colors humans can't even imagine.
- Parrotfish eat coral, digest it, and produce white sand. Many of the world's sandy beaches are made of parrotfish waste.

Benthic House

Mascot: Anglerfish

Motto: Dive Further

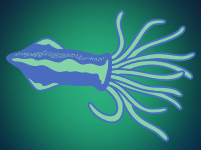


The benthic zone is the ocean floor: dark, cold, and crushing. Most animals never go there. The ones that do are built for pressure, patience, and discovery. Benthic animals don't need the spotlight. They find what no one else thought to look for.

Three things you might not know about the deep floor:

- The giant isopod can go years without eating and simply waits.
- More of the ocean floor is unmapped than the surface of Mars.
- Some deep sea creatures, like the anglerfish, make their own light in a place where sunlight never reaches.







Pelagic House

Mascot: Gray Whale

Motto: No Limits, No Shore

The pelagic zone is the open ocean -- no seafloor, no reef, no walls. Just endless blue water in every direction. The animals that live here are built for distance, endurance, and scale. Gray whales migrate more than 10,000 miles every year. The pelagic zone belongs to animals that think big and go far.

Three things you might not know about the open ocean:

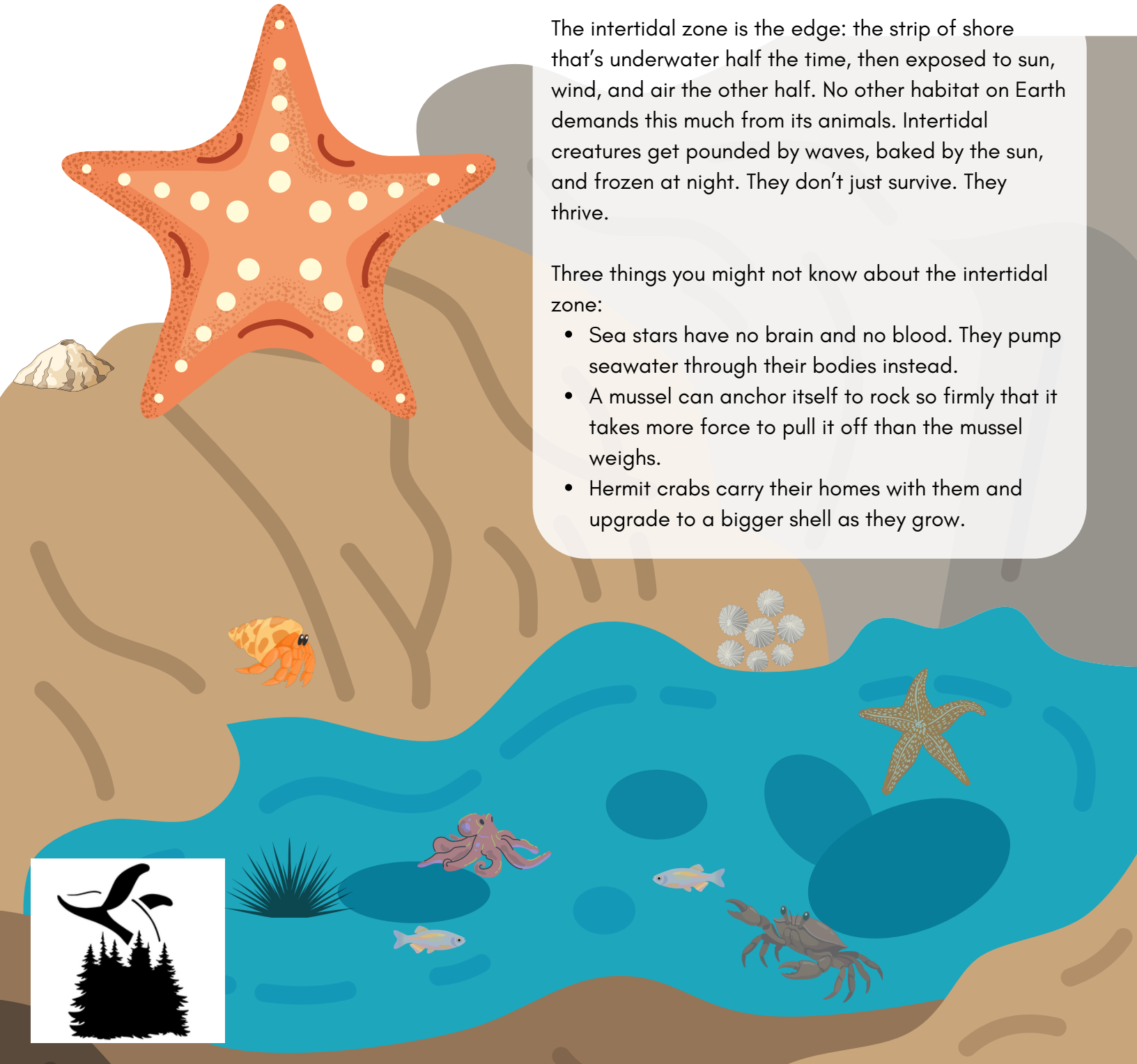
- The blue whale is the largest animal that has ever lived on Earth, bigger than any dinosaur.
- Gray whales navigate thousands of miles using the Earth's magnetic field.
- The ocean's pelagic zone contains 95% of all living space on Earth.



Tidal House

Mascot: Sea Star

Motto: Hold On. Adapt. Thrive.



The intertidal zone is the edge: the strip of shore that's underwater half the time, then exposed to sun, wind, and air the other half. No other habitat on Earth demands this much from its animals. Intertidal creatures get pounded by waves, baked by the sun, and frozen at night. They don't just survive. They thrive.

Three things you might not know about the intertidal zone:

- Sea stars have no brain and no blood. They pump seawater through their bodies instead.
- A mussel can anchor itself to rock so firmly that it takes more force to pull it off than the mussel weighs.
- Hermit crabs carry their homes with them and upgrade to a bigger shell as they grow.