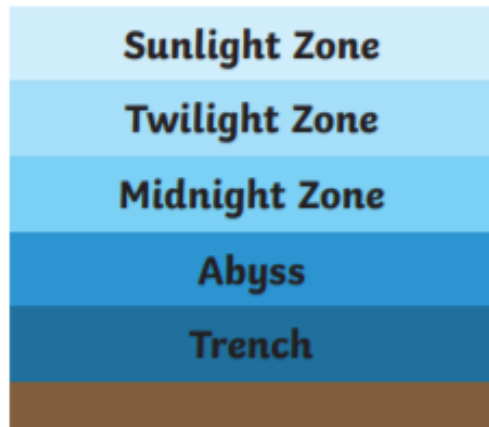


The Layers of the Ocean

Ocean Layers

Oceans cover two thirds of our Earth. There are five main oceans: the Arctic Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Pacific Ocean and the Southern Ocean.



Ocean Layers

The ocean is deeper in some places than others. We call these different depths **layers**. Each layer has its own characteristics and unique set of animals which live there. Read on to find out about the different layers...

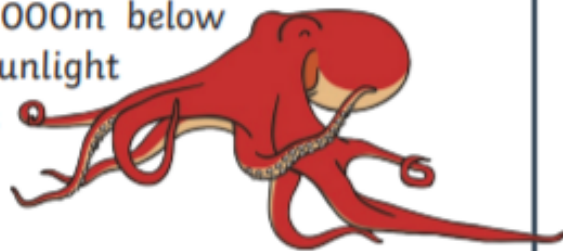
The Sunlight Zone



The Sunlight Zone is up to 200m below the surface of the ocean. Sunlight can reach this layer. Most of all ocean life is found here and many plants, such as seaweed, live here. The water is warm because of the sun. Both humans and fish play and explore here.

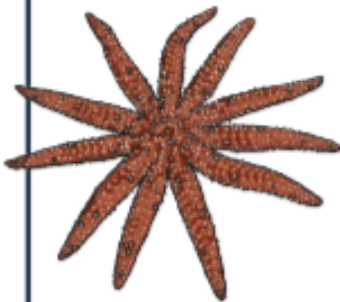
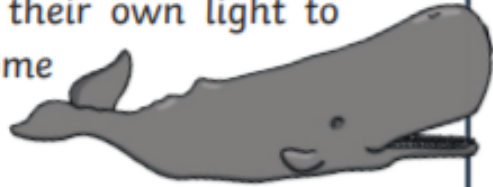
The Twilight Zone

The Twilight Zone is up to 1000m below the surface of the ocean. The sunlight cannot reach this layer so it is very dark. Creatures that live here often have large eyes to help them see.



The Midnight Zone

The Midnight Zone is up to 4000m below the surface of the ocean. Sunlight cannot reach this layer, which means it is pitch black. Many creatures make their own light to help them to hunt their prey. Some creatures dive to these depths to hunt, for example, the sperm whale.

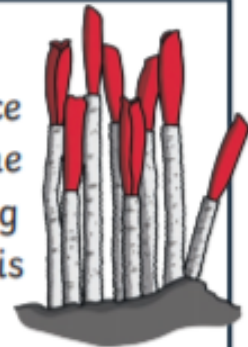


The Abyss

The Abyss is up to 6000m below the surface of the ocean. The sunlight cannot reach this level at all and water in this layer is near freezing. Very few creatures live here, mainly invertebrates, such as sea stars.

The Trench

The Trench is up to 11,000m below the surface of the ocean. The Trench is also known as the ocean floor. This zone can only be explored using special scientific equipment. The temperature is near freezing.



Did You Know?

The Pacific Ocean is the largest and deepest of all the oceans. It is so deep in places that the world's tallest mountain, Everest, would sink without a trace!

LO: To answer 'find one thing' questions.

1. Name one of the world's five oceans.

2. Find one of the names of the layers of the ocean.

3. Find one thing that lives in the 'Sunlight Zone'.

4. Find one thing that creatures have who live in the 'Twilight Zone'.

5. Find one thing that you know about the 'Midnight Zone'.

6. Name one creature that lives in 'The Abyss'.

7. Find a name also used for 'The Trench'.

8. Find two facts about the Pacific Ocean.

