

Web of Life Species Cards

Print and cut these cards in advance. You can adjust the numbers to match your class size, but attempt to keep the numbers proportional; eliminate top-level consumers first if necessary. Members of this food web include:

- 4 phytoplankton
- 7 zooplankton
- 2 rock scallop
- 7 northern anchovy
- 4 chub mackerel
- 1 giant Pacific octopus
- 1 blue shark
- 1 northern fur seal
- 1 humpback whale
- 1 killer whale (orca)
- the sun

<p>Phytoplankton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • microscopic plants that drift near the ocean's surface • absorbs sunlight and nutrients from water • diatoms are one of the most common kinds of phytoplankton 	<p>Zooplankton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tiny animals that live near the ocean's surface and in deeper waters • some kinds of zooplankton feed on phytoplankton; others feed on other zooplankton • most are very small, though some, such as krill, grow to be several inches long 	<p>Rock scallop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a shellfish that lives on the ocean bottom • the largest living scallop; it can grow to be 4 to 11 inches long • eats phytoplankton, along with other small particles of food
<p>Northern anchovy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a small fish that 	<p>Chub mackerel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • swims near the 	<p>Giant Pacific octopus</p>

<p>usually stays near the ocean's surface</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • feeds mostly on zooplankton • netlike parts of its gills strain zooplankton from water 	<p>ocean's surface and in deeper waters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • feeds on krill (a kind of zooplankton), squid and anchovies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spends most of its time on the ocean bottom • feeds on shrimp, crabs, scallops, abalones and clams • traps prey with its arms, then tears it with its sharp beak
<p>Blue shark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • found near the ocean's surface and in deeper waters • feeds on squid and fish such as anchovies and mackerel 	<p>Northern fur seal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spends most of its time near the ocean's surface • eats squid and small fish such as anchovies and herring • may dive 300 feet in search of prey 	<p>Humpback whale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • found near the ocean's surface and to depths of about 130 feet • eats mostly krill and other types of zooplankton; sometimes eats anchovies and other small fish
<p>Killer whale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • usually found near the ocean's surface • eats other whales (such as humpbacks), seals, and fish such as mackerel 	<p>The sun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides energy for plants to photosynthesize 	