

The Ocean Habitat

In this activity, you and a partner are drawing a cross-section of the ocean environment to compare the major characteristics of the ocean zones. Your final drawing must have a title, be neat and be colorful. You will complete this activity as follows:

1. Obtain a blank sheet of paper and draw a cross-section of the ocean habitat, from the shoreline to the ocean floor. There will be an example on the board for you to copy.
2. Give your drawing a title.
3. Label the following major ocean zones on your cross-section: Intertidal, Neritic, Pelagic, and Benthic zones. Subdivide your pelagic zone into different areas... epipelagic, mesopelagic, etc. Remember that your drawing needs to be colorful.
4. For each region you labeled, add drawings of the types of life we would typically find in that area.
5. Go through each region again and add a few words to describe the physical characteristics for each ocean zone.
6. Now label the areas of the ocean habitat that are considered 'photic' and 'aphotic'.
7. Be sure your name and your partner's name are included before you turn it in.