**Life in the Ocean Study Guide**

| 1- What are the three main groups of marine life? Describe each group. | Plankton, Nekton, and Benthos. Plankton are microscopic; they are divided into two groups: phytoplankton and zooplankton. Phytoplankton are plant like and zooplankton are animal like. Nekton are organisms that swim actively in the ocean. Benthos are organisms that live on the ocean floor. |
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| 2- What is the intertidal zone? | The intertidal zone is the shallowest benthic zone and has a lot of sunlight. |
| 3- What is a challenge that organisms face in the intertidal zone? | The organisms are washed away by the tides. |
| 4- What is the neritic zone? | The neritic zone is the area that covers the continental zone. |
| 5- Describe the amount of sunlight and temperature in the neritic zone. | The netric zone contains the most amount of sunlight than any other zone and the temperature makes the water very warm. |
| 6- What is the oceanic zone? | The oceanic zone is the zone that is near the bottom of the sea, the water is very cold, and receives some sunlight. |
| 7- Describe the animals that are found in the oceanic zone and specify where they are found within this zone. | Sharks are at the top of the zone, the fishes are at the top of the zone, the whales are by the middle of the zone, and the angler fish is near the bottom of the zone. |
| 8- What is the benthic zone? | The benthic zone is the ocean floor and it is pitch black because it does not get any sunlight. |
| 9- Describe the amount of sunlight and temperature in the benthic zone. | The temperature is very cold and there is zero sunlight in the benthic zone so it is pitch black. |
| 10- What is a benthic environment? | The benthic environment is the bottom environment that is near the ocean floor and all organisms that live in it. |
| 11- List the order of the ocean zones. | The intertidal zone, the netric zone, the oceanic zone, and the benthic zone. |
| 12- Identify two animals and their adaptations in each of the four ocean zones. | A sea star is in the intertidal zone and it has two adaptations: it can stick to anything in the ocean so the waves don’t carry it and their suction cupped feet can grab ahold of food. Crabs are in the intertidal zone and they have two adaptations: their claws and their exoskeleton. An octopus is in the netric zone and has two adaptations: can camouflage and use ink to get away from creatures. A dolphin is in the netric zone and has two adaptations: have a blowhole and can make a sound, listen to the echo, and can catch their prey. A whale is in the oceanic zone and has two adaptations: can communicate with another whale and send a supersonic wave to send help or to give them a message from a far distance. Sharks are in the oceanic zone and have two adaptations: can smell blood and have sharp teeth. Bacteria are in the benthic zone and have two adaptations: changes in temperature and have concentrations of ions such as sodium. Sea urchins are in the benthic zone and have two adaptations: spines and have a muscular foot that can prevent them from being dragged away by something else. |