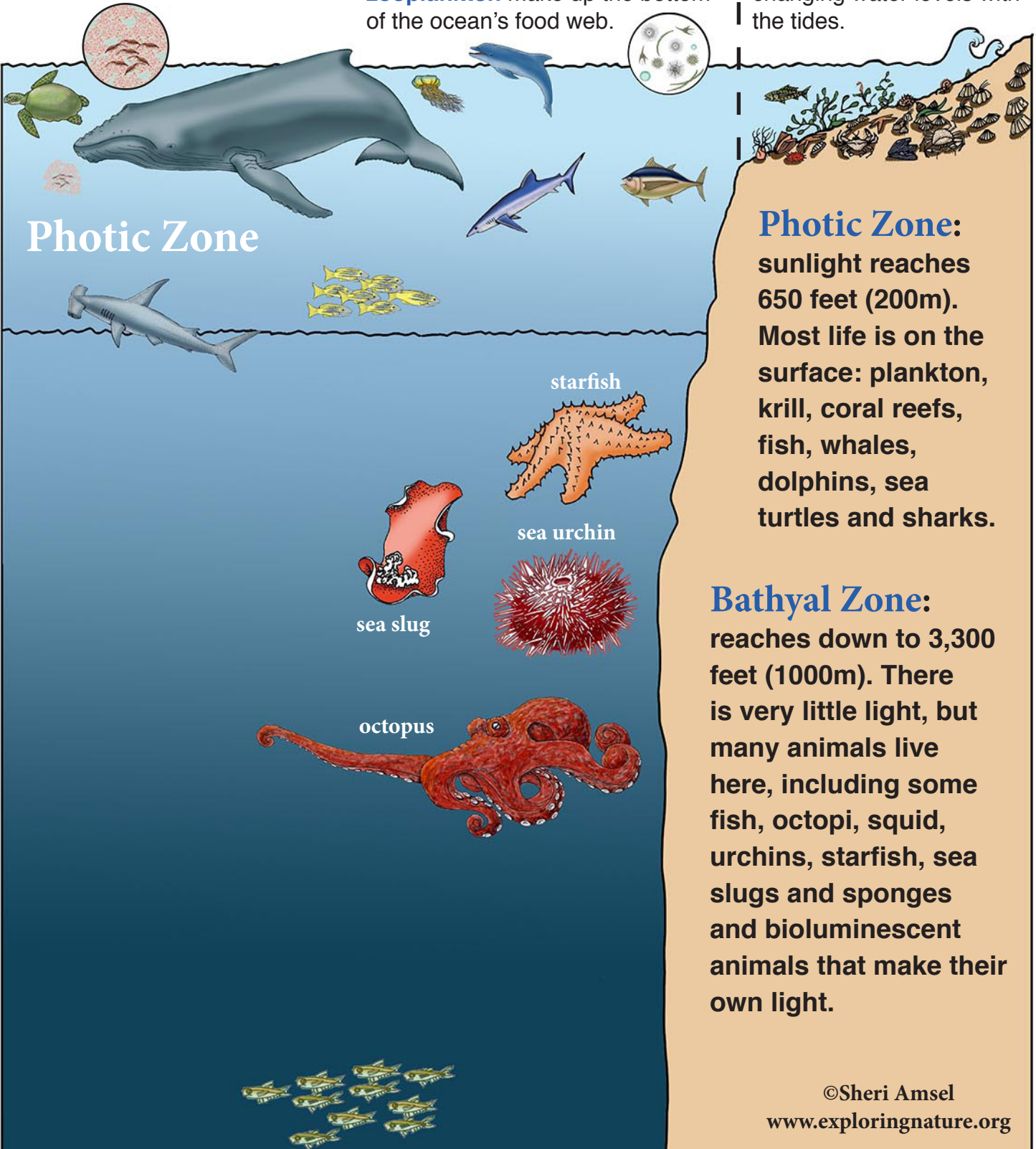


Ocean Life Zones - Close Up

The oceans cover 75% of the earth. They can be divided into the **coastal zone** - shallow, warmer waters along the coasts, full of nutrient-rich materials and the **open sea** - the rest of the ocean away from land.

Microscopic **phytoplankton** and **zooplankton** make up the bottom of the ocean's food web.

Intertidal Zones have changing water levels with the tides.



Photic Zone

Photic Zone: sunlight reaches 650 feet (200m). Most life is on the surface: plankton, krill, coral reefs, fish, whales, dolphins, sea turtles and sharks.

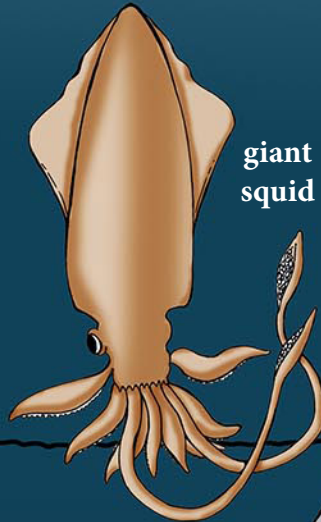
Bathyal Zone: reaches down to 3,300 feet (1000m). There is very little light, but many animals live here, including some fish, octopi, squid, urchins, starfish, sea slugs and sponges and bioluminescent animals that make their own light.

Bathyal Zone

bristlemouth



giant squid



hatchet fish



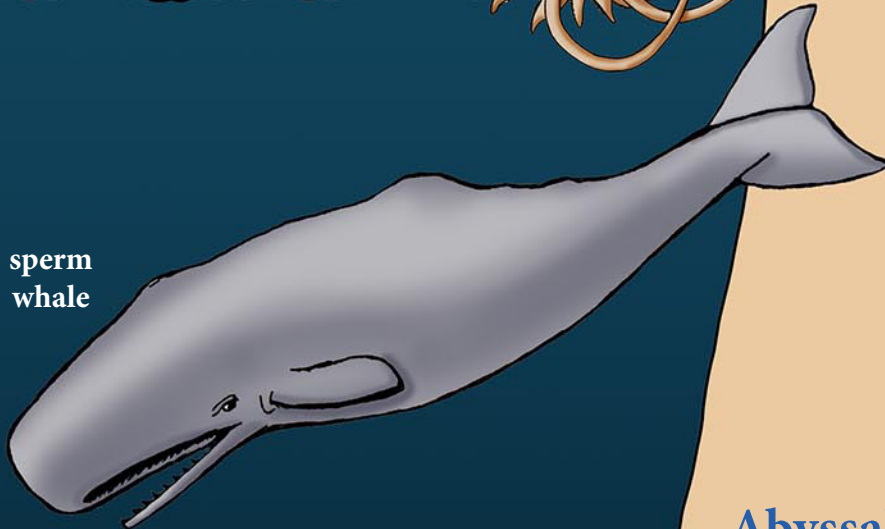
anglerfish



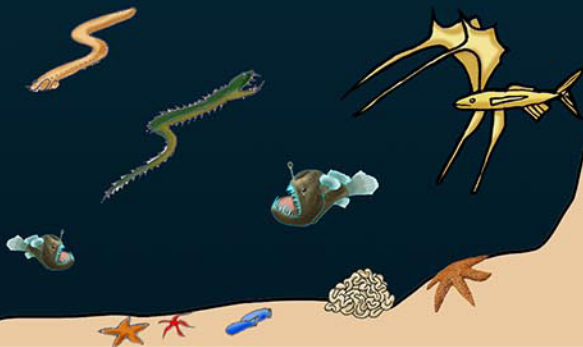
tripod fish



sperm whale



Abyssal Zone



Abyssal Zone: reaches the ocean floor at 13,000 feet (4,000m) or deeper – with pressure that increases as you descend. Only some animals, like the sperm whale and giant squid can survive the great pressure. By the time you reach the ocean floor, only strange creatures, such as: anglerfish, tripod fish, worms and sea stars remain to feed on the falling debris and nutrients.