

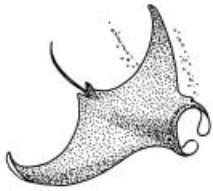
Did you know?

Blue Whale



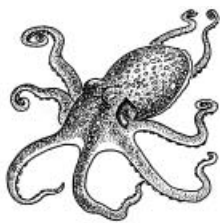
The Blue Whale is the largest animal ever to have lived on Earth. Measuring up to 33m in length, with a heart the size of a small car, and a tongue as large as an elephant, it must consume vast amounts of krill to maintain its enormous body weight. Hunted almost to extinction, Blue Whales are an endangered species.

Manta Ray



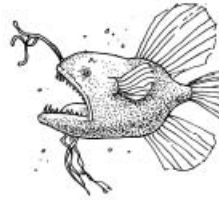
Manta Rays can measure up to 7m wide and move through the ocean by flapping large pectoral fins. Found in warm waters, they feed on plankton and small shoaling fish which are filtered out by gill rakers located inside their mouths. Females give birth to one or two young per year, each about 1.2m wide.

Giant Pacific Octopus



The soft flexible body of the Giant Pacific Octopus enables it to squeeze into narrow crevices. It uses long sucker covered arms to crawl along the sea floor and search for shellfish. If threatened, it can change colour or disappear in a cloud of ink. Females lay thousands of eggs, which they tend to for many months.

Anglerfish



Anglerfish inhabit very deep waters where no sunlight penetrates and the pressure is 100 times greater than on the surface. They attract their prey by means of a specially modified dorsal fin with a luminous lure on the end. Their large mouths, powerful teeth and expandable stomachs enable them to deal with most food that comes within range.

Coral polyps



New polyps bud from existing ones and gradually grow into large colonies of coral which are connected by living tissue. They are brightly coloured tubular animals, with whorls of stinging tentacles that are used for feeding and defense. Reef corals build limestone skeletons beneath a layer of tissue. Some grow into branches or leaf-like structures, while others form large boulders.

Great Frigatebird



These birds spend much of their lives gliding over the tropical Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans. They have large slender wings, but lack waterproof plumage and feed by dipping long hooked bills into the water. The male inflates a scarlet throat pouch to attract a mate and breeding pairs form large colonies on remote, uninhabited islands.

