



CapeNature

**Celebrating Marine Month –
Essential Estuaries
(Gr6, Food Chains &
Ecosystems)**

Venue: XXX

Date: XXX

NAME OF PRESENTER

Job Title: CapeNature



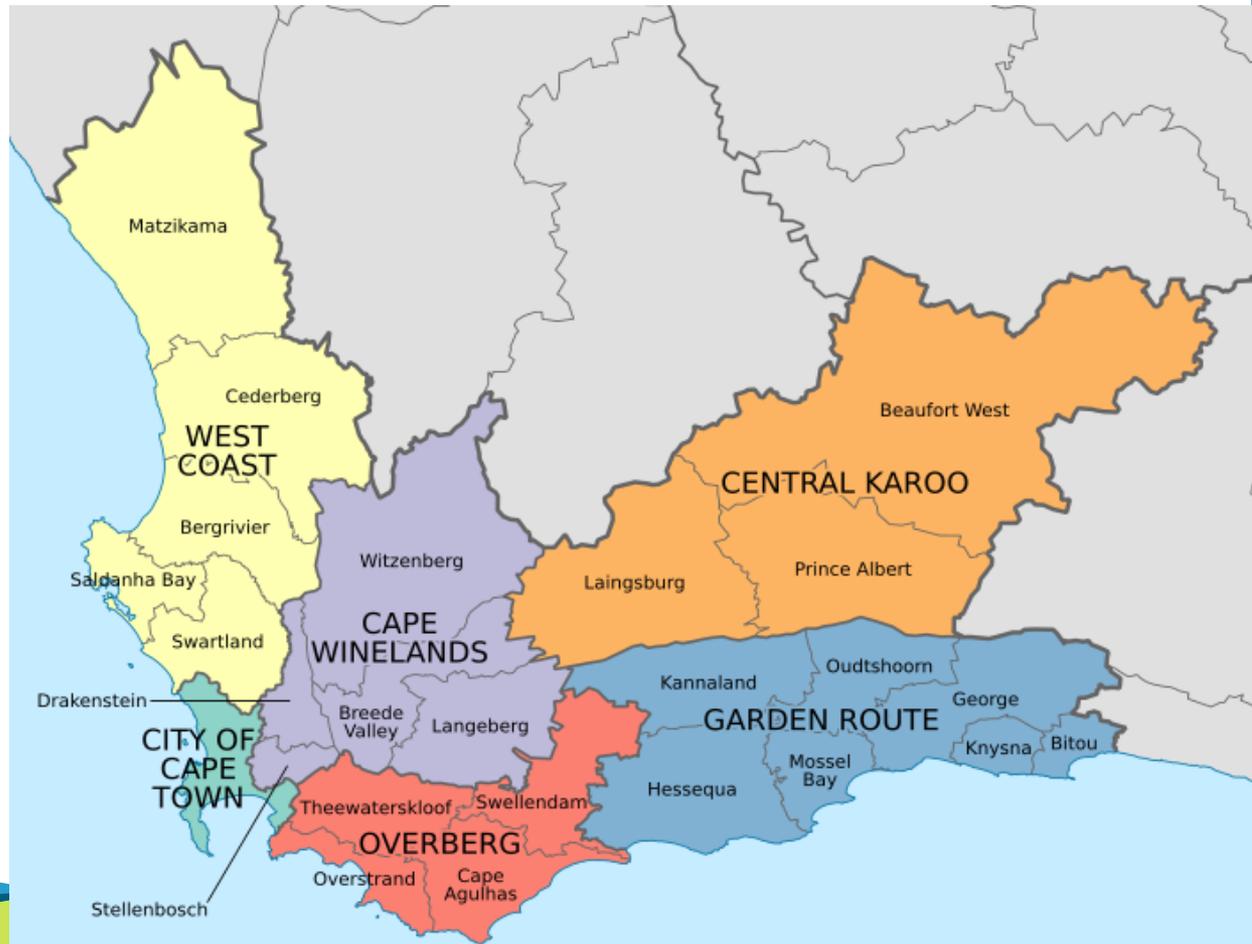
Introduction

Who are we?



CapeNature is the part of government that protects natural occurring plant and animal life (biodiversity) in the Western Cape.

Quick activity: Can you spot where we are right now on this map of the Western Cape?



What are we going to do today?

- Learn about the marine animals that we find on our coast and in our estuaries
- Learn what an estuary is and why it is so important to us
- Build a estuarine or marine ecosystem
- Pledge to do something to save our estuaries and oceans



What are the rules for today?



What is Marine Month all about?

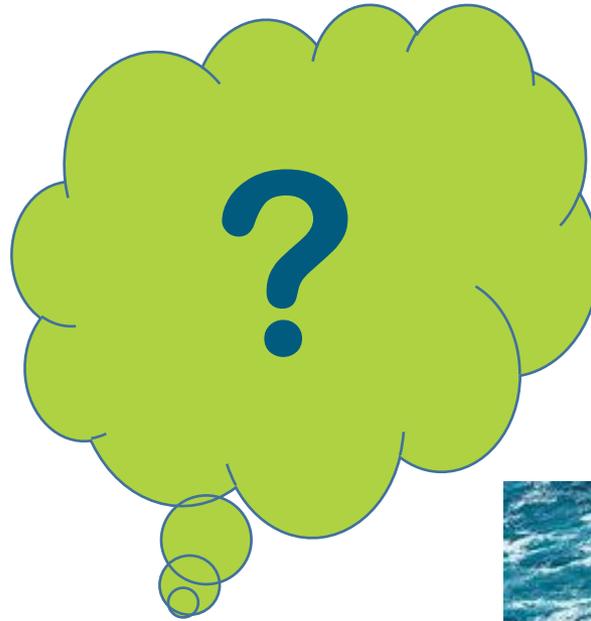
- National Marine Month creates awareness of South Africa's marine and coastal environments and the benefits that our oceans bring to our nation.
- Marine month is celebrated in October every year.
- Today we are going to learn all about estuaries, a very important part of the marine environment.

Quick activity: If the first Marine month was in 1998, how old is it today?
2020 minus 1998?



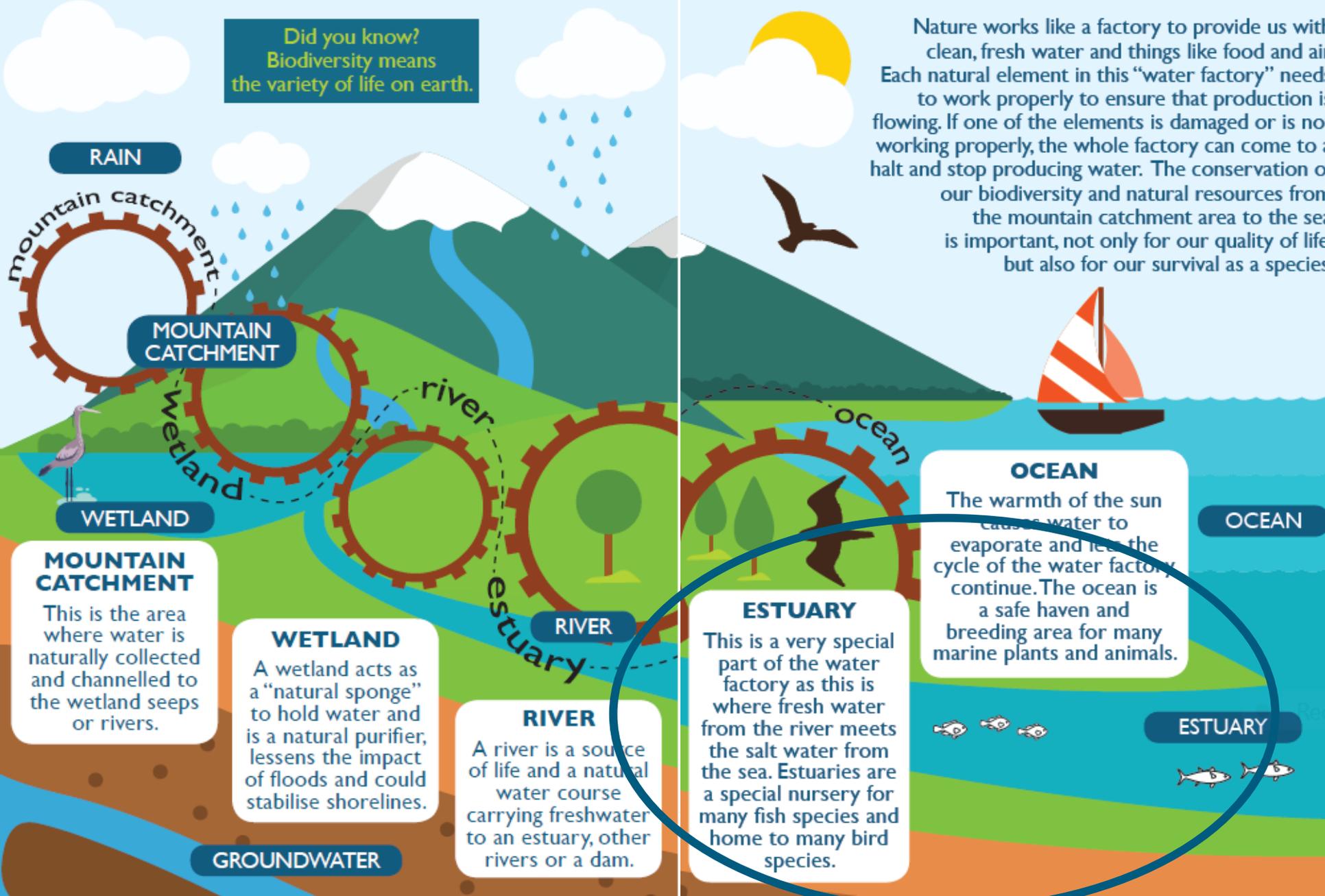
Tuning in

What is the difference between the two types of water in the pictures below? Which one supports a marine environment?



So what happens when land meets sea? When salt water meets fresh water?

Did you know?
Biodiversity means
the variety of life on earth.



Nature works like a factory to provide us with clean, fresh water and things like food and air. Each natural element in this “water factory” needs to work properly to ensure that production is flowing. If one of the elements is damaged or is not working properly, the whole factory can come to a halt and stop producing water. The conservation of our biodiversity and natural resources from the mountain catchment area to the sea is important, not only for our quality of life but also for our survival as a species.

RAIN

mountain catchment

MOUNTAIN CATCHMENT

Wetland

WETLAND

MOUNTAIN CATCHMENT
This is the area where water is naturally collected and channelled to the wetland seeps or rivers.

WETLAND
A wetland acts as a “natural sponge” to hold water and is a natural purifier, lessens the impact of floods and could stabilise shorelines.

RIVER
A river is a source of life and a natural water course carrying freshwater to an estuary, other rivers or a dam.

ESTUARY
This is a very special part of the water factory as this is where fresh water from the river meets the salt water from the sea. Estuaries are a special nursery for many fish species and home to many bird species.

OCEAN
The warmth of the sun causes water to evaporate and lets the cycle of the water factory continue. The ocean is a safe haven and breeding area for many marine plants and animals.

OCEAN

ESTUARY

GROUNDWATER

Quick activity: See if you can spot the estuary on these pictures...



Estuaries and their surrounding wetlands are bodies of water usually found where rivers meet the sea.



Did you guess right?



Marine and Estuarine Ecosystems and Food chains



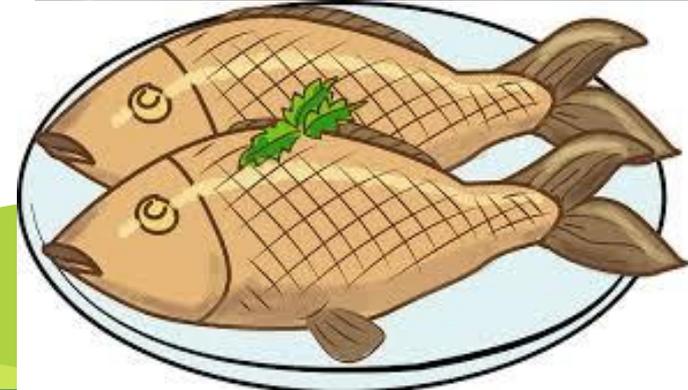
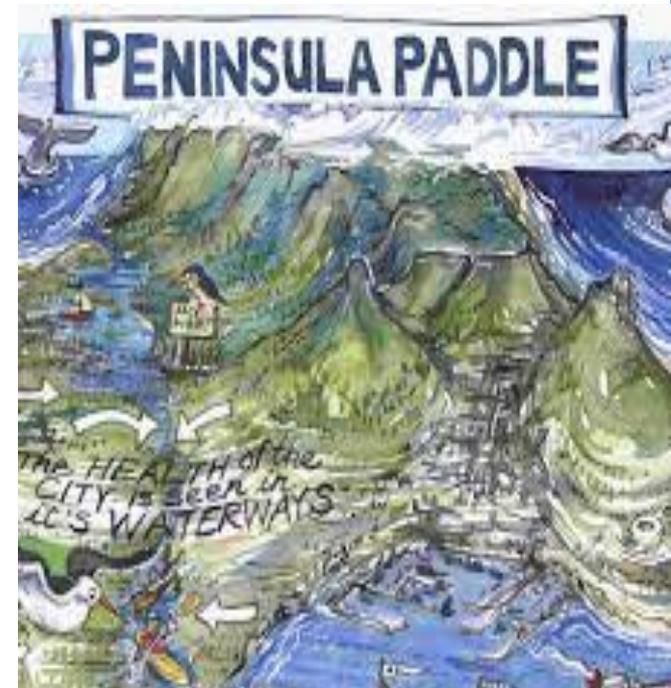
CapeNature

20
YEARS
1999 - 2019

Twenty years of nurturing nature for you

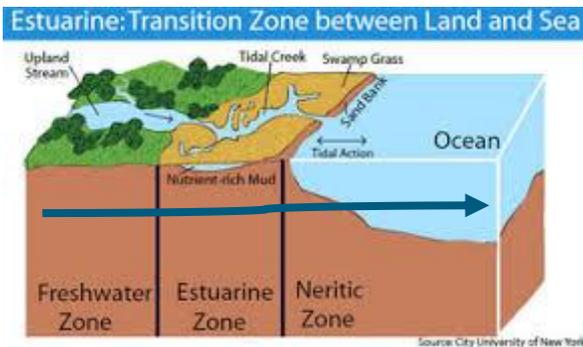
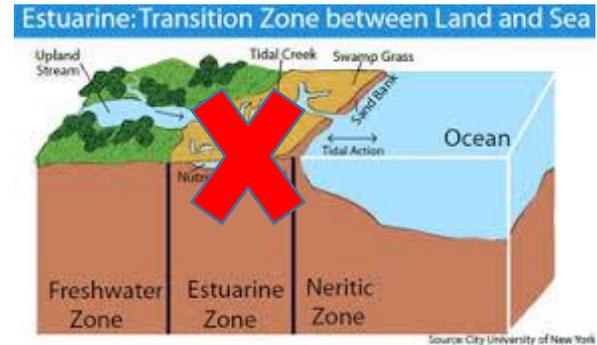
Why are estuaries so important?

- Supports plants and animals – some **ONLY** live in the estuary
- They are breeding, nesting and feeding grounds for so many species
- Source of food ...
- Places of recreation (comes with job creation)



- Estuaries are an important **TRANSITION ZONE** between river and marine environments

Quick question: what happens when we take the estuary out of the picture?



Without estuaries, we would not be able to enjoy any benefits the ocean has to offer...



About 70% of the oxygen we breathe is produced by the oceans.

Quick activity: Think of what is your favorite seafood or fish. What would life be like without it?



How does the marine food chain work?



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Seaweed-Primary producer



Shell fish-Herbivorous consumer



Jelly fish-1st level consumer



Yellow tail snapper-2nd level consumer



Squid-3rd level carnivorous consumer



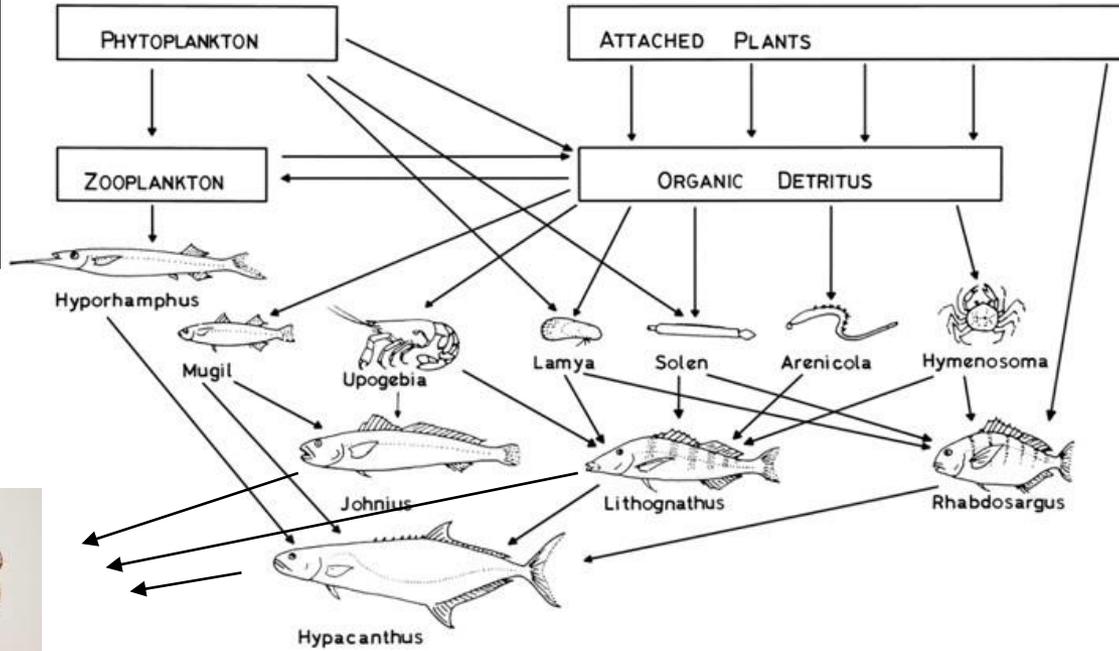
Great White shark-top carnivores

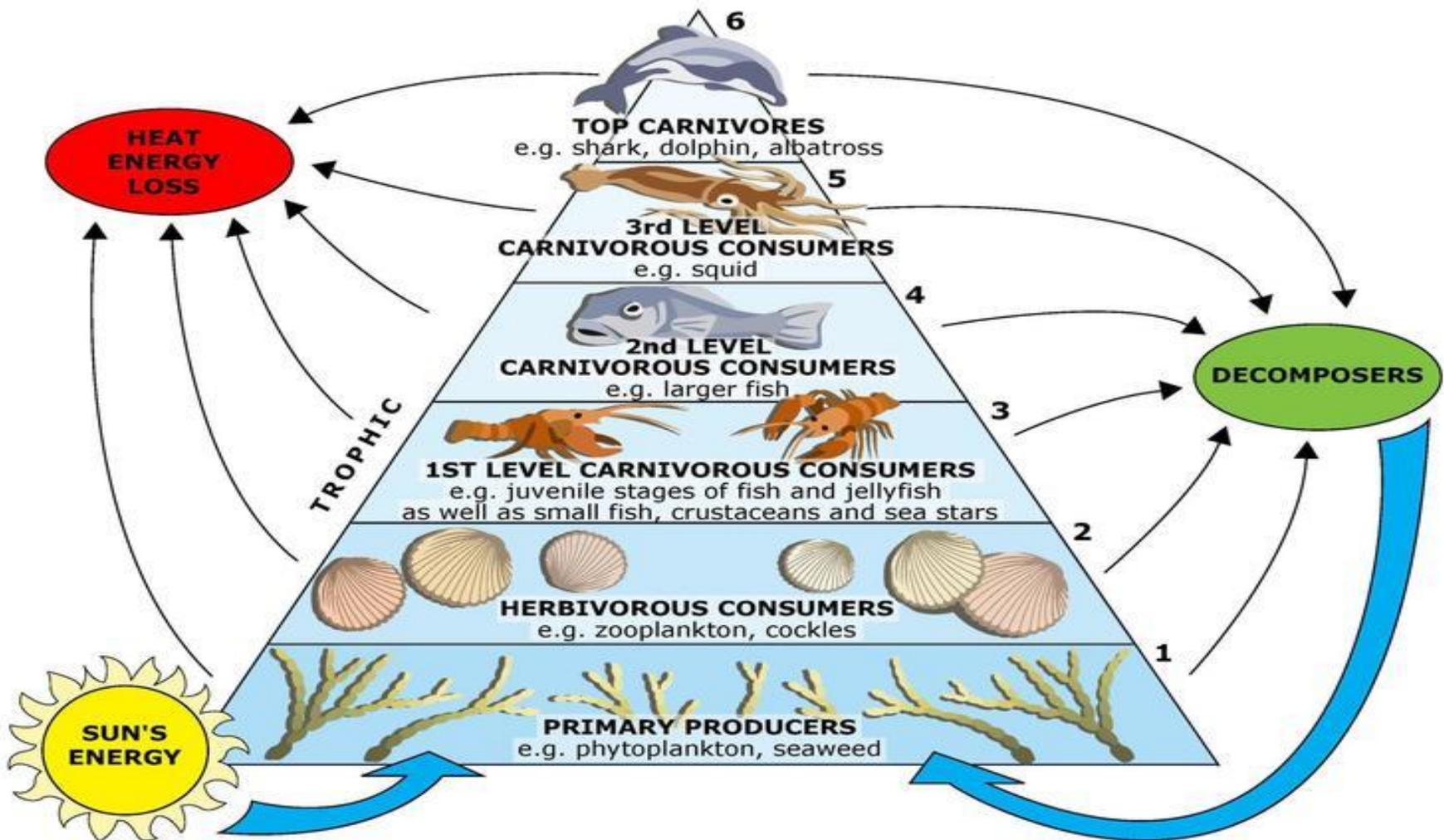


Fire worm-decomposer



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Activity: Who am I? – Game

- Divide into groups
- Each group will be given a set of marine animal pics
- With your pictures, form a food web (show who will eat what)
- Indicate primary producers, herbivorous consumers, 1st level carnivorous consumers, 2nd level carnivorous consumers, 3rd level carnivorous consumers, top carnivores



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Consolidation



What can we do to protect our estuaries and oceans?

DON'T BE TRASHY!!

- Reduce our plastic use
- Keep your beach visit clean



Lets pledge

- What will you do to protect our marine life and estuaries?
- What actions are you planning to take to conserve ecosystems and food webs?



Activity: each learner must write down a pledge of what they will do to help conserve estuaries and oceans



AVOID BEING TRASHY

4 RULES FOR TRASH-FREE OCEANS

Activity & wrap up:

What did you pledge?
Let's read some out loud.

MINIMISE WASTE
1 REUSE
2 RECYCLE

Buy reusable items rather than single-use items.

Recycle rather than throw away items.

PREVENT WASTE
3 REDUCE

Buy less stuff. Rethink before buying unnecessary things.

TACKLE WASTE
4 CLEAN UP

Arrange or participate in a cleanup during Coastal Cleanup Week or anytime of the year.

#DontBeTrashy

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THANK YOU.