

Open Sea

Your everyday consumer choices make a difference on the health of the ocean.

Find the animals pictured below in the Open Sea exhibit and note if you observe them swimming in a school. Use a Seafood Watch consumer guide to indicate if the animal is a Best Choice, a Good Alternative or one to Avoid.

	Schooling or Non-Schooling?	Seafood Watch Card Rating
		
		
		
		

Which of the fishes above is listed in all three categories (Best Choice, Good Alternative, Avoid) on the Seafood Watch consumer guide?

Why? Feel free to ask a volunteer for help answering that question.



The Open Sea

NAME(S):



The mission of the Monterey Bay Aquarium is to inspire conservation of the ocean. How does the Aquarium achieve this mission and what can you do to help? Find out in this booklet.

Ocean Travelers Plastics Gallery

Plastic is an important part of our lives. Lightweight, flexible, strong and waterproof – the very characteristics that make plastic so valuable to people also make it a major problem for the environment.

Plastic makes its way through our waterways and into the ocean where it can affect countless organisms. As you explore this exhibit, identify at least one way plastic trash impacts each of the following animals:

LEATHERBACK SEA TURTLES:

LAYSAN ALBATROSS:

HUMPBACK WHALES:

Approximately 8 million tons of plastic enter the ocean every year. Describe **one personal action** you can take to keep plastic out of the ocean.

Tiny Drifters

The open sea is the world's "plankton pasture," home to the tiny drifting plants and animals that form a key link in the ocean's food webs.

Visit the Tiny Drifters gallery and observe the plankton displayed on the touch screen wall. Choose a plankton species and, in the space below, illustrate the organism you have chosen.



Jelly populations are exploding in huge numbers all over the ocean. These large swarms of jellies are appearing more frequently and in greater numbers.

Name two causes for the increase in the number of jellies in the ocean.

- 1.
- 2.

What human impacts are affecting the ocean's natural balance?