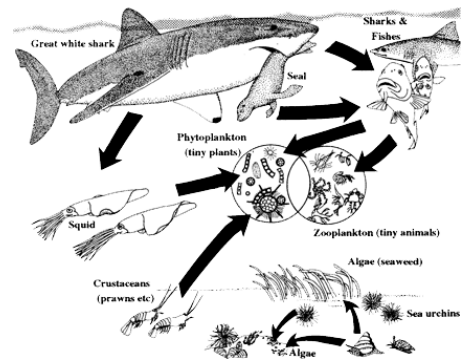


**LESSON ACTIVITIES**

- ✓ **Further Understanding:** Investigation/Reasoning Skills

**The Marine Food Chain**

The marine food chain begins with the phytoplankton. As with plants, phytoplankton produce food from sunlight, carbon dioxide, water and nutrients through the process of photosynthesis. Some members of the zooplankton eat the phytoplankton and are then eaten as food themselves by fish and other sea creatures in the nekton. Some phytoplankton is also directly consumed by animals like squid, shrimp and small fish. The smaller consumers are then eaten by larger fish. When sea animals die they sink. As they drift down toward the ocean floor, most are eaten by other animals. What isn't eaten decays and is broken down into mineral salts by bacteria. Ocean currents carry the mineral salts back to the surface where they are used by the phytoplankton to make food.



- Food Chain Base – phytoplankton
- Primary Consumers – Feed on phytoplankton
- Secondary Consumers – Feed on zooplankton or eat animals that feed on phytoplankton
- Tertiary Consumers – Eat the animals that feed on zooplankton or other secondary consumers

Discussion Questions: What would be the result if there were no plankton? No tertiary consumers? No bacteria? What does the marine food chain say about God?

- ✓ **Activity:** Chart the Difference between plants and animals.

Instructions: On the chart below, fill in the difference between plants and animals.

| Need/Activity | Plants | Animals |
|---------------|--------|---------|
| Food          |        |         |
| Air           |        |         |
| Reproduction  |        |         |
| Senses        |        |         |
| Movement      |        |         |

## In the Beginning 12 – Activities

✓ **Craft:** Japanese Wind Sock Fish

As a reminder that God created all the creatures that live in the sea, make a Japanese wind sock fish.

Materials: white paper, crayons, pencils, scissors, hole punch, tape, string, straw

Preparation: Cut string in 24" lengths.

Instructions:

1. Fold 1" strip over on both one long and one short edge of the paper. Then fold paper in half lengthwise.
2. Decorate the fish and cut a tail at the unfolded short end.
3. Glue the bottom of the fish together on the folded flap.
4. Punch a hole through both halves of the fish through fold at the short end.
5. Tie an end of a piece of string through each hole.
6. Tape the string to a straw in the middle of the string's loop.
7. Press the folds flat with your fingers to open up the fish.
8. Run with the fish so that the air goes through it.

✓ **Game:** Who Am I?

As a reminder of the variety of living creatures with which the ocean teems play "Who Am I?".

Instructions: Have each child think of some animal that lives in the ocean. Take turns having the children guess who each one is by asking questions that can only be answered by a yes or no.

✓ **Song:** Slippery Fish

Slippery fish, slippery fish, sliding through the water,  
Slippery fish, slippery fish, Gulp, Gulp, Gulp!  
Oh, no! It's been eaten by an...

Octopus, octopus, squiggling in the water  
Octopus, octopus, Gulp, Gulp, Gulp!  
Oh, no! It's been eaten by a...

Tuna fish, tuna fish, flashing in the water,  
Tuna fish, tuna fish, Gulp, Gulp, Gulp!  
Oh, no! It's been eaten by a...

Great white shark, great white shark, lurking in the water,  
Great white shark, great white shark, Gulp, Gulp, Gulp!  
Oh, no! It's been eaten by a...

Humongous whale, humongous whale, spouting in the water,  
Humongous whale, humongous whale,  
Gulp! ... Gulp! ... Gulp! ... BURP! Pardon me!