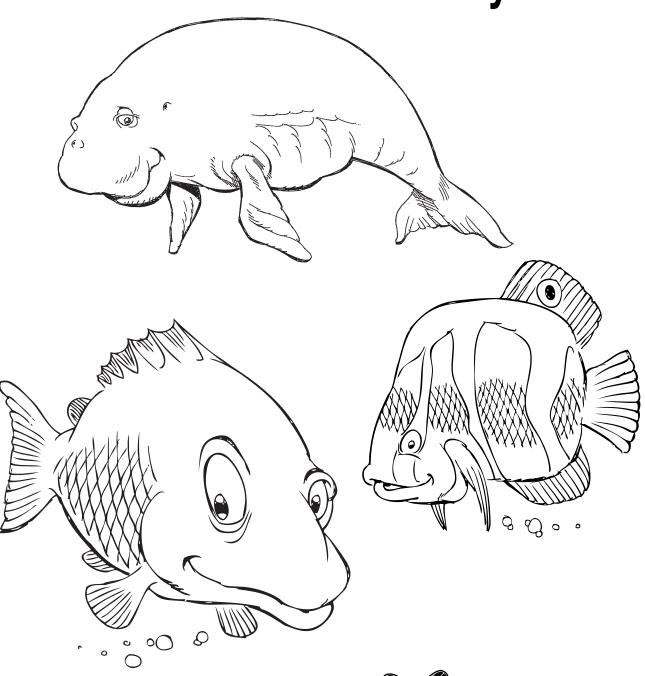
Seagrass-Watch

Activity Book



Junior Edition



Sensational Seagrass

Seagrass are flowering plants that live in the sea.

There are many different kinds of seagrasses and some do not look like grass at all. Some of the shapes and sizes of leaves of different species of seagrass include an oval shape, a fern shape, a long spaghetti like leaf and a ribbon shape.

Can you identify the three seagrass below from the following list?

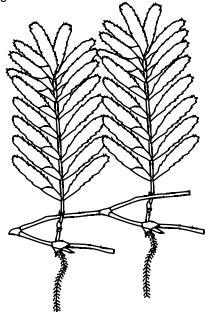
- **HU** (Halodule uninervis)leaves ribbon shaped
- leaf tip has three points
- leaf edges smooth

HO (Halophila ovalis)

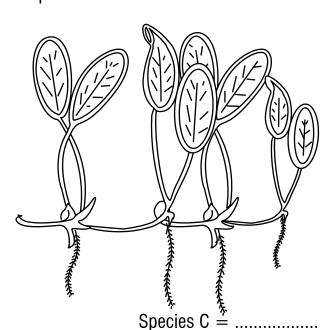
- oval shaped leaves in pairs
- leaf edges smooth

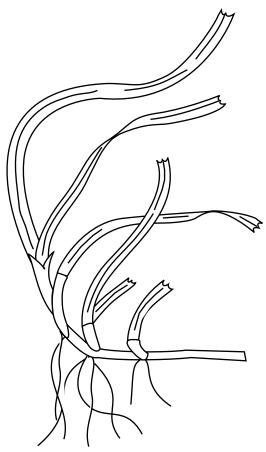
HS (Halophila spinulosa)

- oblong leaves
- looks like a fern
- leaf edges jagged



Species $A = \dots$



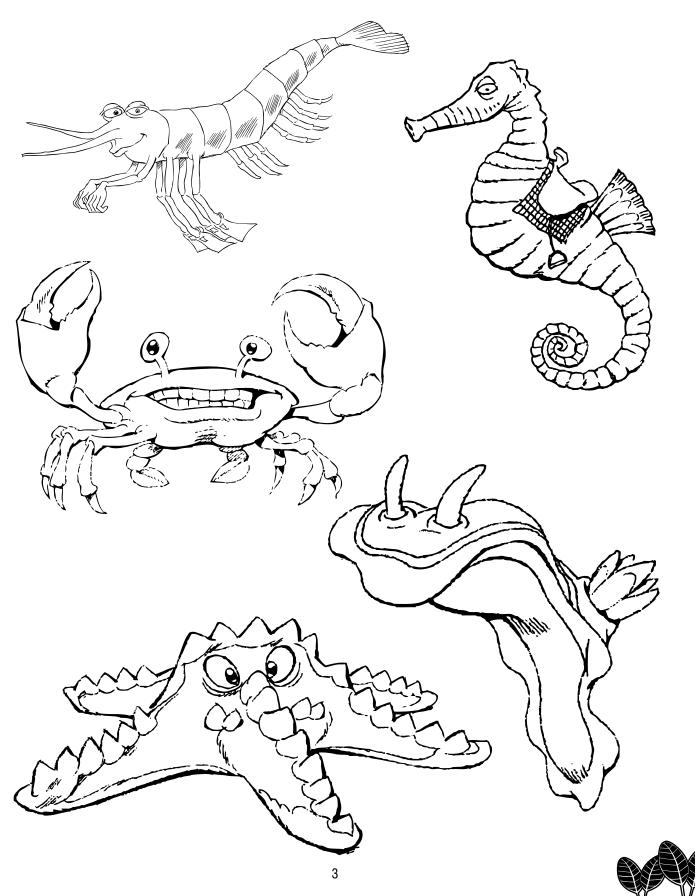


Species $B = \dots$



Animal Colour-in

Seagrass is important because it provides food and shelter for lots of animals. Within seagrass meadows, you can find animals such as prawns, crabs, starfish, marine slugs and sea horses.



Animal word find

Many animals hide within seagrass meadows. They hide from predators like sharks, large fish and crocodiles.

-					-		imal name		
HOHZOHIC		clam	mai. Hok	c off the animals when you have found them: ☐ sea horse					
		crab		sea turtle					
		dugong		□ sea urchin					
		fish		shrimp					
		lobster		□ snail					
□ octopus □ oyster				□ squid □ starfish					
□ prawn				□ stingray					
		scallop			_	0 ,			
Ε	L	I	Α	Ν	S	Ν	R	X	Н
S	L	0	C	Т	O	Р	U	S	S
R	Ε	Т	S	В	O	L		Н	Т
0	Ν	В	R	В	D	F	W	R	I
Н	S	Ε	A	U	R	C	Н	I	N
Α	Ε	R	G	A	Т	G	R	M	G
Ε	C	0	Т	Ν	W	A	R	Р	R
S	Ν	S	0	Y	S	Т	Ε	R	A
G	Α	Р	0	L	L	Α	C	S	Y



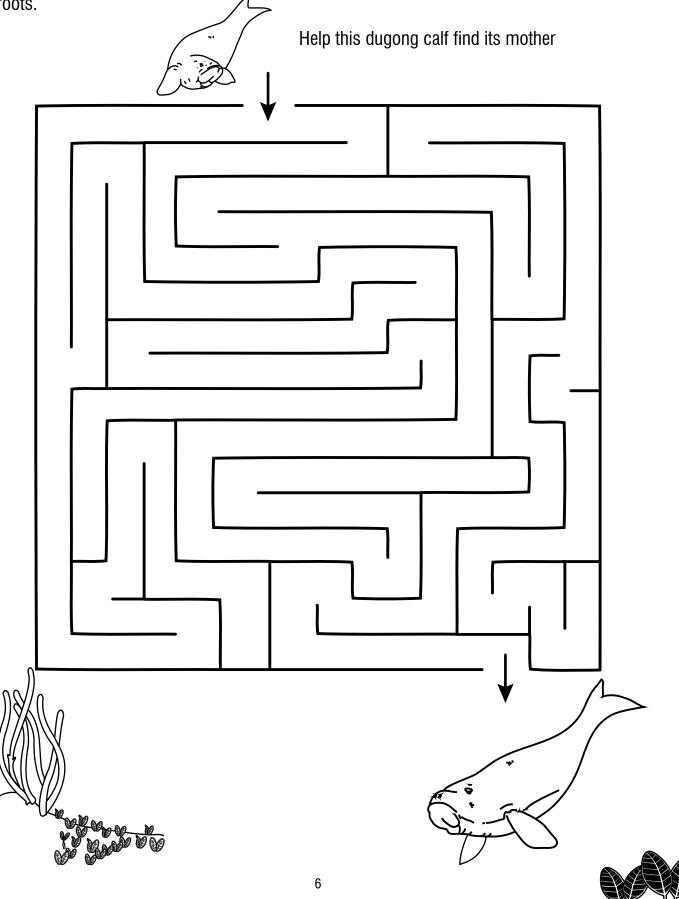
Fisheries Scramble

Seagrass meadows are important because juveniles of fish and prawns which we eat, use them as nursery areas before entering the open ocean.

	agrass. Tick off the anima	tches the name of animal which people eat is from the list when you unscramble them. Indicate under the final word.				
□ oysters□ sweetlip□ perch	☐ flathead☐ snapper☐ mullet					
☐ prawn	☐ pearl					
☐ tailor ☐ bream	☐ whiting☐ lobsters					
HPCER						
LEMLUT						
HINTIGW						
TORLAI						
RABEM						
DEFHATLA						
NRPEAPS						
ELETWPIS						
PAWRN						
SORTSBEL						
SOTEYR						
LEARP						
final word =						

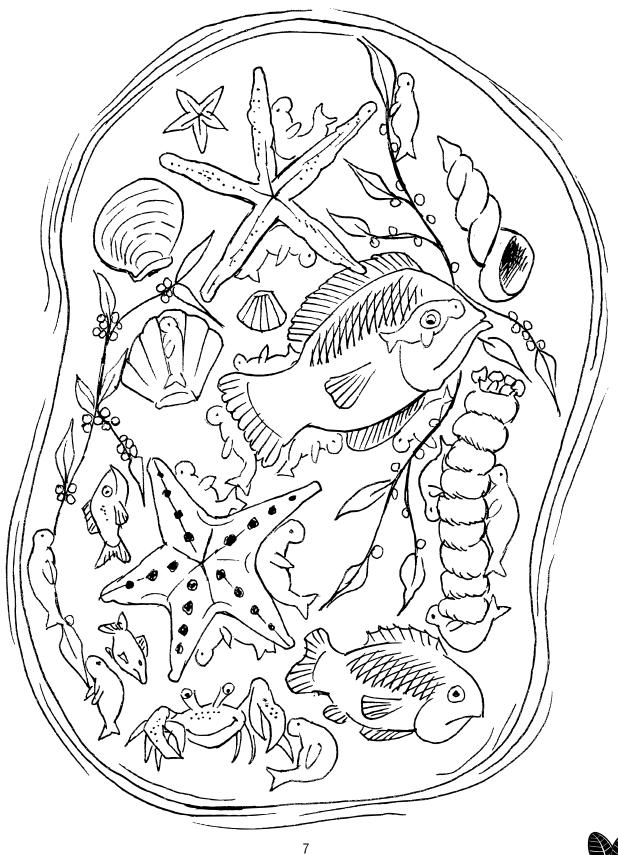
Dugong Maze

The dugong is a marine mammal which eats seagrass. Dugongs eat the parts of seagrass plants which are buried in the mud or sand. These plant parts are called rhizomes and roots.



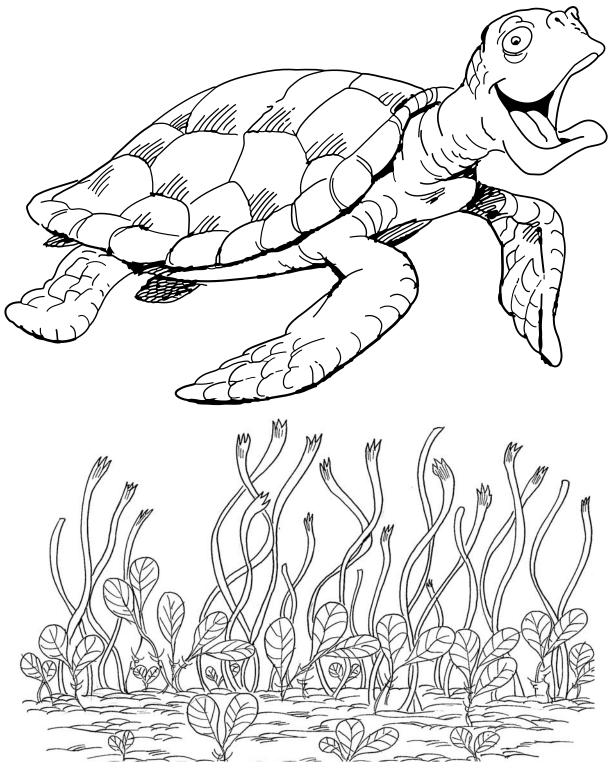
Seagrass Tidal Search

When the tide goes out, little pools of water are often left behind. Sometimes, small plants and animals get left behind too. Occasionally animals like dugongs can be stranded when the tide drops quickly. How many dugongs can you find hidden in this picture?



Sea Turtle Colour-in

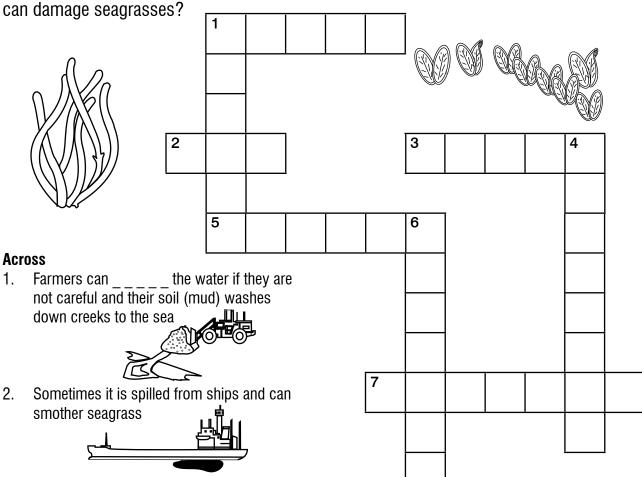
Green sea turtles are marine reptiles which mainly eat seagrass. Turtles eat the leaves of seagrasses. They like to eat seagrasses with strap-like leaves.





Sensitive Seagrass

Seagrass meadows are very fragile. That means they can be easily damaged. People can damage or destroy seagrass in many ways. Can you work out some of the ways people



Propellers on $s__d$ boats cut into 3. seagrass meadows



5. These can dig into seagrass when used to hold a boat in place



7. An activity people do when looking for bait worms or clams?



People like to build these on the coast in areas which are sheltered and seagrass like to grow.

When making a boat channel, this activity can make the water muddy and dump sediment on seagrass

6. When people do not dispose of this properly, it can wash into the sea



Seagrass Monitoring: Spot the difference

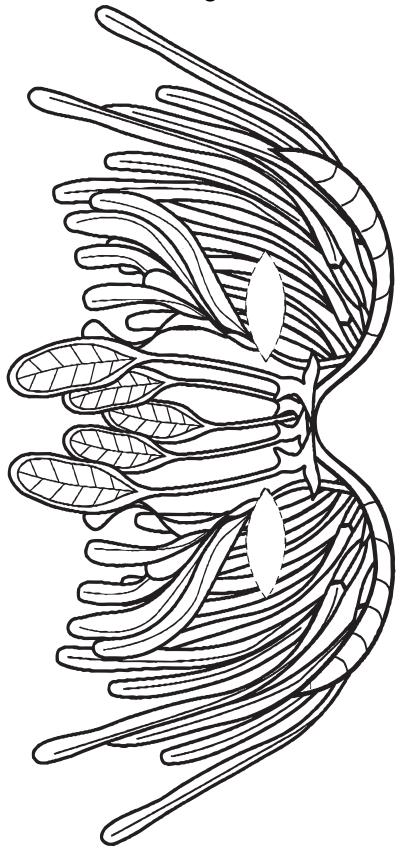
We can see if seagrass meadows are healthy by watching them over time – this is called monitoring.

How observant are you? Can you spot the ten things different between the two pictures below?





Make a Seagrass Mask



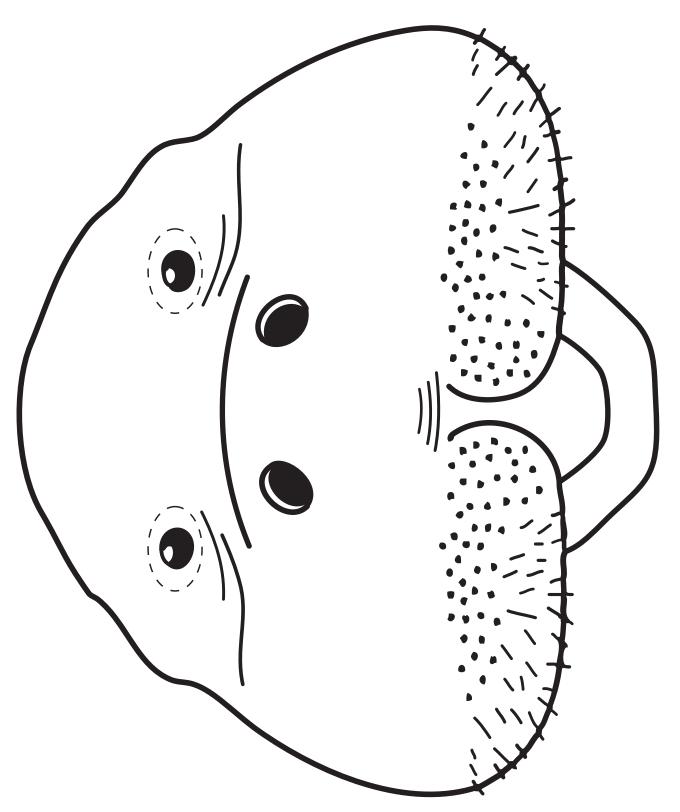
Instructions

Cut out this mask and cut out eye slots. Let your imagination go wild by colouring and decorating. Glue this mask design to the base mask on page 15 and have lots of fun.





Make a Dugong Mask



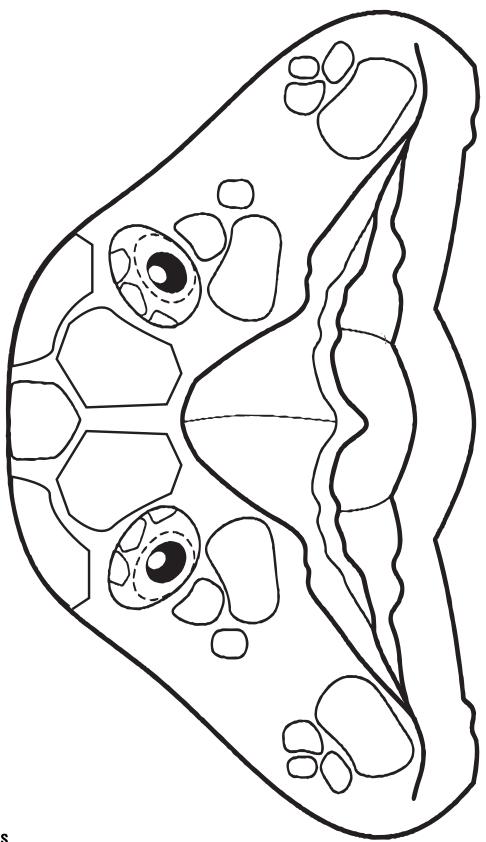
Instructions

Cut out this mask and cut out eye slots. Let your imagination go wild by colouring and decorating. Glue this mask design to the base mask on page 15 and have lots of fun.

Mask artwork courtesy Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority



Make a Green Turtle Mask



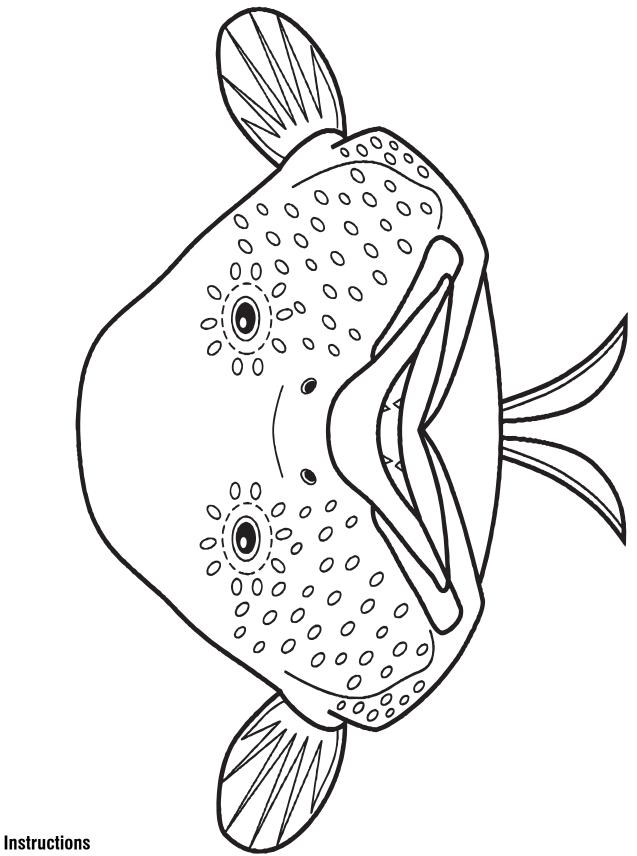
Instructions

Cut out this mask and cut out eye slots. Let your imagination go wild by colouring and decorating. Glue this mask design to the base mask on page 15 and have lots of fun.



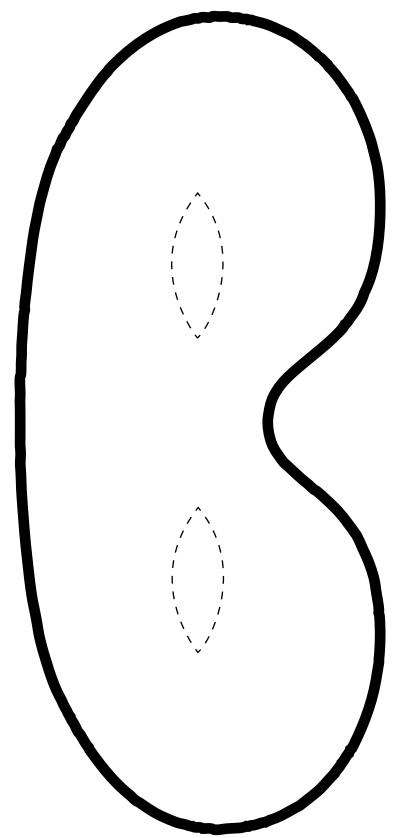


Make a Fish Mask



Cut out this mask and cut out eye slots. Let your imagination go wild by colouring and decorating. Glue this mask design to the base mask on page 15 and have lots of fun.

Make a Mask Base



Instructions

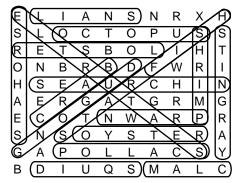
Cut out this base mask and then cut out eye slots. Use the mask designs on the previous pages and stick them to your base mask. Why not laminate the finished mask? Add hat elastic to secure the finished mask.



Solutions

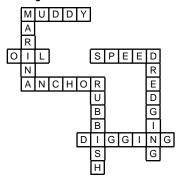
Sensational Seagrass: species $\mathsf{A} = \mathsf{HS},$ species $\mathsf{B} = \mathsf{HU},$ species $\mathsf{C} = \mathsf{HO}$

Fisheries Scramble:



Tide Pool Search: 18

Sensitive Seagrass:



Spot the difference: Flying bird missing, tape measure shorter, magnifier missing, ladies pencil shorter, pocket missing from mans shorts, island in background smaller, mans drink bottle missing, ladies watch missing, no glasses on the sun, black stripe missing from mans shirt.

for more information, visit www.seagrasswatch.org







Compiled by Len McKenzie, Rudi Yoshida & Jane Mellors. Produced by Seagrass-Watch HQ Supported by the Australian Government's Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility (Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts) represented in North Queensland by the Reef and Rainforest Research Centre and the Queensland Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries.