

My Ocean Book on California Sea Lion



Written by Ximena

Hello fellow students. My name is Ximena and I'm a 5th grade student at an elementary school in Watsonville. I'm in a special class where we are learning about *oceans* and I'd like to share with you about what *oceans* are, how *important* they are, and an *animal* of particular interest to me, California Sea Lion.



About me...

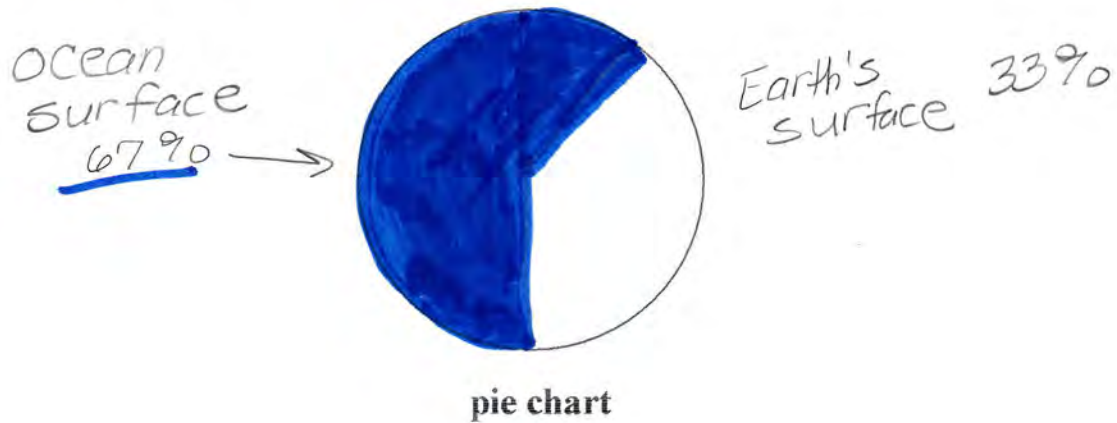
But before I start my book, I'd like to share with you about some of my favorite things.

I like tamales and enchiladas. I like to eat cupcakes and my favorite animal is a cat. Lastly, my favorite colors are red and purple.



Okay, now I'm ready to write about what oceans are, their importance, and facts about one of my favorite animals, California Sea lion.

First, *oceans* are essentially the largest ecosystem on planet earth, covering 67% of earth's surface. This can be demonstrated in the following ways below:



67%

percentage

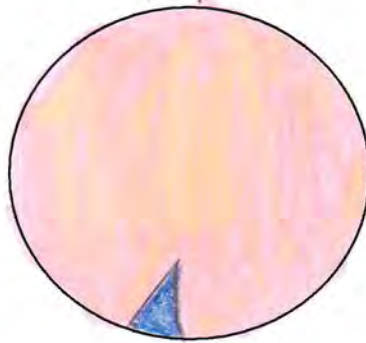
$\frac{67}{100}$

fraction

0.67

decimal

Second, since 97% of Earth's water is salt water, only 3% is fresh water. This means we must *all* make efforts to conserve and protect this vital resource.



pie chart

3%

percentage

97%

$\frac{3}{100}$

fraction

$\frac{97}{100}$

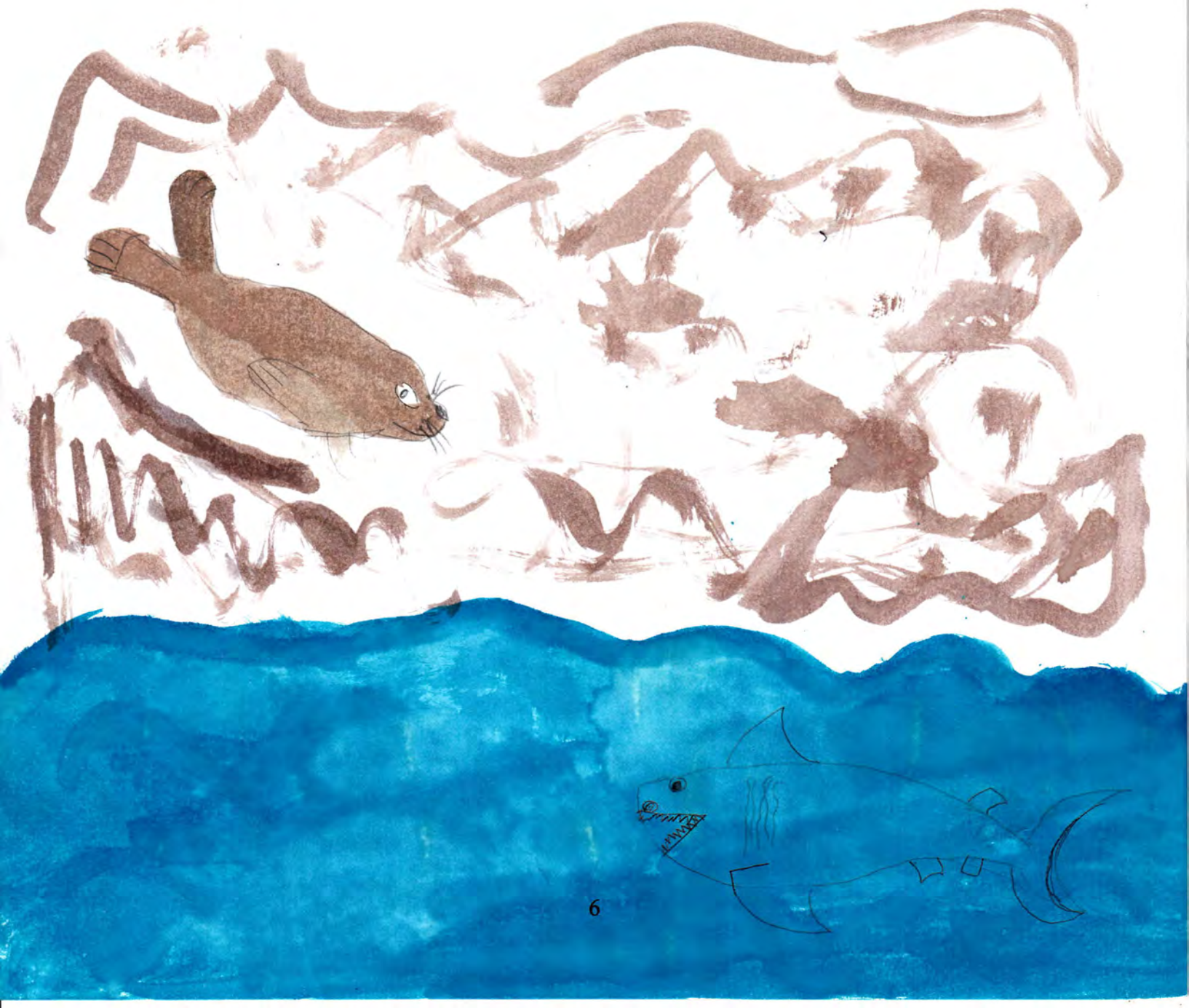
0.03

decimal

0.97

Third, we are very fortunate to literally have the ocean so close to us. The ocean serves many *important* purposes, such as:

Oceans are important because without them, we wouldn't have fish to eat. The ocean is also a habitat for marine plants and animals.

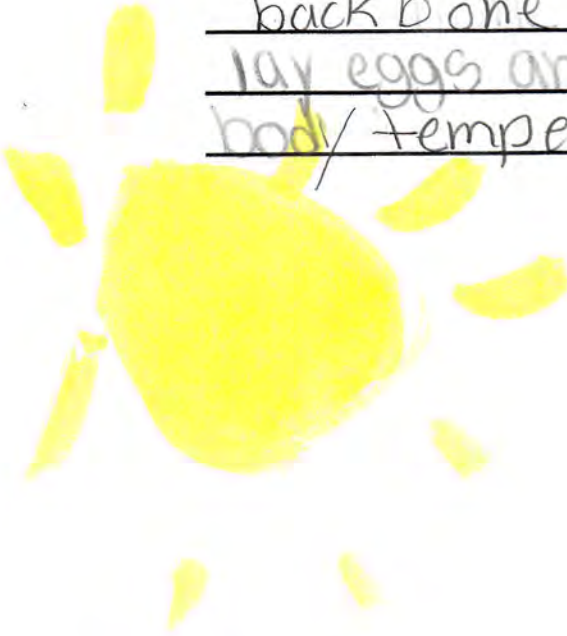


Fourth, there is a particular *animal* of interest to me, namely the california sea lion. I chose this *animal* because I like the color of their skin and I like how they move and swim because they're so adorable and because it's a marine mammal.



Classification

The California Sea Lion is a Vertebrate because it has a backbone. It is classified as a mammal because it has a backbone and because it doesn't lay eggs and they regulate their own body temperature.



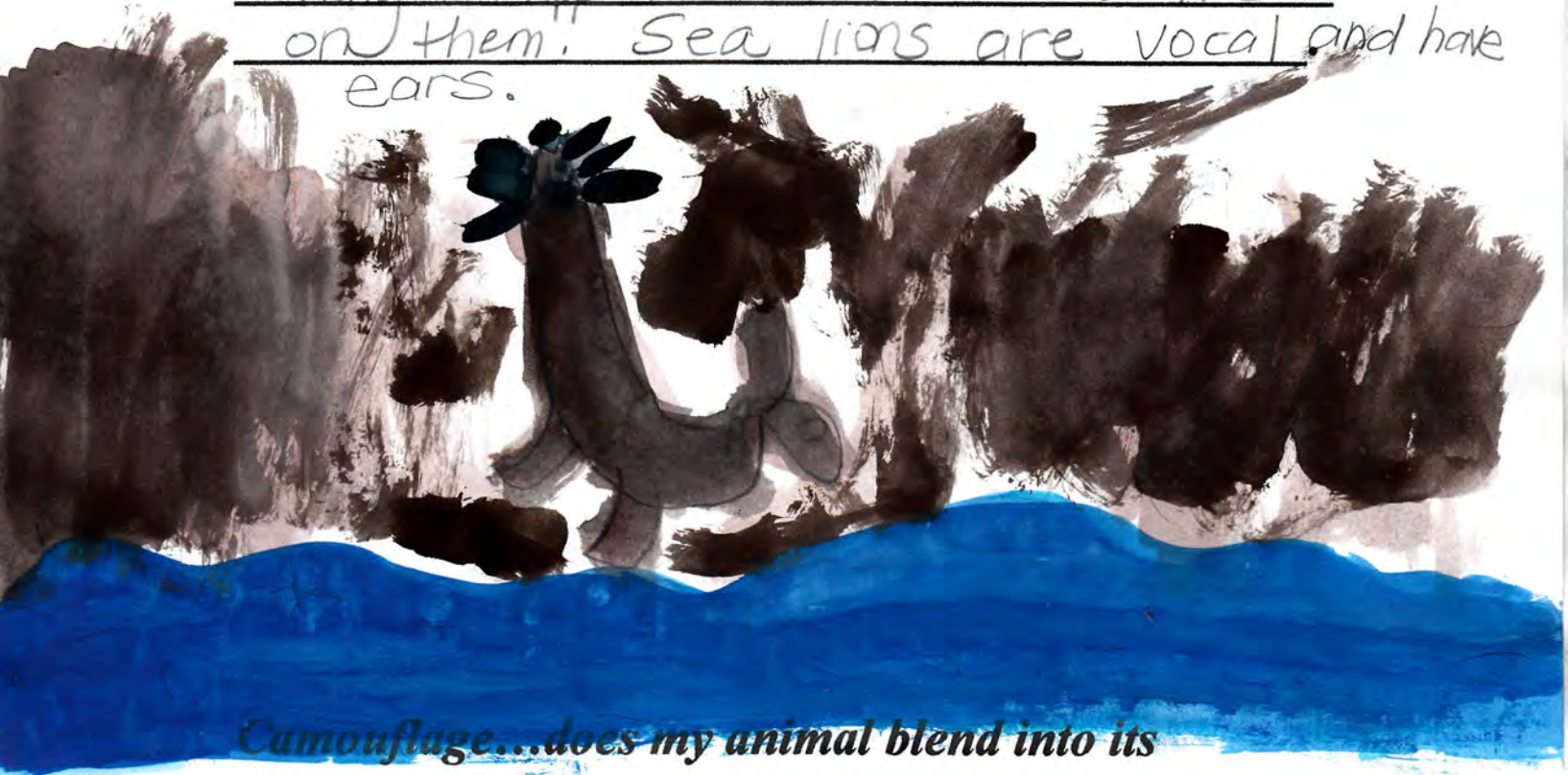
Names

The California Sea Lion has two names. The common name is California Sea Lion, and the scientific name is Zalophus californianus.

In science, the *scientific name* is the genus and species of the animal or plant.

Physical characteristics... my animal looks like...

My animal is brown, has hair, and
looks like a mermaid. It
swims very fast with its
long flippers and even walks
on them. Sea lions are vocal and have
ears.

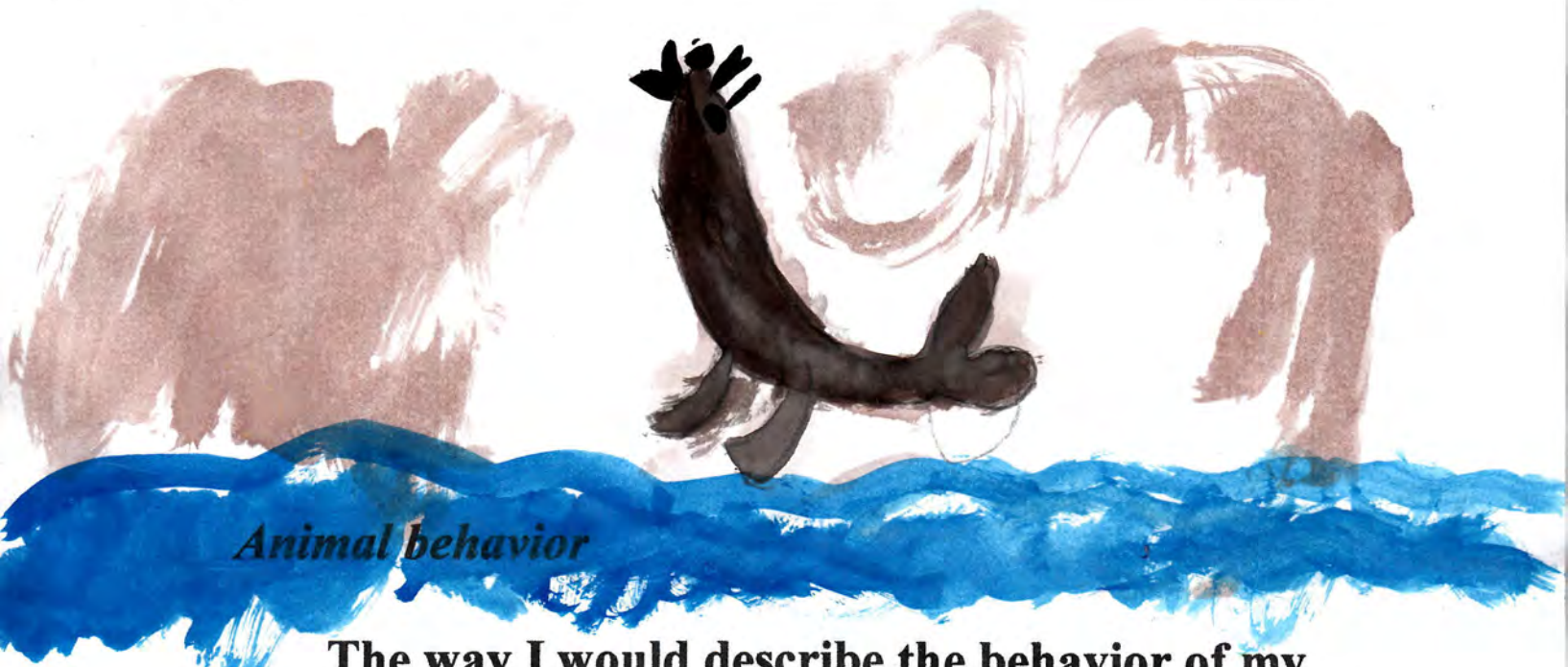


Camouflage...does my animal blend into its environment?

After looking at my animal and reading more about it, I realize that it Could camouflage
on brown sand, a dark rock,
and when swimming in the
kelp which is brown.

Adaptations

My animal is unique because it eats
squid, fish, and clams.
They are also very agile and maneuver
well in the water

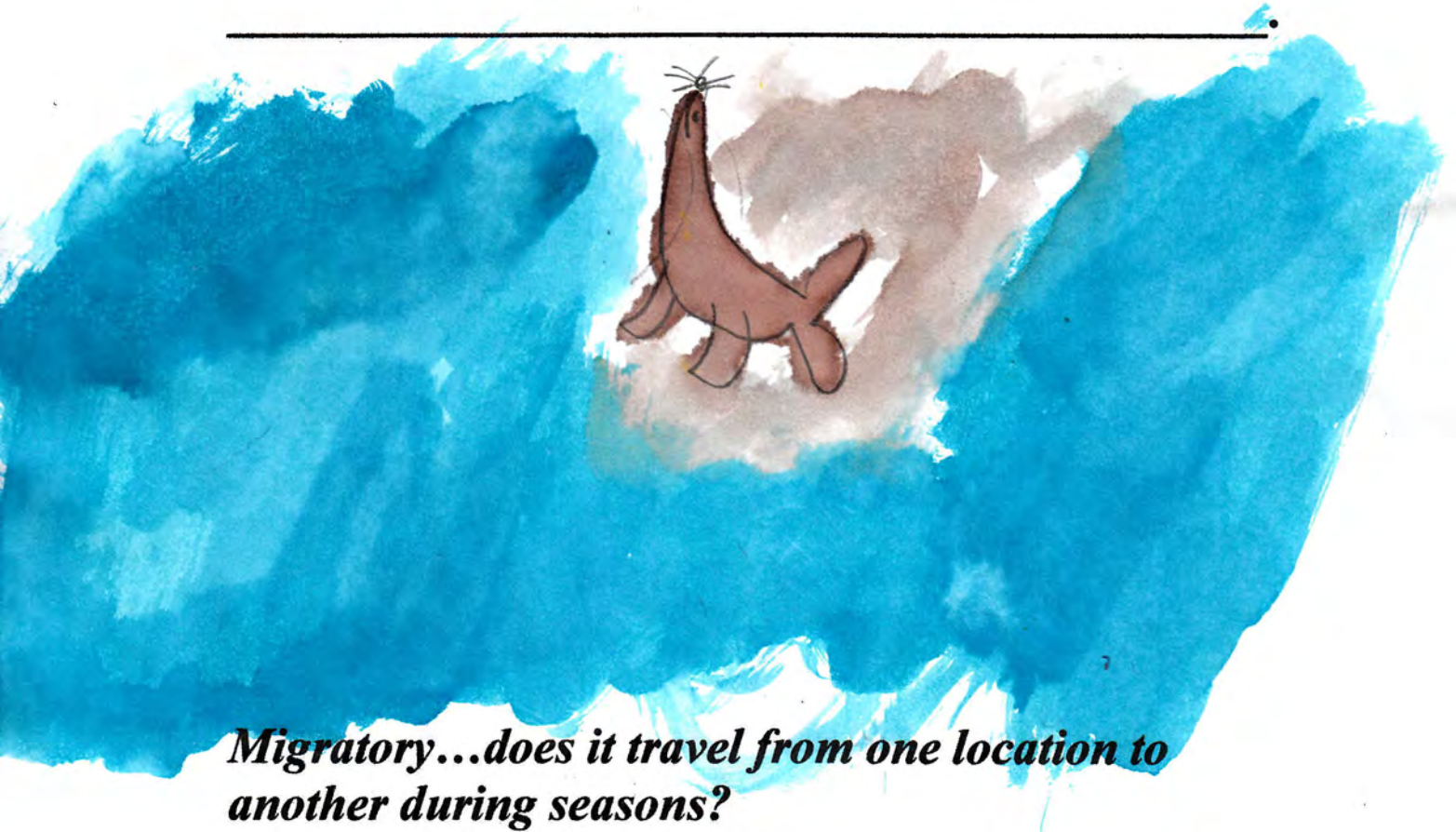


Animal behavior

The way I would describe the behavior of my animal is they do not have a
stable social organization
during the breeding season
from August - April

Range

The California sea lion is found in North
America and goes to southeast Alaska
also



Migratory...does it travel from one location to another during seasons?

The CA Sea lion does **migrate**. For
example, it goes to and from
North America to Southeast
Alaska

Population

The population of my animal is 238,000
2,411,000 currently



Status

The status of the CA Sea lion tells me whether it is endangered, threatened, or stable. What I found out is that the CA Sea lion is threatened. I find this interesting because the population of the CA Sea lions is declining due to fishing nets and soda can holders getting stuck around their necks.

Reproduction

The reproduction of the CA Sea lion **is**
the females are pregnant
for 11 months and wait
20-30 days before mating.

Habitat...home

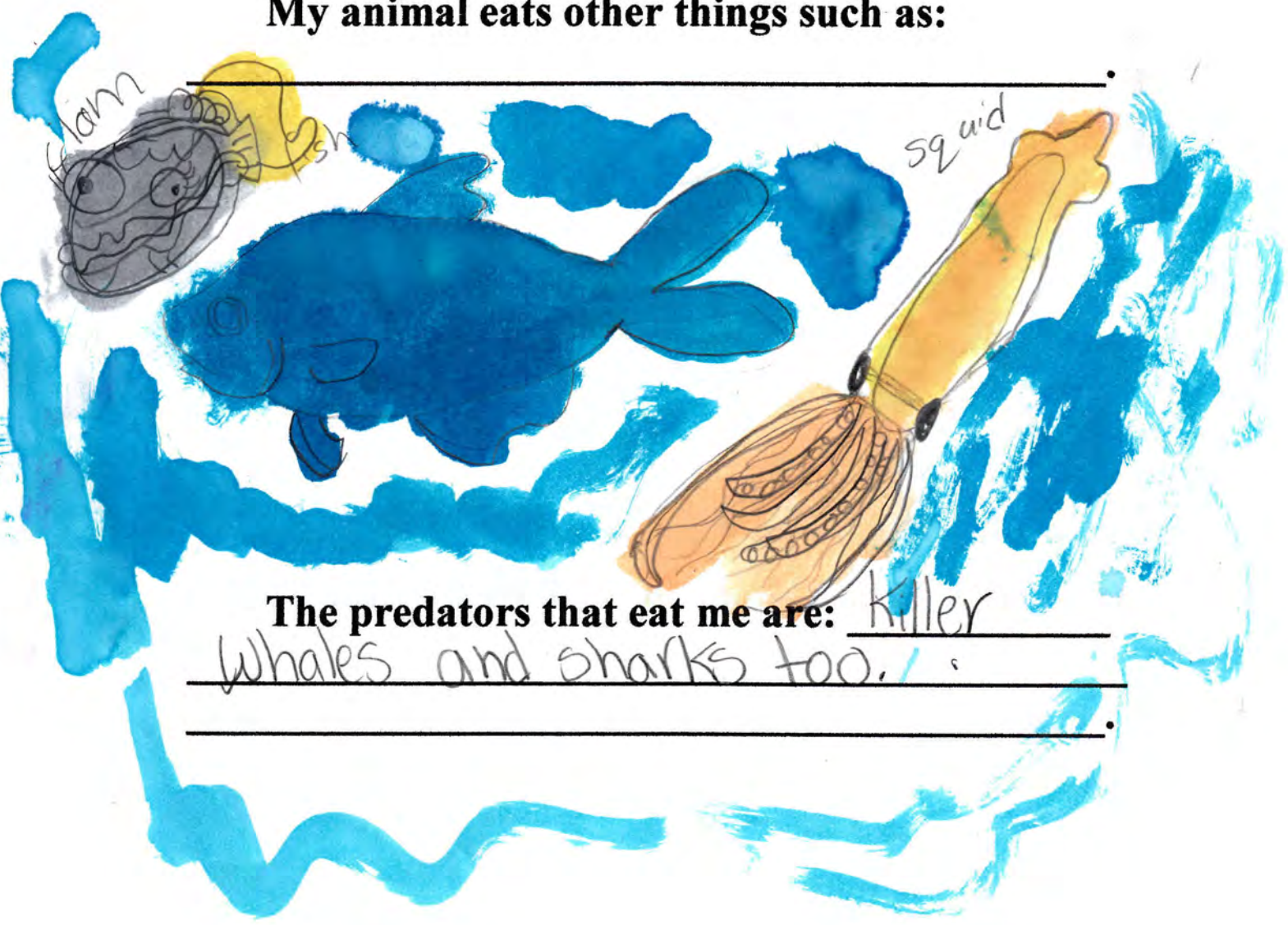
The CA Sea lion's **habitat is** along the
coast of the N.E. Pacific from
S. British Columbia to W. Mexico,
including Baja California. They
breed on islands off the
California Coast and in
Baja California.



Prey and predator...(to eat and to be eaten)

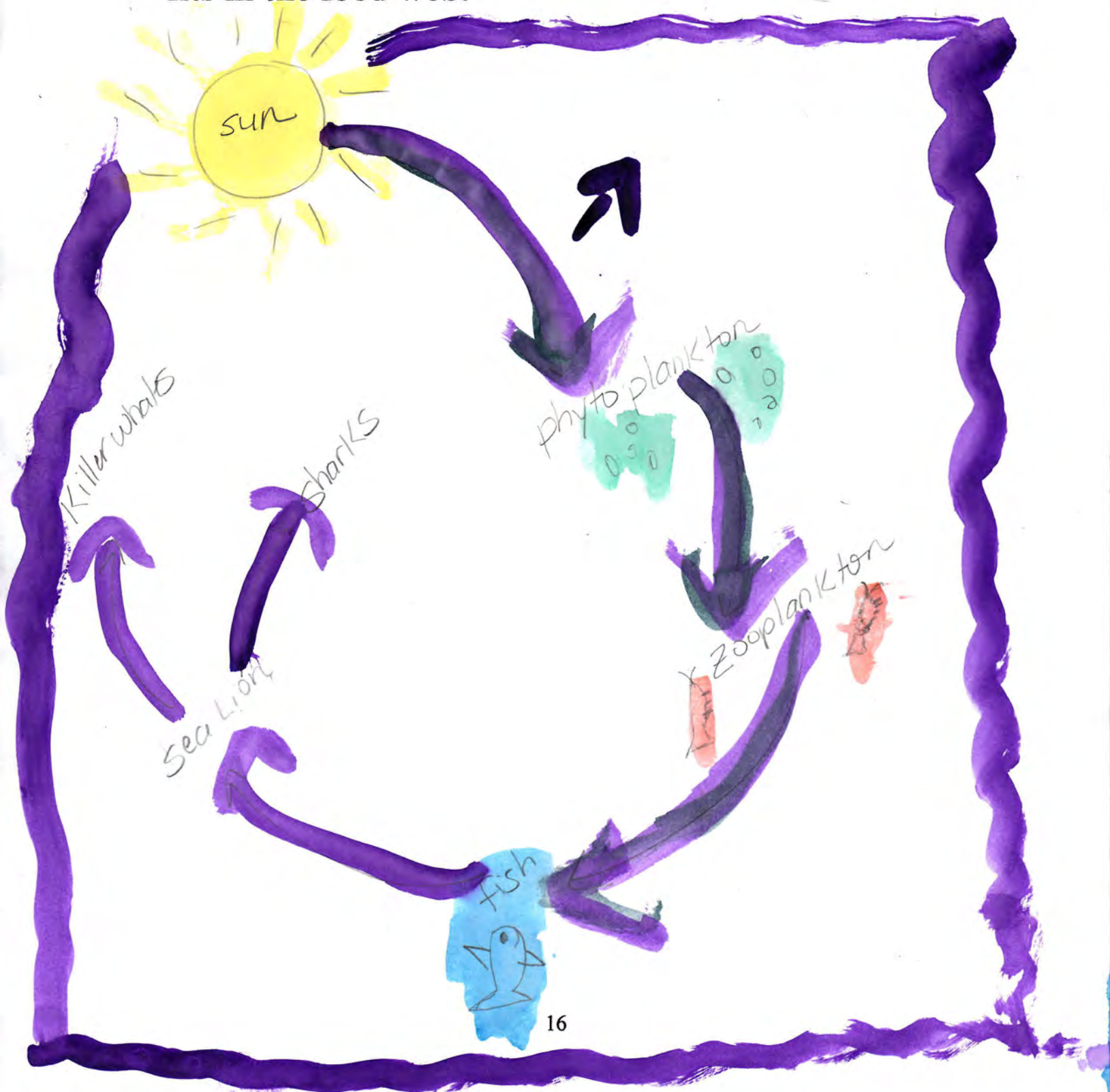
The prey my animal eats are: Squid,
fish, and sometimes clams.

My animal eats other things such as:



Food web

My animal is a carnivore. The following picture demonstrates where my animal fits in the food web.



Ohlone Indians

I'm curious to see if the Ohlone Indians used the California sea lion in anyway, for example, for food, clothing, or for other purposes. What I discovered is that the Ohlone Indians used their skin for clothings and ate their meat.



References

(books, articles, web-sites, etc.)

www.noaa.gov

www.funfactsforkids

www.seaworld.org

Thank you for reading my book. I hope you enjoyed it and learned a lot about the CA Sea Lion. Please feel free to *comment* about my book and also, test your knowledge by answering the following *questions* below. I look forward to hearing from you.

Comments for me:

Questions for you: (*See if you can answer these?*)

1. What does my animal eat?
2. How many exist?
3. Where is my animal found?