GRADES 6 THROUGH 8

Principle 5: The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems.

- Diversity of organisms: Many species of organisms live in the ocean, from tiny plankton to giant whales. Each species has unique adaptations allowing it to survive in its environment.
- Energy sources: The ocean provides energy in the form of sunlight, which fuels photosynthesis in marine plants and plankton. This energy is then passed up the food chain, supporting a diverse ecosystem.
- An ocean ecosystem can be complex, with many different layers and interactions between species.
- The ocean provides food for humans and other species.

Some organisms that live in the ocean:
- plankton
- fish
- whales
- coral reefs
- shellfish
- turtles
- sharks
- mammals
- birds

There are many different types of organisms that live in the ocean, each with unique adaptations that allow them to survive in their environment.