

# A SIMPLE FACT OF OCEAN LIFE: BIG FISH EAT SMALLER FISH

Ocean food chains might look a bit different depending on where you are in the sea, but they all work in a similar way: it's all about who eats what to stay alive!



They start the whole food chain!

## PRODUCERS THE OCEAN'S CHEFS!

Tiny plants like phytoplankton, seaweed, and algae. They make their own food using sunlight, like magic cooking with sunbeams!



They love a salad made of seaweed!

## PRIMARY CONSUMERS THE PLANT MUNCHERS!

Small sea creatures that eat the producers. Think: zooplankton, little fish, and sea snails.



Nothing goes to waste in the sea!

## DECOMPOSERS THE OCEAN CLEAN-UP CREW!

Tiny creatures that break down dead plants and animals. They turn waste into nutrients to help new plants grow!



## ULTIMATE PREDATOR ABOVE THE CHAIN!

Humans are not part of the ocean food chain in the same way sea creatures are, but we are top-top predators. We catch fish and other sea animals for food, and sometimes take too much, affecting the whole ocean and causing big problems



They eat meat but might snack on plants too!

## SECONDARY CONSUMERS THE HUNTER FISH!

These eat the plant munchers. They're bigger and hungrier! Like squid, bigger fish, and some dolphins.



They don't get eaten by much else — they're the ocean bosses!

## TERTIARY CONSUMERS THE TOP OF THE CHAIN!

These are the strongest hunters in the sea. Think: sharks, orcas, and big marine mammals.

*In the ocean blue and wide,  
Tiny plankton start the ride.  
Little fish come in for lunch,  
Then bigger fish swim up to munch!  
At the top, the shark will reign—  
That's the ocean's food chain game!*

