

Ocean Chemistry Activity Book

The ocean absorbs up to one third of the greenhouse emissions caused by fossil fuel combustion. While this slows down climate change, the introduction of massive amounts of carbon dioxide in the water is changing ocean chemistry and makes seawater more acidic – a process known as ocean acidification. Science has made huge leaps forward to understand how ocean acidification affects marine organisms, especially those that make shells and skeletons of calcium carbonate in coral reefs and in upwelling ecosystems. This activity book is aimed at helping elementary school and early middle school students, in particular 4th-6th graders, to familiarize themselves with the concept of ocean acidification, what causes it, how it occurs, how it affects marine organisms and ecosystems, and what we can do to help mitigate its impacts.

We hope you will enjoy it and have fun while learning.

- The authors

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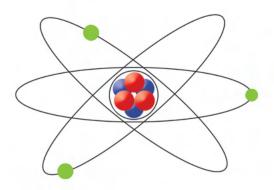
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What is Chemistry?

Chemistry is the study of MATTER and how it changes.



What is Matter?

Matter is everything around you! Everything that takes up space is made of matter. Liquids! SoLids! Gases!

They are all made up of matter!

DM+ATOM

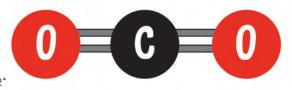
ATOMS, which are the small building blocks that make up matter. can be combined to create MOLECULES.

CARBON DIOXIDE

It is 1 carbon atom bonded to 2 oxygen atoms

C=0

Carbon dioxide, or CO_2 , is the gas that comes out of your mouth when you exhale! You breathe in oxygen and, other gases, and breathe out CO_2 .



It is also the gas that trees and other plants use to make food in a process called

PHOTOSYNTHESIS.

BONUS! Can you name what gas trees create and release in photosynthesis??

However, people put a lot of extra carbon dioxide in the air every day. It is one of the gases released when people drive cars and burn certain fuels like coal and oil.

YUM



When too much CO2 gets absorbed into the ocean, it makes the sea water more **ACIDIC**



The ocean houses many different types of habitats all over the world. Each one experiences different temperatures, currents, and conditions, just like how we experience different weather patterns on land.

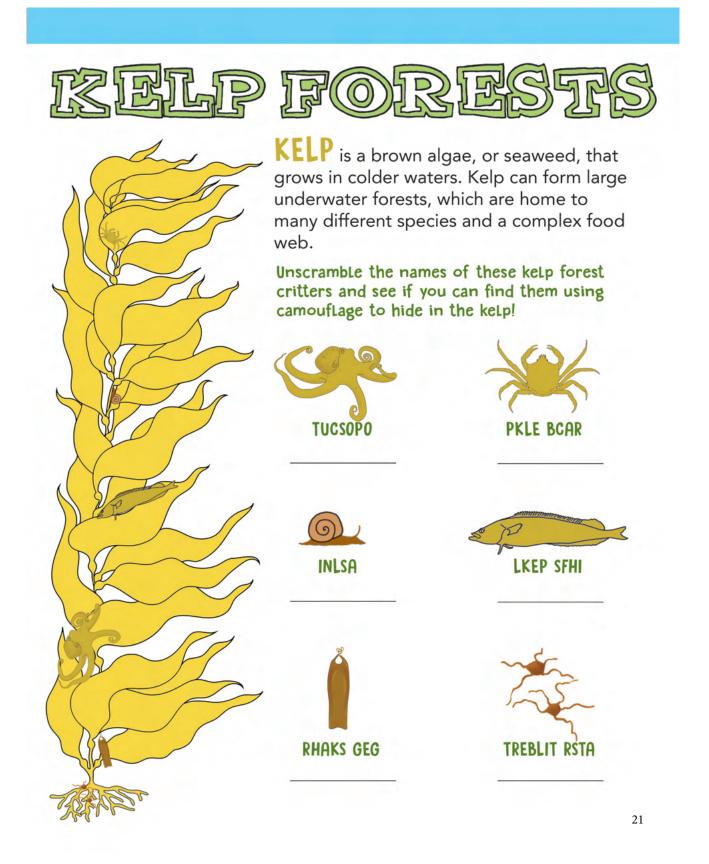
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habitable space is in the

open ocean!!!

The deep sea is one of the most challenging environments on Earth Cold, arctic waters house a due to the depth, number of unique plants and darkness, cold, and animals that are specifically pressure- so its adapted to their environment inhabitants are very unique Kelp forests are vast communities Coral reefs house of dense brown many different algae that live in species that all cool, shallow prefer living in the waters along the warmer tropical west coast of waters close to North America Earth's equator Many animals, big and small, live in the middle of the ocean in open water, far from Hydrothermal vents are found on the sea shore. 90% of Earth's

floor along the edges of continental plates in volcanically active areas. These are fissures where gases seep from below the oceanic crust, and another spot where highly adapted animals, like tube worms, thrive.



To get a free download of the entire Activity Book in English or Spanish please register here: <u>**Registration**</u>