Milstein Hall of Ocean Life Student Worksheet | GRADES 9–12

A Whale of a Food Tale

Welcome to the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life!

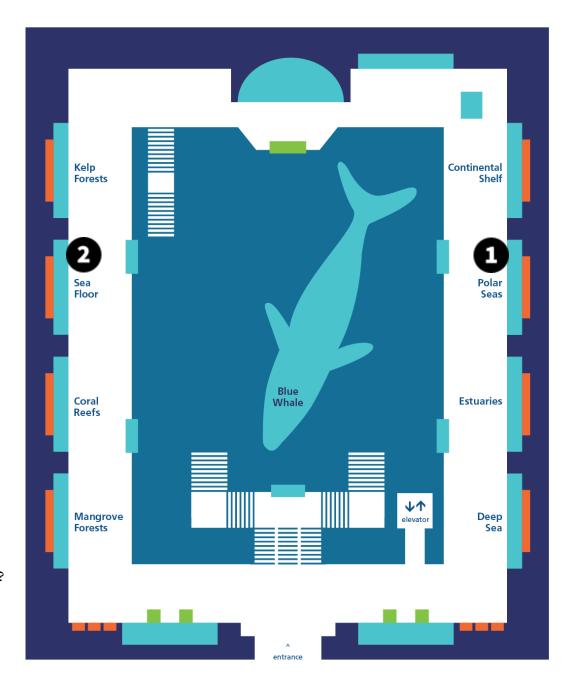
Visit two ecosystem exhibits on the upper level of the hall to explore a whale's food chain and how energy is transferred between marine organisms.

STOP 1 Polar Seas

Investigation Question: What feeds a whale?

STOP 2 Sea Floor

Investigation Question: What does a whale feed?



The upper level of the hall features eight marine ecosystems.

And the big empty space in the middle of the hall represents another marine ecosystem: the **open ocean**!

A Whale of a Food Tale | PART 1: What Feeds a Whale?

Go to the **Polar Seas** ecosystem exhibit on the upper level of the hall. On this worksheet, follow the numbered steps (<u>start with #1</u> at the bottom) to discover a whale's food chain.

What gives
energy to the tiny
organisms that the
crustaceans eat? Draw it:

What tiny organisms
do the small crustaceans eat?
Sketch it and note why the polar ice
is a good place for them to grow:

gives energy to

What small crustaceans does the blue whale eat?
Find them in the Polar Seas exhibit.
Sketch it and note a fun fact:

gi_{ves energy}

Based on what you explored:

How does a blue whale get so massive?

Look at the giant **blue whale** model.

Sketch it and note an interesting observation:

STAR!

A Whale of a Food Tale | PART 2: What Does a Whale Feed?

Go to the **Sea Floor** ecosystem exhibit on the opposite side of the upper level. On this worksheet, follow the numbered steps (<u>start with #1</u> at the bottom) to discover another part of the whale's food chain.

