



Student Activity

The Ecology of Kelp Forests **The Living Oceans**

Vocabulary:

regenerate, canopy, fronds, gregarious, parasite, mola mola

Pre-Viewing Discussion:

What is meant by the term predator or predation?

What is a cleaner fish? Why are they important in marine ecology?

What is kelp? Where is it found?

Does kelp play an important role in marine ecology?

Post-Viewing Discussion:

How tall can kelp forests grow?

Why are kelp deposits found on California beaches during the winter? Do these deposits play a role in marine ecology?

Why are sea otters dependent on kelp forests? How much food do sea otters consume per day?

Who are the natural predators of the octopus?

Further Activities:

Do further research on any of the species mentioned in this program.

Investigate the uses of kelp deposits washed on shore in America or England.

Find out how biologists at the Monterey Bay Aquarium are protecting the lives of sea otters.

Find out if there are any marine animals that are a nuisance in Monterey Harbor.