

# **Dugong** Dugong dugon - mammals



Longevity 50 to 70 years Height/Weight Up to 3 m – 400-600 kg

Habitat/Living Environment

Coastal areas

## Diet

Herbivore, feeds on seagrass and herbarium flowers Reproduction

Only 1 baby whose mother takes care of for several years Threats

Vulnerable because frequently injured by the propellers of motor boats and sometimes hunted for meat. Its habitat is compromised due to tourism, pollution and urbanization of the coasts.



The closest family to the dugong is the elephant's!



# Green Sea Turtle

## Chelonia mydas - reptiles



Longevity Up to 90 years Height/Weight 80 cm-115 cm – 70-190 kg Habitat/Living Environment

In the open sea and near the coast

Diet

Initially omnivorous, mainly herbivorous in adulthood, feeds on seaweed, seagrass, crabs, seashells, jellyfish and small fish Reproduction

Oviparous - females lay eggs every 2-4 years

## Threats

Endangered by water pollution, plastic litter, urbanization of beaches and illegal fishing



Females return to the beach where they were born to lay their eggs, even if it may be 30 years later

## Hippocampus Hippocampus - Actinopterygii



Longevity

1 to 5 years Height/Weight

2 to 30 cm – 10 to 15 g

Habitat/Living Environment

Coastal waters, coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds Diet

Omnivore, feeds on small crustaceans, zooplankton and other small marine organisms

## Reproduction

Ovoviviparous - the female lays up to 1500 eggs in the male Threats

Vulnerable due to habitat destruction, water pollution, mass fishing



It's the male who carries the eggs in a special pocket on his abdomen



## Features

Grasslands that may be vast, located near coasts or islands. These areas consist of plants with roots, distinct from algae

### Interest

They are home to many species, especially young, stabilize the seabed, clarify the water, capture carbon dioxide

## Threats

They are disappearing in worrying proportions due to water pollution, coastal constructions, overfishing and climate change



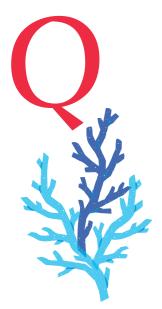
Grass beds cover less than 1% of the marine areas but they are among the most powerful CO2 sinks!



Longevity About 10 years Height/Weight 70 cm - 7 to 10 kg Habitat/Living Environment Coral reefs Diet Carnivorous, feeds on shellfish, sea urchins, molluscs, crabs ... Reproduction Oviparous - once a month Threats Not particularly

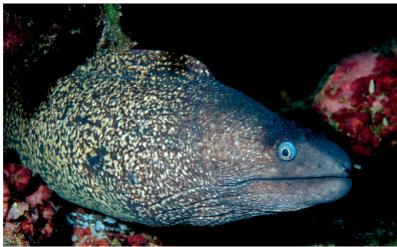


Usually solitary, it can easily become aggressive if you get too close to its nest



# Giant Moray eel

Gymnothorax Javanicus - Actinopterygii



Longevity About 30 years Height/Weight 2.3m to 3m - 10 to 30 kg Habitat/Living Environment Bedrock/coral reefs Diet Carnivorous, feeds on small fish, shellfish, lionfish Reproduction Oviparous - once a year Threats Not particularly



The Giant Moray eel is a solitary nocturnal fish that can sometimes form cooperative hunting groups with other species to catch larger prey

# **Octopus** Octopus cyanea - Cephalopoda





Longevity 1 to 2 years Height/Weight 40 cm to 1.5m - 3 to 6.5 kg Habitat/Living Environment Coral reefs

## Diet

Carnivore, feeds mainly on shellfish and fish

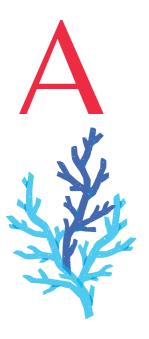
## Reproduction:

Oviparous - The female dies soon after the eggs hatch Threats

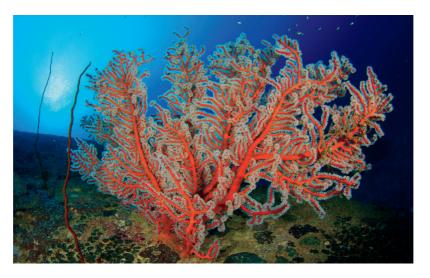
Not particularly, even though the species is threatened by acidification and ocean warming



Octopuses can change the color, texture and patterns on their skin to camouflage themselves. Their nervous system is highly developed



# Corals



## Features

They are found in the warm, shallow waters of the world's oceans. Their size varies from a few millimeters to several meters in diameter for coral colonies, made up of polyps that share a calcareous skeleton

### Interest

They are home to a great deal of marine biodiversity and protect the coasts from erosion. They also serve local populations, tourism and feed scientific observations

## Threat

They are massively endangered by global warming, ocean acidification and all forms of water pollution

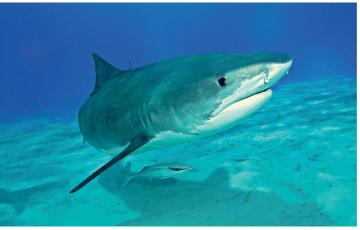


Corals already existed in the time of dinosaurs! Currently a technique is being developed that helps rebuild damaged coral barriers



# **Tiger Shark** Galeocerdo Cuvier - Chondrichthyes





Longevity 20 to 50 years Height/Weight 3m to 4.5m - 650 kg Habitat/Living Environment

Tropical and subtropical waters

Diet

Carnivore, eats most marine animals

Reproduction:

Ovoviviparous - every 3 years, on average 40 newborns per litter Threats

Targeted overfishing, bycatch and illegal fishing activities contribute to putting the tiger shark at risk of extinction



Tiger sharks are named for their vertical grey stripes that disappear when they reach adulthood

## Manta Ray Mobula birostris - Chondrichthyes



Longevity Up to 45 years Height/Weight 5 to 7 m - 1 to 2 tonnes Habitat/Living Environment Tropical and subtropical waters Diet Planktivore Reproduction Ovoviviparous - The female usually gives birth to one baby at a time every 4 or 5 years Threats

Overfishing, bycatch, plastic pollution and habitat degradation

°FUN FOCT<sub>e</sub>

Rays have a highly developed brain and are able to recognize themselves in a mirror

# **Spinner Dolphin**

Stenella longirostris - mammals



## Longevity

Up to 20 years Height/Weight

1.50m to 2m - 60 to 80 kg

Habitat/Living Environment

Shallow coastal waters, or deep ocean waters

Diet

Fish, squid, shrimp and other marine organisms Reproduction

The gestation period is 10 months and the female remains with her young one for 1 to 2 years. She procreates every 3 years Threats

Marine pollution, large marine debris, accidental fishing, climate change, and unregulated tourism



They are known for their intelligence, sociability and playfulness. When they jump in the air, they can spin up to 7 times



# Red Sea



## Features

It covers approximately 450,000 km2 and provides access between the Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean. This area bounded to the north by the Suez Canal, to the south by the Bab-El-Mandeb Strait is relatively protected from pollution. Temperatures and salinity are among the highest in the world

## Interest

It offers exceptional observation sites for researchers because of the still good conservation of coral reefs. It is also home to many endemic species, meaning those not found elsewhere.

## Threats

Drilling for oil, desalination plants...



Its name comes, apparently, from the colour of the algae that sometimes develop there, from its position in the South, a cardinal point associated with red in Herodotus' writings...



# Mudskipper



Periophthalmus - Actinopterygii



## Longevity 5-8 years Height/Weight

10-14 cm - about ten grams

Habitat/Living Environment

Tidal zones, especially on mudflats and in mangrove forests Diet

Feeds primarily on insects and invertebrates

## Reproduction

Oviparous - females lay about a hundred eggs in a burrow Threats

Destruction of mangroves and pollution of their environment



Amphibians, they know how to live in water and on land, where they can even jump or climb bushes. Their eyes, located on the top of their heads, offer a  $360^{\circ}$  field of view



# Great Egret

Ardea alba - Aves (Birds)



Longevity

15 years Height/Weight

80 to 104cm - wingspan 140 to 170 cm / 0.7 to 1.5kg Habitat/Living Environment

Wetlands, especially in mangroves

Diet

Carnivore – piscivorous, feeds mainly on fish and insects but also amphibians, crustaceans, reptiles

Reproduction:

Oviparous - females lay 4-5 eggs every year

## Threats

Not particularly but habitat destruction and climate change can become a real threat



During courtship, the male starts the construction of the nest which the couple will complete and then improve

# **Ghost Crab**

## Ocypode cordimanus - Malacostraca





Longevity About 3 years Height/Weight 4 to 5 cm / ±100 g Habitat/Living Environment

Tropical and subtropical coastal areas, in deep burrows where they protect themselves from predators and temperature variations Diet

Carnivore - crustaceans, insects, eggs or even carrion Reproduction

Oviparous - Mating can occur at any time of the year Threats

The destruction of their habitat. Their presence indicates healthy beaches, because they are very sensitive to chemical pollution, related to oil



They produce very varied sounds to communicate and know how to change their colour to camouflage themselves



## Features

These are trees that can grow in salt water. Of the 14 mangrove species present in the world, 4 are found in the Red Sea, 2 of which are common

## Interest

A very powerful carbon sink, mangroves are also home to many species, slow down soil erosion and also filter out water pollutants

## Threats

They are victims of deforestation, coastal urbanization and rising waters due to climate change



Mangroves have developed many strategies for living in salt and very low oxygen water