Marine Food Webs

Welcome to the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life!

Visit two ecosystem exhibits on the upper level of the hall.

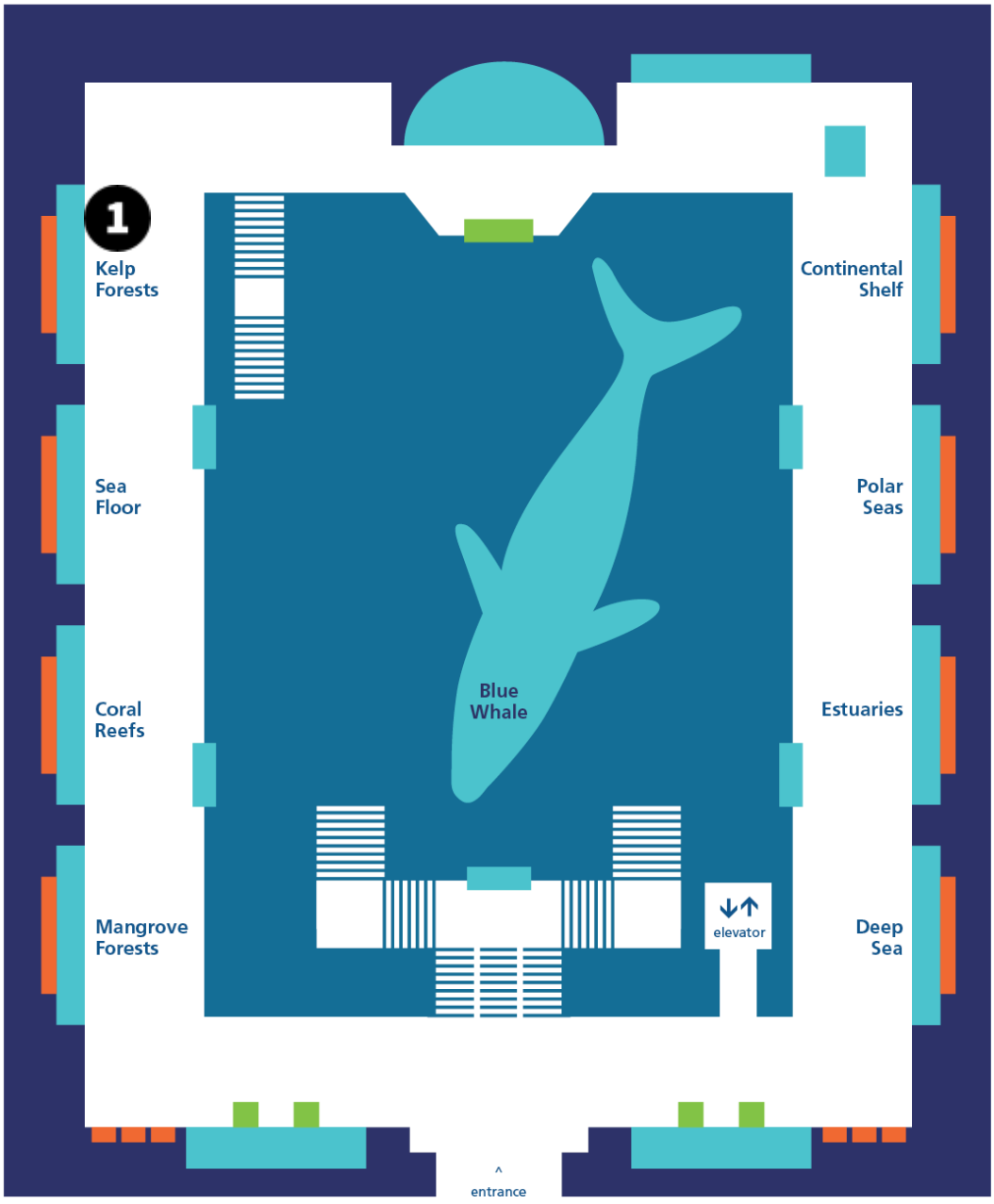
At each exhibit, explore how energy is transferred between marine organisms.

STOP 1

Kelp Forests

STOP 2

Choose Your Own Ecosystem



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**!

Marine Food Webs | PART 1: Kelp Forests

Go to the **Kelp Forests** ecosystem exhibit on the upper level of the hall. On this worksheet, follow the numbered steps (**start with #1** at the bottom) to discover part of the kelp's food web.

5 Based on what you explored:
Why should we protect kelp forests?

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4 What gives energy to the kelp? Draw and label it:

3 Is there another organism in this food chain? Draw an arrow to show the connection. Sketch it and note a fun fact:

2 What organisms feed on the spiny animal? Pick one and sketch it. Note its name and a fun fact:

1 What spiny animal feeds on kelp (a brown algae)? Sketch and note a fun fact:

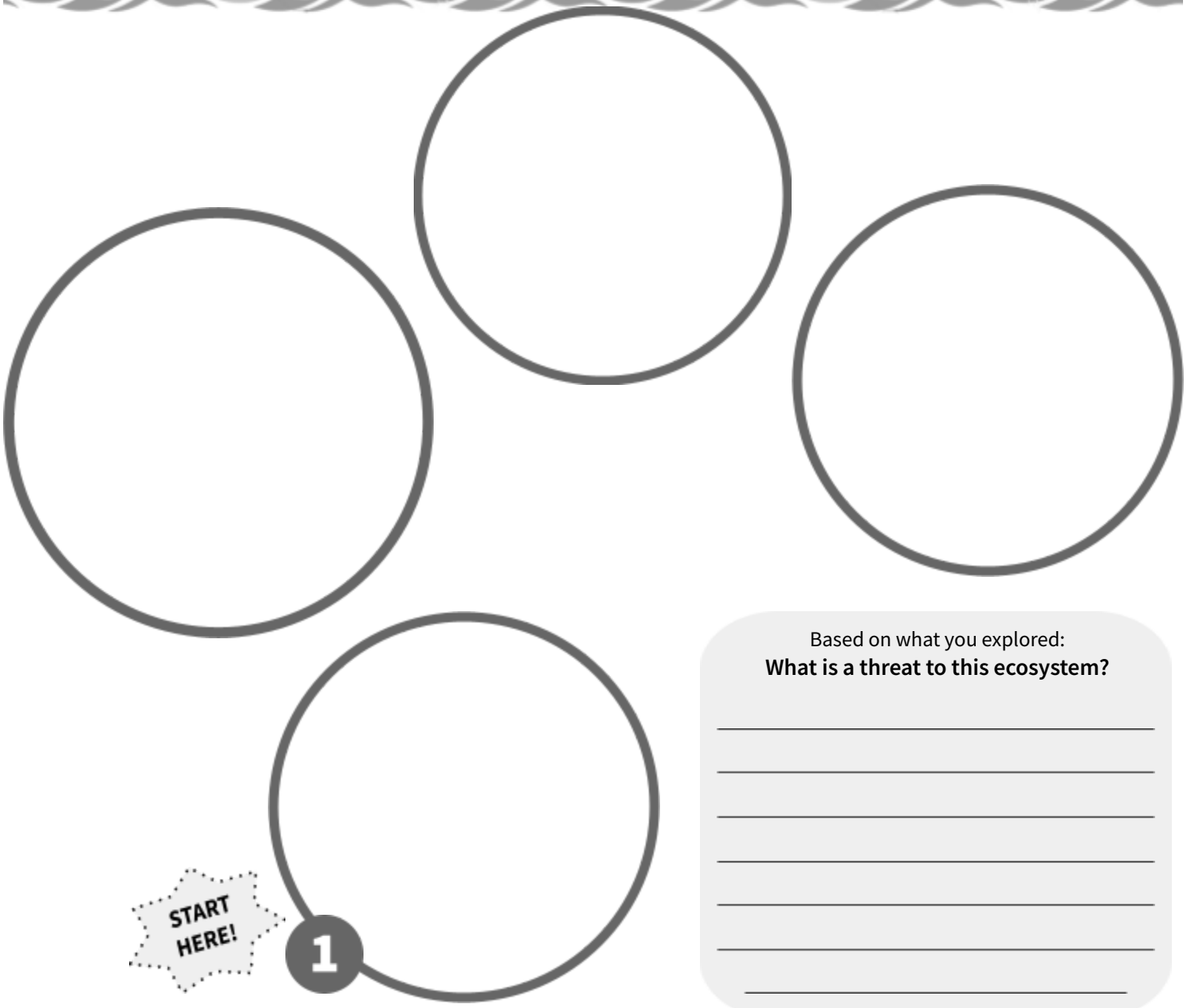
gives energy to

gives energy to

START HERE!

Marine Food Webs | PART 2: Choose Your Own Ecosystem

1. **Choose** another ecosystem exhibit to explore. In the exhibit, **find** an example of the organism listed. **Sketch** it in **circle #1**.
   - ▢ **Continental Shelf.....✎ anemones**
   - ▢ **Coral Reefs.....✎ starfish**
   - ▢ **Deep Sea.....✎ shrimp**
   - ▢ **Estuaries.....✎ fish**
   - ▢ **Mangrove Forests.....✎ shellfish**
   - ▢ **Sea Floor.....✎ tubeworm**
2. **Pick three other organisms** in this ecosystem that could be part of a food chain or web. **Sketch** them in the other three circles. **Note** names and fun facts.
3. **Draw arrows** to show how energy (if any) could be transferred between the four organisms.



Based on what you explored:
What is a threat to this ecosystem?